



**THE  
ROXBURY LATIN  
SCHOOL**  
FOUNDED IN 1645

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**AT A GLANCE**

**Student body:** 309 boys

**Class of 2021:** 53 boys

**Students of color:** 38%

**Boys from City of Boston:** 29%

**Student-Teacher Ratio:** 7:1

**Students going on to four-year colleges:** 100%

**Students receiving financial aid:** 36%

**Average financial aid grant:** 70% of tuition

**ADMINISTRATION**

**Headmaster**

Kerry P. Brennan

**Director of College Guidance**

Thomas E. Walsh, Jr.

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**Associate Director of College Guidance**

Meredith Reynolds

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**Registrar**

Keri Maguire

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**The Roxbury Latin School**

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**CEEB Code:** 220345

*Accredited by the  
New England Association  
of Schools and Colleges*

**SCHOOL PROFILE**

2020–2021

**Overview:** In our 376th year, Roxbury Latin is the oldest school in continuous existence in North America. We are a small, independent day school for boys in grades 7–12. Our students commute from various neighborhoods within the City of Boston and from surrounding towns. The campus comprises 117 acres in West Roxbury, a residential neighborhood in the southwestern corner of Boston.

John Eliot founded the School in 1645 with the mission of preparing boys for lives of public service. The School remains deeply committed to its original ideals and classical heritage. We stress honesty, simplicity, humility, respect, and concern for others, focusing on readying young boys for lives of purpose and meaning. While we celebrate our students' academic achievements, our primary concern is the moral character of our boys.

**Our Students:** The School seeks and enrolls bright, energetic, talented students, committed to exploring and developing their many skills. Most boys attend Roxbury Latin for six years. In recent years, the School's admit rate has hovered around 15%; our yield is typically near 90%. Each year, the admit rate at Grade 9, our other major entry point (10–12 boys), is lower than that of Grade 7.

**Socio-Economics:** We cherish the socio-economic diversity of the School. Roxbury Latin is need-blind and meets the entirety of the demonstrated need of our families. To ensure accessibility to middle-income families, tuition at Roxbury Latin is approximately \$15,000 less than that of other Boston-area independent schools. The education of every student is subsidized by our endowment.

**Standards:** Rigorous academic standards and tough grading limit the number of A's on transcripts. For example, in the last ten graduating classes (approximately 500 students) fewer than 40 boys (seven in the Class of 2020) graduated with a straight-A average on their high school transcripts, yet the median standardized testing of each class consistently hovers around 1500 (EBRW+M).

**Weighted GPA:** On the Secondary School Report you will find a weighted GPA for each applicant. We work on a 9-point scale (9 = A+, 8 = A, etc.) and include all major courses completed in Grades 9–11. We update the GPA at the conclusion of the first semester of the senior year. We add one "quality point" for all AP classes, all courses designated as Honors, and any classes taught at an accelerated rate (e.g., Latin 1–2, Latin 2–3, Geometry with Trigonometry, and Analysis). Using data from Grades 9–11, the highest weighted GPA achieved in the Class of 2021 is 9.0. We do not provide class rank.

**Academic Calendar and Course Load:** We operate on a traditional semester calendar. Students in Grades 11 and 12 are not allowed to take more than five major courses per semester.

**Requirements for Diploma:**

- **English:** Required every year
- **Math:** Required through the end of the sophomore year and/or the completion of Geometry. Students complete Algebra in our eighth grade. Our Analysis with Trigonometry is a Pre-Calculus course.
- **Science:** Math-Science Investigations is required in Grade 9; two additional laboratory science courses (Physics, Chemistry, or Biology) are required in Grades 10-12.
- **Languages:** Latin and either French or Spanish through the third-year level. (Students can opt for Ancient Greek in place of a third year of modern language.) Anything beyond the third-year level of Latin, Spanish, or French reflects a deep commitment to languages and exceeds our requirements.
- **History:** Western Civilization is required in Grade 9; U.S. History is required in Grade 11 or 12.
- All freshmen take half-credit arts electives; sophomores take two one-semester arts electives.
- Seniors must complete a month-long Independent Study Project in the spring, including a written summation and an oral presentation.
- Involvement in team sports or independent physical education is mandated throughout a boy's time at the School.

**On- and Off-Campus Extracurriculars:** Students spend dedicated time each afternoon committed to a range of pursuits. Throughout the year, boys commit themselves to many service opportunities, either elective or as a class, extending long-standing and meaningful connections around the City of Boston. The majority of boys take advantage of school-sponsored opportunities to travel abroad for cultural and linguistic immersion.

**Our Response to COVID-19:** Roxbury Latin was scheduled to begin spring break on March 13, 2020. Due to rising concerns

about the COVID-19 pandemic, students were released one day early for this annual two-week recess. During that hiatus, our faculty prepared to conduct their classes in a remote teaching environment. As a result, Roxbury Latin students did not miss a beat; upon their "return to school," they attended Zoom classes from 8:45 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. each day. We were able to maintain our rigorous curricular demands and preserved our traditional grading system. Faculty and students did their best to adapt extracurricular activities to the virtual realm where possible (e.g., creating online music recitals and our first-ever electronic edition of the school newspaper).

This fall, we have adopted a hybrid learning environment, teaching two cohorts of students concurrently. Cohorts move between on-campus and remote learning on a weekly basis. Every classroom is equipped with a technology cart that allows our remote students to participate in the classroom experience from home; our class schedule runs from 8:45 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. each day. In the afternoons, students are given the option of participating in a number of extracurricular and athletic pursuits, all of which are conducted using CDC social-distancing guidelines and safety measures. Our grading system has remained unchanged

We are proud of the adaptability, resilience, cooperation, and dedication our students and faculty have shown in the face of these challenges.

**Discipline:** The School's fundamental precept is: "Honesty is expected in all dealings." Any suspension, therefore, that occurs during grades 9–12 is reported to colleges that request such information. Students are encouraged to be forthright in explaining disciplinary matters in their applications. In every case, if a student was not asked to leave the School, he has earned our full and unwavering support.

**Advanced Placement:** While virtually every course is taught at an advanced level, often using college textbooks, we offer AP courses only in those subject areas in which the curriculum meets our academic goals and philosophy. Because of the logistical constraints of our schedule and the nature of our curriculum, it is highly unusual for a student's transcript to contain more than five AP classes.

**AP Courses Offered in Recent Years:**

Art History	Calculus AB	Calculus BC
Computer Science	Economics (macro & micro)	French Language
Latin	Modern European History	Music Theory
Politics & Government	Spanish Language	Statistics

**AP Highlights:**

- A boy in an AP class is required to sit for the exam.
- AP courses are *not* offered by our English or Science Departments, but a number of students sit for AP exams in these disciplines each year; boys have also been known to prepare for AP exams in courses we do not offer. In the Class of 2021, 46 students took the English Literature exam without the benefit of a course.
- 96% of the boys in the Class of 2021 have generated 136 AP examinations by the end of their junior year; 71% of the exams received a 4 or 5.

**National Merit Competition:** Class of 2021 (53 boys): Includes 5 National Merit Semifinalists and 13 Commended Students. 34% of the class earned distinction in this competition. 2 Scholars were recognized in the National Hispanic Recognition Program.

**SAT Results for the Class of 2020:** Middle 50% SAT scores: 680–770 (EBRW), and 680–790 (M)

**Representative SAT Subject Test Record for the Class of 2020:**

SAT Subject Test	Middle 50%	# of test-takers
Latin	640-790	42
Math 2	740-800	25
Physics	760-800	15
Spanish	710-800	9
English Literature	650-720	8
French	610-760	7

**Nota bene:**

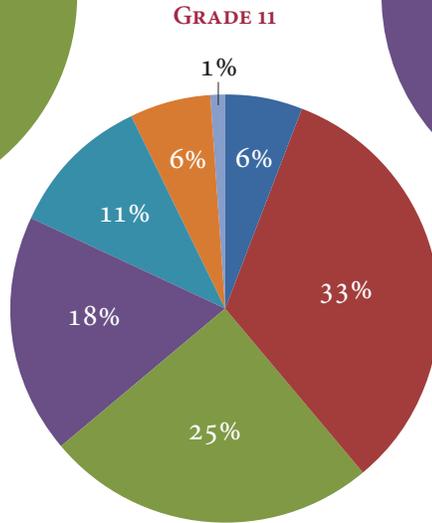
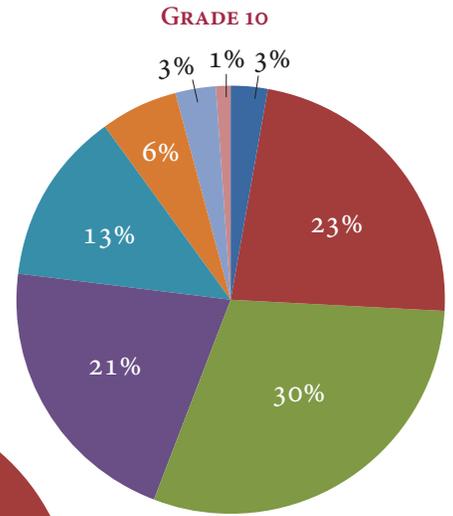
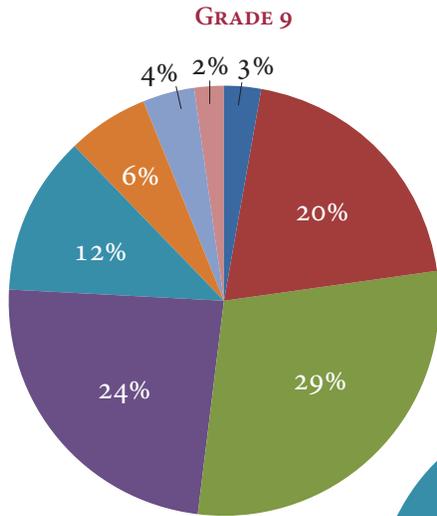
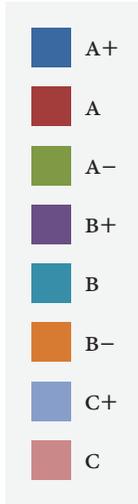
- If a student “doubles” in languages, he has a hard time fitting in three years of laboratory science.
- Recent curricular additions: Race and Gender in America Post-WWII American Foreign Policy, Current Events, Ancient Religions, Three Caribbean Islands, and Contemporary Global Issues.

- Students are permitted to take no more than five major courses per semester. There are no exceptions to this policy.
- Annually several boys undertake semester- or year-long tutorials, focusing on topics of interest across the disciplines.
- The Applied Art course includes both art history and studio art components. Applied Art is a full course, which we consider on par with classes in all other disciplines; Applied Art students have taken the AP Art History exam in the past. We also now offer a half course in Studio Art.

**Grade Distribution:** The Class of 2021 has amassed the following grades throughout their high school career:

**Grade Scale:**

- A High Honors
- B Honors
- C Acceptable Work
- C- Low Pass
- D Failure



**Matriculation:** Graduates from the last five classes (2016-2020) have matriculated at the following institutions:

Amherst	6	Hamilton	1	Trinity	9
Assumption	1	Harvard	35	Trinity (Dublin)	1
Babson	4	Haverford	1	Tufts	14
Bates	2	Holy Cross	6	Tulane	2
Belmont	1	Howard	2	University of Arizona	1
Boston College	13	Lehigh	1	University of Chicago	4
Boston University	4	Marquette	1	University of Massachusetts	10
Bowdoin	10	Middlebury	3	University of Miami	1
Brandeis	1	MIT	2	University of North Carolina Wilmington	1
Brown	12	Northeastern	2	University of Pennsylvania	2
Bucknell	1	Northwestern	4	University of Richmond	3
Clemson	1	Notre Dame	3	University of Rochester	1
Colby	6	Oxford College of Emory University	2	University of Southern California	1
Columbia	2	Princeton	7	University of Washington	1
Connecticut College	2	Providence College	3	Union	1
Cornell	1	Quinsigamond Community College	1	Vanderbilt	2
Dalhousie	1	Roger Williams	2	Wake Forest	1
Dartmouth	8	Saint Anselm	1	Washington University in St. Louis	1
Davidson	3	Seattle University	1	Wesleyan	2
Duke	4	Skidmore	1	Wheaton (IL)	1
Elon	1	St. Lawrence	1	Wheaton (MA)	1
George Washington	3	Stanford	1	Williams	4
Georgetown	13	Syracuse	2	Yale	8