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## School Profile 2018-2019

59 Armstrong Road, Plymouth MA 02360  
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 CEEB Code: 221788

Accreditation: Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education  
 Overall School Performance Relative to Other MA Public Schools in Same School Type: **85th Percentile**  
 Recipient of Charter School Program Grant for Dissemination of Effective Practices

### School Overview

Rising Tide Charter Public School (Rising Tide) is a college preparatory public school serving grades 5-12. Founded as a middle school by a group of Plymouth community members in 1998, Rising Tide expanded to include the upper grades in 2011. Rising Tide students in the class of 2019 will be the school’s fifth cohort of high school graduates. Rising Tide is driven by its mission to provide a strong academic program rooted in the history of Plymouth, Massachusetts and cultivate within its students a sense of place and belonging. Rising Tide provides students with a structure of supportive relationships in a small-school environment that is physically, emotionally, and intellectually safe. In such a setting, students develop a love of learning and high achievement, take creative and intellectual risks, build increasing personal and academic responsibility, and develop an understanding of themselves and others.

### Approach to Teaching and Learning

At Rising Tide, teachers use an inquiry and skills-based approach to foster personal and academic growth in students. This approach encourages students to reflect, take responsibility, ask questions, and think critically. Through curriculum design and implementation, Rising Tide fosters the development of skills, the exploration of content knowledge, and the deepening of understanding. The curriculum at Rising Tide is aligned with the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks, and guided by the school’s Mission, the four Schoolwide Objectives and Benchmark Skills, the Grade Level Guiding Questions, and Essential Questions within each discipline. For further explanation of the curriculum at Rising Tide, please see the Program of Studies on the website.

### Schoolwide Objectives and Benchmark Skills

<b>Communicator</b>	<b>Self-Directed Learner</b>
Receptive Skills	Self-Awareness Skills
Expressive Skills	Skills in Taking Responsibility
<b>Investigator</b>	<b>Community Steward</b>
Inquiry Skills	Skills in Awareness of Others
Innovation Skills	Collaboration Skills

### Upper School Guiding Questions

Overall: Who am I?  
 Grade 9: How can we recognize and demonstrate courage?  
 Grade 10: How can we recognize and demonstrate integrity?  
 Grade 11: How can we be mindful of and prepare for the future?  
 Grade 12: What is my place in the world?

### 2018-2019 Student Enrollment

Total Enrollment, Grades 5-12: 659  
 Upper School Enrollment, Grades 9-12: 283  
 Size of Senior Class: 65

### 2018-2019 Upper School Teaching Faculty

Student-Teacher Ratio: 8:1  
 Teachers with Advanced Degrees: 68%

### Class of 2018 (72 Students) Test Scores

SAT class participation: 90%  
 Updated State and National College Board Data Pending

SAT Scores	EBRW	Math
2018 Rising Tide Mean	613	558
2017 MA Mean	553	550
2017 National Mean	538	533

  

SAT Subject Tests	AP Exams
Class participation: 11%	Class participation: 39%
(8 students completed 24 tests)	(28 students completed 66 tests)
684 Average Score	3.3 Average Score

### Classes of 2018-2019 Scholars

1 National Merit Scholar Commended Student  
 1 Questbridge Scholar

### Class of 2018 Graduates

College-Bound: 95%  
 Attending 4-Year Colleges: 78%  
 Attending 2-Year Colleges: 17%  
 Career, Military, Gap Year: 5%

**Graduation Requirements**

Twenty-eight (28) credits are required for graduation from Rising Tide. Full-year courses are one (1) credit; semester courses are a half (.5) credit. Students also meet the Competency Determination standard set by the Massachusetts DESE.

**Core Courses**

Arts	3 credits
English	4 credits
Mathematics	4 credits
Science	4 credits
Social Studies	3 credits
World Languages	3 credits in one language

**Schedule**

The Upper School operates on a four-term rotating block schedule. Students are expected to take eight (8) courses per semester. Each day consists of four (4) 85-minute blocks with courses meeting on alternate days.

**Grading Scale**

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+
4.0	3.7	3.3	3.0	2.7	2.3
C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
2.0	1.7	1.3	1.0	0.7	0

**Program Rigor**

We consider the majority of courses at Rising Tide to be honors-level courses in comparison with the courses at traditional public schools in the region; however, courses at Rising Tide are not leveled and therefore have no designated level on the transcript. A student’s grade point average (GPA) is not weighted, and students are not ranked. A grade of B+ or above exceeds standard expectations. All completed core and elective courses, for grades 9-11, are included in the GPA.

At Rising Tide, teachers have the flexibility and autonomy to design courses that are aligned with and go beyond the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks. Teachers are responsible for implementing our approach to teaching and learning and providing a rigorous program in which all students are held to high academic standards. As a result, we do not offer pre-designed curriculum, such as Advanced Placement courses.

The following courses are considered the most rigorous core course pathway options for juniors and seniors:  
**Mathematics:** Adv Statistics, Calculus, Pre-Calculus  
**Science:** Adv Biology, Adv Chemistry, Adv Physics  
**Social Studies:** Comparative Religion, International Relations, Local History, Modern Global History  
**World Language:** Latin Authors: Catullus & Ovid, Latin Authors: Vergil, Spanish IV, Spanish V

**Additional Program Components**

**Academic Support**

All students are provided two 45-minute blocks each week in which they can meet with faculty members for additional support or extension. During the block, students can engage with teachers in one-on-one work or small-group practice and exploration; students can also engage with one another through peer tutoring or academic collaboration. Academic Support is not a credit-bearing course.

**Advisory Program**

Each student has a faculty Advisor, the primary advocate for the student within the school. Students meet in grade-level Advisory groups of approximately 12 students two to three times a week. In Advisory, students explore a curriculum connected to a Guiding Question that addresses orientation to the school, student skills, community-building, wellness, and service learning. Advisory is not a credit-bearing course.

**Elective Courses**

Elective courses at Rising Tide are considered equal in rigor and value to core courses. Each student can select up to three semester-long elective courses per year. Offerings are based on faculty expertise. Fall 2018 elective offerings are the following courses: Ancient Greek I, Astronomy, Chamber Ensemble, Child Dev, Creative Writing, Gothic Lit, Info Analysis Techniques, Marine Biology, Marketing, Microbiology Lab, Movement Studies, Musical Theater & Society, Personal Finance, Race in American History, Science Fiction, Software Development, Vis Art: Portfolio Workshop, The Wars of the Roses, and Women in Latin America.

**Internship Course**

Seniors can participate in a semester-long elective course that combines academic, skills-based learning with an internship in the field of their choice. Fall 2018 placements are with the following organizations: Cape Cod Veterinary Specialists, Crayon College, Destination Plymouth, Driver’s Edge, Glynn Electric, Guilty Bakery, The Herring Ponds Watershed Association, Inky Hands Studio, Long Pond Physical Therapy, Nuka Research, PACTV, Plymouth Fitness, Plymouth Police Department, Rising Tide Educational Technology Department, Sacred Heart Academy, South Shore Research and Advocacy Center, and the Whale and Dolphin Conservation. Internship is a credit-bearing course.

**Physical Education**

Each student participates in a semester-long Fitness course each year at Plymouth Fitness, a local fitness club and partner organization. Students rotate through modules within the course, including HD Fitness, Spinning, and Pilates, with a focus on setting and achieving fitness goals. Fitness is a credit-bearing course.

## Extra-Curricular Activities

### Athletics

Rising Tide is a member of the Cape & Islands League within the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA). The Rising Tide Herons compete at the varsity level in baseball, basketball, cooperative hockey, cross country, golf, soccer, softball, and tennis.

### Clubs

Each student can participate in the following 2018-2019 clubs: Chess, Chorus, Community Action, Computer, Creative Writing, Current Events, Dance, Debate, Games, Junior Classical League, Model UN, Music, National Honor Society, Newspaper, Rising for Equality, Rock Climbing, Science, Student Government, and Yearbook.

### Theater Productions

Rising Tide runs two to three after-school theater productions per year and is a member of the MA Educational Theater Guild. Recent productions include *Twelve Angry Women* and *A Doll's House*.

## College Acceptances for the Class of 2017, Class of 2018

\*Denotes Matriculation

Adelphi University	Kenyon College	Simmons College
Anna Maria College*	La Grange College	Skidmore College
Assumption College	Lasell College	Smith College*
Bard College	Lesley University*	Southern Maine Community College
Bay Path University	Lynchburg College	Southern New Hampshire University*
Becker College	Maine College of Art	Stevens Institute of Technology
Belmont University	Maine Maritime Academy	Stonehill College*
Bentley University*	Manhattan College*	Studio School*
Boston College	Massachusetts College of Art & Design*	Suffolk University*
Boston University*	Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts*	SUNY Maritime College
Brandeis University*	Massasoit Community College*	Syracuse University
Bridgewater State University*	MCPHS University*	Trevecca Nazarene College*
Brown University*	Massachusetts Maritime Academy*	Unity College*
Bryant University	Merrimack College	University at Albany
Bryn Mawr College	Middlebury College*	University of California Berkeley
Cape Cod Community College*	New England College	University of California San Diego
Carnegie Mellon University*	New England Institute of Technology*	University of California Santa Barbara
Catholic University	New York University	University of California Santa Cruz
Champlain College	Newbury College	University of Connecticut
Chapman University	Nichols College	University of Delaware
Clark University*	Northeastern University*	University of Findlay
Clarkson University	Northern Vermont University	University of Hartford
Clemson University	Norwich University*	University of Maine*
Coast Guard Academy*	Oberlin College	University of Maine Fort Kent*
Coastal Carolina University	Ohio University*	University of Maryland Baltimore County*
Colby-Sawyer College*	Old Dominion University	University of Massachusetts - All*
College of the Holy Cross	Paul Smith's College	University of Michigan*
Connecticut College*	Pace University	University of New England*
Curry College*	Plymouth State University*	University of New Hampshire
Davidson College	Point Loma University	University of New Haven
Dean College*	Providence College	University of North Carolina Wilmington
Delaware Valley University	Purdue University	University of Redlands
Denison University	Quincy College*	University of Rhode Island*
Drexel University	Quinnipiac University*	University of Richmond
Eastern Connecticut State University	Reed College	University of Rochester
Eastern Nazarene College*	Regis College*	University of San Diego*
Eckerd College	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of Tampa
Emerson College	Rhode Island College	University of Vermont
Endicott College	Rhode Island School of Design	University of Washington
Fisher College	Rochester Institute of Technology	Vassar College
Fitchburg State University*	Roger Williams University*	Virginia Commonwealth University
Flagler College	Rutgers University	Virginia Tech
Framingham State University*	Sacred Heart University*	Webb Institute*
Franklin Pierce University	Saint Anselm College	Wellesley College
George Mason University	Saint John's University*	Wells College
Gettysburg College*	Saint Joseph's College (Maine)*	Wentworth Institute of Technology*
Gordon College	Saint Michael's College	Western New England University
Goucher College	Salem State University*	Westfield State University*
Grinnell College	Salve Regina University*	Wheaton College*
Hampshire College	San Diego State University*	Wilson College*
Hawai'i Pacific University	Savannah College of Art and Design	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Ithaca College	Seton Hall University	Worcester State University*
Keene State	Seton Hill University*	Yale University*