

# 2024



## SCHOOL PROFILE

# 2025

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## OUR STORY

The Kehillah School was founded in 1999 and has redefined the high school experience through a dynamic, inclusive, values-based education. At Kehillah, forward-thinking families find a compassionate community that values academic excellence, holistic development, and a student-centered approach to learning. Guided by values rooted in Jewish tradition—Community, Dialogue, Choice & Agency, Pursuit of Knowledge, and Justice—our graduates leave Kehillah with the curiosity, empathy, and agency to transform their lives, communities, and the world. Kehillah is a pluralistic institution that welcomes students of all faiths and backgrounds. There are approximately 190 students in grades 9 through 12, and the average classroom size is 12 students. Kehillah is fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and the California Association of Independent Schools.

## EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

At the center of Kehillah's educational approach is a commitment to developing engaged citizens who develop the skills of deliberation, dialogue, and collaborative decision-making. Through Town Hall meetings and other participatory forums, students engage in discussions about school policy, moral dilemmas, and issues of social and civic concern. These experiences are complemented by advisory meetings, seminars, student-led committees, and affinity spaces that empower young people to effect meaningful change—at school, and within the broader community.

## EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL

From navigating the vibrant streets of bustling cities to trekking through remote wilderness areas, our Educational Travel Program empowers Kehillah students to broaden their horizons and engage with the world in profound ways. Each year, students embark on transformative journeys, both locally and internationally, where they immerse themselves in diverse cultures, confront critical issues facing these communities, and deepen their understanding of the interconnectedness of our local and global societies.

## ACADEMIC CALENDAR & SCHEDULE

Kehillah uses a semester calendar. We do not have official quarter grades. Fall semester grades are available in January as mid-year grades for all seniors. Kehillah operates on a 9-block schedule. Students in grades 9-11 enroll in at least 7 courses (with 2 free blocks). At least 6 courses (and 3 free blocks) are required for students in grade 12.

## ACADEMIC PROGRAM

At Kehillah, students are encouraged to think critically, create boldly, and lead with purpose and passion in every facet of their time here. Our inquiry-based educational philosophy positions students at the center of the learning process. Instead of merely imparting knowledge, our faculty collaborates with students to build the skills they need to achieve their goals. Students engage in a challenging array of courses in English, History, Social Studies, Math, Visual & Performing Arts, Science, Jewish Studies, and Language (see graduation requirements). Our most challenging courses are denoted as honors, AP, or Kehillah Advanced Topics (KAT)

## CURRICULAR DISTINCTIONS: KEHILLAH ADVANCED TOPICS (KAT)

New for the 2024-2025 school year, Kehillah Advanced Topics (KAT) courses offer academically prepared students the opportunity to deeply explore specific disciplines at a college level. These courses demand high-level reasoning, research, analysis, and extensive writing, or in the arts, thorough documentation of work. KAT courses foster mastery in specific or interconnected fields, drive engagement with complex questions, and culminate in a comprehensive exam or substantive project that showcases the student's depth of knowledge and sustained mastery.

# JEWISH STUDIES

Building bridges among communities is both an ancient tradition, and an essential need in our increasingly fractured world. We believe that the Jewish values we learn with and about are applicable to each individual's commitment to respect others and to repair the world. Our text-based courses focus on exploring canonical texts from biblical and rabbinic literature and involve the study of both Hebrew and Aramaic. During their time at Kehillah, students are required to take six semesters of Jewish Studies. All courses offered by the Jewish Studies department are UC-approved.

## NOTES ON THE CURRICULUM

- Students enroll in Honors, AP, and KAT courses through individual course counseling and academic departmental recommendations.
- Advanced Course Limit: Kehillah limits the total number of advanced courses (AP and KAT) a student may take to four each semester. \*Kehillah's Associate Head of School may occasionally authorize motivated students to exceed our cap for advanced courses.

### GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

English	4 years
Mathematics	3 years
Science	3 years
History	3 years
World Languages	2 years
Jewish Studies	3 years
Physical Education	1 year
Visual & Performing Arts	1 year

#### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- K-Term - 1 week per year
- Annual Educational Travel
- Students in grades 9-11 must take at least 7 courses. Grade 12 students must take at least 6 courses.

### ACADEMIC PROFILE

CLASS OF 2025: 62 STUDENTS

Mean Unweighted GPA 3.74

Mean Weighted GPA 4.03

Average SAT: 1409

Average ACT: 31

SAT and ACT testing availabilities remain scarce in Bay Area as of Fall 2024. Kehillah enthusiastically supports students who choose to opt out of SAT/ACT testing.

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## COURSE OFFERINGS

DIRECTED STUDIES  
Directed Studies

ENGINEERING ARTS  
Computer Science and Coding  
Engineering 1 & 2  
Robotics 1 & 2  
**AP Computer Science**  
**KAT Data Structures/Adv. Algorithms Hon\***

ENGLISH  
English 9  
English 10  
English 10 Honors  
English 11  
**AP English Language**  
**AP English Literature**  
19th Century Russian Literature  
Banned Books  
Chaos or Control: Dystopian Literature  
Comedy & Satire  
Poetry Now: A Reading & Writing Workshop  
The Harlem Renaissance

HISTORY  
World History 1 & 2  
World History 2 Honors  
US History  
AI and the End of the World  
Cold War & the 21st Century World  
Diaspora History  
Economics: Dollars & Sense  
**AP US Government and Politics**  
**AP US History**  
**AP Psychology**  
**KAT Psychology: Human Behavior**  
**KAT The Modern Middle East**

JEWISH STUDIES  
Biblical Wisdom for Life  
Bibliodrama: 440 Years  
Big Jewish Decisions: Stage and Page  
Breaking Open the Heart: Jewish Plays  
Cana'an to Kehillah  
Contemporary Israel  
Creation Myths: Agency and Authorship

Creative Midrash: Classical Texts  
Culture of Jews  
Ethics and Social Responsibility  
Ethics, Law, and Medicine  
Feminism, Law, and Tradition  
Holocaust and Human Behavior  
Holocaust Historical Perspectives  
Illuminating the Margins: Women in Tanakh  
Introduction to Jewish Studies 101  
Jewish Legal Codes  
JS101: TEXTing Ancient Israel  
JS101: From Ancient to Modern Israel  
Kabbalah: God, Ourselves, & Each Other  
LovIN The Torah  
Monsters and Magic: Jewish Folklore  
OMG: 20th&21st Century Jewish Theology  
Warriors & Prophets: Biblical Women 1 & 2  
**KAT Theories of Space and Time**  
JSH/JSHI Ethical Wisdom of the Talmud  
JSH/JSHI Great Debates of the Talmud  
JSH/JSHI Medieval Jewish Thought  
JSH/JSHI Moral & Spiritual Challenges  
*Basic Hebrew required for Jewish Study Hebrew (JSH) courses. Level 3 Hebrew required for Jewish Study Hebrew Intensive (JSHI) courses.*

MATHEMATICS  
Algebra 1  
Geometry  
Algebra 2/Trigonometry  
Algebra 2/Trigonometry Honors  
Alg 2 Honors/Precalc Honors Accelerated  
Precalculus  
Precalculus Honors  
Calculus  
**AP Statistics**  
**AP Calculus AB**  
**AP Calculus BC**  
**KAT Multivariable Calc/Linear Algebra\***

PHYSICAL EDUCATION  
Physical Training

## SCIENCE

Biology  
Chemistry  
Chemistry Honors  
Conceptual Physics  
Physics  
Physics Honors  
Human Anatomy and Physiology  
Marine Biology  
Introduction to Astronomy

### AP Biology

### AP Chemistry

### AP Physics C: Mechanics

### KAT Chemistry

## VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

### Studio Art

Intro to Illustration  
Digital Design 1 & 2  
Digital Photography 1 & 2  
The Reel Perspective  
Advanced Art Making  
Applied Arts Studio  
Publication Design (Yearbook)  
Acoustic Guitar-Family Ensemble 1 & 2  
Jazz/Rock Ensemble  
Music Studio 1 & 2  
Music Theory and Composition 1 & 2  
Senior Studio  
Theater Arts 1 & 2  
Theatre Arts 3 Honors  
Theatre Arts: Create  
Theatre Arts: Explore

### AP Music Theory

### KAT Music Theory: The Creative Process

### KAT Capstone: Art and Design

## WORLD LANGUAGES

Hebrew 1, 2, 3, 4  
Hebrew 3, 4, 5, 6 Honors

Israeli Law and Society Honors (Hebrew 6 Honors req.)

Spanish 1, 2, 3, 4

Spanish 3, 4 Honors

**AP Spanish Language (Level 4 req.)**

**AP Spanish Literature (Level 4 req.)**

Latin 1, 2, 3

Mandarin 1, 2, 3, 4

\*Offered in alternating years

## GRADING SYSTEM & CLASS RANK

- Grade point average (GPA) is calculated on the basis of all courses taken at Kehillah, except Physical Education and Directed Studies.
- K-Term courses are graded Pass/Fail and are not included in the GPA calculation.
- Courses taken outside of Kehillah are not included in the cumulative GPA.
- Kehillah uses a 4.0 GPA scale. Honors, Advanced Placement, and Kehillah Advanced Topics courses receive a weight of +1.
- Consistent with Kehillah's commitment to being a supportive academic environment that values all of our students, Kehillah does not rank students or award academic distinctions.



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# SCHOOL PROFILE ADDENDUM

## TRANSITION FROM AP TO KEHILLAH ADVANCED TOPICS

Beginning in Fall 2024, we will offer independently designed, accelerated courses—KAT: Kehillah Advanced Topics—that empower students to pursue their passions and engage in challenging and sophisticated inquiry across our academic program. Selected AP courses will continue through the 2024-2025 school year.

Beginning in the 2025-2026 school year, we will no longer offer Advanced Placement (AP) courses at Kehillah. However, we anticipate continuing to administer AP examinations should students elect to take them, with time set aside during the two weeks in May when they are offered.

## NAME CHANGE

As of September 2024, our school has undergone a name change. Formerly known as Kehillah Jewish High School, we are now **The Kehillah School**. While our name has changed, our commitment to academic excellence and providing a Jewish value-based education remain the same.