

NEW TRIER TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 203

To commit minds to inquiry, hearts to compassion, and lives to the service of humanity.®



TO: Dr. Paul J. Sally, Superintendent
Board of Education, New Trier Township High School

FROM: Peter W. Tragos, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

RE: Profile of the Class of 2018: An Academic Perspective

DATE: December 17, 2018

This report is the ninth annual report providing an in-depth profile of a graduating class from New Trier. The previous reports were received with great interest by staff, parents, and the community at large. The data presented in these reports continue to provide an excellent starting point for conversations with parent and community groups, teachers, advisers, and students.

While the report garnered much interest over the years it ballooned to eight different sections over twenty-four pages. Each section contained valuable information on a different aspect of the student experience from an academic and student services perspectives, but the importance of the data in any individual section was getting lost in information overload. In response, this year the sections of the original report will be presented over a few months, starting with this report which focuses on the academic experience of the Class of 2018.

Additionally, our strategic planning process has influenced our thinking about the way we organize these types of reports. As the annual planning cycle emerges from strategic planning, Board reports will be aligned with Framework Areas. This report and others in my area will fall within the *Intellectual Engagement, Growth, and Readiness* framework, while the other sections will be included in the coming months within reports from Student Services, Special Education, and the campus principals.

The data provided in this report gives parents, staff, and students a perspective on the degree to which students chart an individualized academic pathway through New Trier and into college. The first section details the course-taking patterns of students in the class of 2018 who spent four years at New Trier. The second section provides college matriculation data based on the course-taking patterns of those same students.

Analyzing the course-taking patterns of the students in the class of 2018 helps to dispel some of the myths that pervade the school community about courses, levels, and college. The colleges that students attend have been analyzed by looking at a student's level profile of classes, the number of core academic courses, the number of AP courses, and the number of elective courses. These data show the variety of options available to New Trier students no matter their course-taking patterns, which challenges many assumptions about admission to particular colleges. This report helps to illustrate New Trier's commitment to the Post-High School Counseling Department's motto that "College is a match to be made, not a prize to be won."

Section 1: Course-Taking Patterns for the Class of 2018

This section of the profile analyzes the course-taking patterns of students in the Core Academic departments and Elective departments. The data was gathered from the final transcripts of the Class of 2018.

This section uses data from the 871 students in the Class of 2018 who were at New Trier for all four years of high school. Comparisons to the class of 2017 are noted in parentheses, which had 917 students who were at New Trier all four years. The “level profile” is constructed by determining at which levels a student took courses. The level profile also indicates at which level the student took the most courses.

The last part of this section presents a sampling of the colleges students in each level profile are attending. As with any data concerning colleges, a variety of factors determine where students are accepted and where they enroll. The level of courses a student takes is only one factor that colleges consider. The Class of 2017 is shown in parentheses.

A. Major Credit Courses taken in Core Academic Departments

Department	# of Students	# of Courses	Years/Student
English	871	3500	4.02 (4.05)
Math	871	3431	3.94 (3.92)
Modern & Classical Language	868	2918	3.36 (3.39)
Science	871	3363	3.86 (3.89)
Social Studies	871	3172	3.64 (3.65)

# of Core Academic Courses Taken		# of students	% of students
Fewer than 16	Fewer than 4 core academic classes per year	31	3.6% (2.6%)
16 to 17.5	Between 4 and 5 core academic courses per year	112	12.9% (11.7%)
18 - 18.5		159	18.3% (19.4%)
19-19.5		309	35.5% (34.0%)
20	Exactly 5 core academic course per year	205	23.5% (25.5%)
More than 20	More than 5 core academic courses per year	55	6.3% (6.8%)

- A relatively consistent number of students are taking 19 or more core academic courses with 65.3% choosing that academic pathway in 2018 compared to 66.3% in 2017 and 65.4% in 2016. This statistic is one metric colleges use to determine the rigor of a high school student’s academic program.
- Fewer students are taking 20 or more core academic courses during their four years with 29.8% of all students hitting the mark in 2018 compared to 32.3% in 2017 and 38.5% in 2016.
- Academic programs vary to meet each student’s needs, but it is generally recommended that students take between 4 and 5 core academic courses per year.

B. Courses taken in Elective Departments

Department	# of Students	Total # of Courses	Years/Student	Students who took elective courses only in this department	
				#	%
Applied Arts – FCS	199	215	1.08	31	15.6%
Applied Arts – Tech Ed	242	420	1.74	27	11.2%
Art	373	590	1.58	75	20.1%
Business	402	511	1.27	35	8.7%
Dance	148	314	2.13	8	5.4%
Media, Speech, & Theatre	202	401	1.99	17	7.8%
Music	219	868	3.97	51	23.3%

- Driver Ed (118) and Consumer Ed (449) are not included in these totals.
- 221 students took classes in 3 of these departments and 34 took courses in 4 of these departments.

Elective Departments Sharing Students	# of Students
Art + Business Ed	176 (187)
Business Ed + Applied Arts – FCS	120 (119)
Business Ed + Applied Arts - Tech Ed	100 (113)
Art + Applied Arts – FCS	80 (98)
Dance + Music	76 (51)
Music + Media, Speech & Theatre	72 (70)
Dance + Media, Speech & Theatre	71 (43)
Dance + Music + Media, Speech & Theatre	49 (26)

The next charts show the Elective Departments' course-taking patterns. The first chart shows total elective courses taken over four years. The second chart shows the course-taking pattern for each year. One-semester elective courses have a value of 0.5, so, for example, a student who took two full years of Art and a one-semester Business class would be listed at taking 2.5 electives. The Class of 2017 is shown in parentheses.

# of Elective Courses taken over four years	# of Students	% of Students
1 – 1.5	107 (110)	12.2% (12.0%)
2	160 (163)	18.4% (17.8%)
2.5 – 4	369 (380)	42.4% (41.4%)
4.5 – 8 (more than 1 course/year)	173 (218)	19.9% (23.8%)
More than 8 (more than 2 courses/year)	62 (46)	7.1% (5.0%)

# of Elective Department Courses taken in that year	Freshman year		Sophomore year		Junior year		Senior year	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
0	48	5.5%	181	20.8%	298	34.2%	327	37.5%
0.5	11	1.3%	92	10.6%	51	5.9%	40	4.6%
1 – 1.5	724	83.1%	476	54.6%	370	42.5%	338	38.8%
2 or more	88	10.1%	122	14.0%	152	17.5%	166	19.1%

- Elective departments have strong enrollment. Just over 60% of students took between two and four elective courses during their four years at New Trier. A sizeable cohort of approximately 20% of the class of 2018 took a program that included more than one elective per year.

C. Student Level Profiles of Transcript Courses

A level profile was determined for each student in the class of 2018 from the courses on their transcripts. If a student took one course at a particular level, it was added to their level profile. In order to get a broad picture of a student's experience, only students who attended New Trier for all four years are included. The Class of 2017 is shown in parentheses.

Level Profile Description		# of Students	% of Students	Average # of AP classes	% of students taking at least one AP class
Only level 4 courses		40 (30)	4.6% (3.3%)	6.6 (6.3)	(100.0%)
Both level 3 and 4	More 4 than 3	154 (150)	17.7% (16.4%)	4.6 (4.3)	(98.7%)
	More 3 than 4	288 (285)	33.1% (31.1%)	2.1 (1.9)	(90.9%)
Levels 2, 3, and 4		106 (116)	12.2% (12.6%)	1.3 (1.3)	(88.8%)
Only level 3		35 (58)	4.0% (6.3%)	n/a	n/a
Both levels 2 and 3	More 3 than 2	99 (128)	11.4% (14.0%)	n/a	n/a
	More 2 than 3	129 (129)	14.8% (14.1%)	n/a	n/a
Only level 2		20 (21)	2.3% (2.3%)	n/a	n/a
Grand Total		917	100%		65.9%

- Classes taken at level 9 are counted as level 3 for the purposes of this study since that is the grade weight used for level 9 courses.
- The percentage of students taking at least one AP class has increased over the last four years from 58.5% in 2015 to 65.9% in 2018.
- The vast majority of students take a combination of levels over their four years at New Trier, demonstrating the flexibility of the level system to meet the individual needs of each and every student within each discipline. Very few students take courses at only one level throughout their four year, with 4.6% taking solely level 4 course and 2.3% taking solely level 2 courses. Very few students take only level 2 courses because of the variety of level 9 interdisciplinary courses like Freshman World Studies, American Studies, and the diversity of course offerings available to seniors in English, Social Studies, and Science, as well as a few level 9 offerings in Modern & Classical Languages and Mathematics. Most common is an academic program with a combination of levels, where 89.1% of students took a mixture of levels, with 12.2% taking at least one core academic class at each of our 2, 3, and 4 levels. Such a combination of levels is a testament to the flexibility of our level system in meeting the needs of each student within each discipline.

Section 2: College Matriculation for the Class of 2018

College Matriculation

It is important to remember that the numbers reported in this section are for the colleges which students chose to attend, not all colleges in which students were accepted. Similar to previous years, the report shows college matriculation by level profile, number of core academics taken in four years, number of AP classes taken in four years, and number of elective classes taken in four years. These charts are shown on pages 5-8. These data show that a wide variety of students attend any particular college and help set expectations for other students hoping to attend that school. For example, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign accepted students with a wide variety of level profiles, but the vast majority of these students took 18 core academic courses or more. A current student or family can use these charts to see where students from the Class of 2018 went to college who had the same level profile, number of core academic classes, number of AP classes, or number of elective classes. The most popular colleges and the patterns that emerge from these charts are very similar to previous years.

The table below shows all colleges where at least 5 graduates are attending and **the level profile** for those students. The students in the Class of 2018 are attending 202 different colleges

College	Level Profile								# of Students
	2	2/3	3/2	3	2/3/4	3/4	4/3	4	
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign		13	10	4	14	31	16	2	90
Indiana University at Bloomington		3	3	4	8	23	4		45
University of Wisconsin, Madison					1	22	12		35
University of Michigan					3	13	9	1	26
Northwestern University				1	1	4	9	8	23
University of Colorado at Boulder		6	6	3	2	4	1		22
Marquette University		3	5	1	1	8	2		20
University of Denver		4	3	1	4	8			20
Miami University, Oxford		2	4	2	3	5	1		17
DePaul University	1	5	2		3	4	1		16
Tulane University		3	3			5	2		13
Michigan State University		8	1		1	2			12
Boston University					1	8	2		11
Denison University		3	3		1	4			11
The University of Iowa		4	4	1	1	1			11
University of Dayton	2	1	2	1	2	3			11
Washington University in St. Louis					1	5	3	2	11
Oakton Community College	2	6			1	1			10
Purdue University		1		1	4	3	1		10
University of Chicago						1	3	6	10
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities			1	2	2	5			10
Butler University	1	2	3		1	2			9
Cornell University						1	5	3	9
Santa Clara University		2	1		1	3	2		9
Syracuse University			1	2	2	4			9
Texas Christian University			2		3	4			9
Illinois State University		6		1		1			8
University of Southern California						3	4	1	8
The George Washington University		1			3	2	1		7
The University of Alabama	1	2	1	1	1	1			7
American University					1	4	1		6
Boston College						3	2	1	6
College of William and Mary						4	2		6
Loyola University Chicago		1			1	3		1	6
Saint Louis University		1	1		1	3			6
The Ohio State University						5	1		6
University of Miami		2			2	1	1		6
University of Notre Dame		1			1		4		6
Case Western Reserve University			1		1		3		5
Colgate University						4	1		5
Colorado State University		2	1		1	1			5
The University of Texas, Austin						3	2		5
University of California, Santa Cruz			1			4			5
University of Pennsylvania							3	2	5
University of Vermont		2	1		1	1			5
Villanova University		1				2	1	1	5

The table below shows all the colleges where at least 5 graduates are attending and **the number of core academic courses** on those students' transcripts. New Trier recommends students take between 4 and 5 Core Academics per year, which is 16 to 20 Core Academics during four years.

College	<16	16-17.5	18-18.5	19-19.5	20	>20	# of Students
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	1	8	20	36	20	5	90
Indiana University at Bloomington		4	10	19	11	1	45
University of Wisconsin, Madison			4	16	12	3	35
University of Michigan			1	13	8	4	26
Northwestern University		2	2	6	10	3	23
University of Colorado at Boulder		2	5	10	5		22
Marquette University		2	3	12	2	1	20
University of Denver		2	3	13	2		20
Miami University, Oxford			5	7	4	1	17
DePaul University	2	4	2	3	2	3	16
Tulane University		1	2	5	5		13
Michigan State University		2	1	7	2		12
Boston University		1	1	5	3	1	11
Denison University		2	2	4	3		11
The University of Iowa		3	1	7			11
University of Dayton		4	3	3	1		11
Washington University in St. Louis			2	4	4	1	11
Oakton Community College	3	5	2				10
Purdue University	1	2	1	1	4	1	10
University of Chicago				4	4	2	10
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities		1	3	4	2		10
Butler University			3	5	1		9
Cornell University			1	2	6		9
Santa Clara University			2	3	2	2	9
Syracuse University		1	2	3	2	1	9
Texas Christian University				4	5		9
Illinois State University		4	2	1	1		8
University of Southern California		2	1		3	2	8
The George Washington University		1	1	2	1	2	7
The University of Alabama		3		4			7
American University			1	1	4		6
Boston College			2	2	1	1	6
College of William and Mary			1	1	3	1	6
Loyola University Chicago		1	4		1		6
Saint Louis University		1	2	2	1		6
The Ohio State University			1	4	1		6
University of Miami	1		1	2	1	1	6
University of Notre Dame				4	2		6
Case Western Reserve University			1	3		1	5
Colgate University			1	3	1		5
Colorado State University	1	2		2			5
The University of Texas, Austin				3	2		5
University of California, Santa Cruz		2	1	1	1		5
University of Pennsylvania				2	3		5
University of Vermont		2	1	1	1		5
Villanova University			1	2	1	1	5

The table below shows all colleges where at least 5 graduates are attending and **the number of AP classes** on those students' transcripts.

College	Number of AP Courses					# of Students
	0	1	2	3	>=4	
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	27	20	16	6	20	90
Indiana University at Bloomington	11	15	9	5	4	45
University of Wisconsin, Madison		3	9	9	14	35
University of Michigan	1	1	4	7	13	26
Northwestern University	1	2	1	1	17	23
University of Colorado at Boulder	15	4		3		22
Marquette University	9	3	4	1	2	20
University of Denver	9	7	2	2		20
Miami University, Oxford	8	4	2		2	17
DePaul University	10	3	1		2	16
Tulane University	7		2	1	3	13
Michigan State University	9	1	2			12
Boston University		1	6	1	3	11
Denison University	6	3	2			11
The University of Iowa	9		1	1		11
University of Dayton	7	4				11
Washington University in St. Louis			4	2	5	11
Oakton Community College	10					10
Purdue University	2	3	2	3		10
University of Chicago				1	9	10
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities	5	2	3			10
Butler University	6		3			9
Cornell University					9	9
Santa Clara University	3	3	1		2	9
Syracuse University	4	3	2			9
Texas Christian University	3	4	1	1		9
Illinois State University	7				1	8
University of Southern California		1			7	8
The George Washington University	2	1	2	1		7
The University of Alabama	5		1			7
American University		3	1	1	1	6
Boston College			3		3	6
College of William and Mary			1	1	4	6
Loyola University Chicago	3	1		1	1	6
Saint Louis University	3	3				6
The Ohio State University		1	3		2	6
University of Miami	3	2			1	6
University of Notre Dame	1		1		4	6
Case Western Reserve University	1		1	1	2	5
Colgate University			1	2	2	5
Colorado State University	4	1				5
The University of Texas, Austin		1	1	1	2	5
University of California, Santa Cruz	2		3			5
University of Pennsylvania					5	5
University of Vermont	4				1	5
Villanova University	1		2		2	5

The table below shows all colleges where at least 5 graduates are attending and **the number of Elective Department classes** on those students' transcripts.

College	Number of Elective Department Courses					# of Students
	1-1.5	2	2.5-4	4.5-8	>8	
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	11	16	43	18	2	90
Indiana University at Bloomington	3	12	17	9	4	45
University of Wisconsin, Madison	7	7	16	4	1	35
University of Michigan	2	5	13	5	1	26
Northwestern University	1	5	7	8	2	23
University of Colorado at Boulder	4	3	10	4	1	22
Marquette University	4	6	8	2		20
University of Denver	3	4	11	2		20
Miami University, Oxford	2	5	10			17
DePaul University	2	2	9	1	2	16
Tulane University	2	4	7			13
Michigan State University	3	2	6	1		12
Boston University		3	3	1	4	11
Denison University	3	2	4	2		11
The University of Iowa		1	4	5	1	11
University of Dayton	3	1	3	3	1	11
Washington University in St. Louis	1		5	3	2	11
Oakton Community College	1	1	6	2		10
Purdue University	2		5	2	1	10
University of Chicago		2	5	2	1	10
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities		3	4	2	1	10
Butler University	1	5	2	1		9
Cornell University	1	4	1	3		9
Santa Clara University	2	2	5			9
Syracuse University	1		5	2	1	9
Texas Christian University	3	2	4			9
Illinois State University	1		4	3		8
University of Southern California	1	1	2	1	3	8
The George Washington University	3	2	1	1		7
The University of Alabama	2		4	1		7
American University		3	1	2		6
Boston College		2	3	1		6
College of William and Mary		1	3	1	1	6
Loyola University Chicago	1		3	2		6
Saint Louis University		2	2	2		6
The Ohio State University	1	1	3	1		6
University of Miami	1	1	3		1	6
University of Notre Dame	1	1	3	1		6
Case Western Reserve University	1		2	1	1	5
Colgate University	1	1	2	1		5
Colorado State University		2	2	1		5
The University of Texas, Austin	1		1	3		5
University of California, Santa Cruz		1	4			5
University of Pennsylvania	2	2	1			5
University of Vermont		2	3			5
Villanova University	1	3		1		5

Colleges attended by Conference

Below is a list of the colleges attended by at least one student in the class of 2018 by NCAA Division I Conference. The colleges that New Trier students attended in that conferences are listed in alphabetical order.

Conference	# of Students	Colleges
Big 10	261	All schools
Big East	58	Butler, DePaul, Georgetown, Marquette, Villanova, Xavier
ACC	39	Boston College, Duke, Miami, North Carolina, Notre Dame, Pittsburgh, Syracuse, Virginia Tech
PAC 12	35	Arizona, Berkeley, Colorado, Oregon, USC, Washington
Patriot League	29	American, Boston University, Bucknell, Colgate, Lehigh, West Point
Ivy	24	Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, Pennsylvania, Princeton, Yale
MAC	22	Miami (Ohio), Northern Illinois, Ohio, Western Michigan
Missouri Valley	21	Bradley, Illinois State, Loyola, Southern Illinois, Valparaiso
The American	19	Southern Methodist, Temple, Tulane,
SEC	9	Alabama, Missouri, South Carolina, Vanderbilt
Total	517	

Recommendations for Further Action and Study

1. This report has been positively received by advisers, teachers, and Post-High School Counselors, in their work with students and families. The profile report has been very helpful to advisers and families during 4-year planning and course selection, and the Freshman Transition Team has also used the report to lend a perspective on levels and course-taking patterns as 9th grade students and parents make decisions about course selections. Using the profile report in this way gives the data a real practical application to better inform faculty, students, and parents. The goal is to make the profile more readily available by placing on the website and furthering its use in meetings with students, staff, and parents.
2. As noted in the introduction, other parts of the previous version of this report will be presented to the Board of Education in future months.