

2020-21 Profile



SOUHEGAN HIGH SCHOOL

412 Boston Post Road, P.O. Box 1152
Amherst, New Hampshire 03031
Phone (603) 673-9940 Fax (603) 673-0318
www.SAU39.org/shs
Four Year Public High School
CEEb Code: 300012 Test Center Code # 30-103

Mission Statement

Souhegan High School aspires to be a community of learners born of respect, trust and courage.

We consciously commit ourselves:

To support and engage an individual's unique gifts, passions, and intentions.

To develop and empower the mind, body, and heart.

To challenge and expand the comfortable limits of thought, tolerance, and performance.

To inspire and honor the active stewardship of family, nation, and globe.

Highlights

Souhegan High School in Amherst, New Hampshire opened its doors to students from the towns of Amherst and Mont Vernon in September of 1992. As a member of the Coalition of Essential Schools, Souhegan is guided by the Common Principles developed by education reformer Ted Sizer. Now in its twenty-ninth year, Souhegan draws 709 students to its award winning programs. Souhegan High School is accredited by the New England Association of schools and colleges. The Commission on Public Secondary Schools cited significant strengths in the statement of purpose; media services; administration, faculty and staff; community support and involvement; school climate; and assessment of student learning and school performance. Souhegan High School is a lead school in the state of New Hampshire in the areas of competency based education, performance assessments and student centered learning.

Superintendent:	Adam Steel
Principal:	Michael Berry
Dean of Faculty:	Natalie Berger
Dean of Students:	Kelly Driscoll
Director of School Counseling:	Karen Chininis
School Counselors:	Anne Burke Pam Ilg Kate Ledoux Erin Perry

COVID 19 Response

On March 13, 2020, Souhegan High School transitioned to remote learning in response to the COVID 19 pandemic. SHS implemented remote learning practices and structures which aligned with our Mission Statement and Common Principles and allowed for equitable access to all students. Semester elective classes went to a pass/fail grading system, which does not impact GPA. Full year courses remained unchanged. During the current 2020-21 school year, students and faculty are able to select in person or remote learning modalities throughout the year. Seniors may also engage in a combination of in person and remote classes. In addition, seniors are able to elect participation in community service and Senior Project which previously have been graduation requirements. We continue to focus on relationship building and academic rigor during this unprecedented time.

CURRICULUM

At Souhegan High School, we honor diversity by grouping our students heterogeneously and including students with educational challenges in our mainstream courses. We support personal drive and aspiration by providing Advanced Placement and college credit courses to students willing to take on the challenge. In addition to the standard curricular offerings in English, math, science, social studies, and classical and modern languages, elective courses are available in art, technology, performing arts and physical education. Education in economics and civics is embedded in the three required social studies classes; similarly, health education is integrated with freshman wellness classes.

SHS MASTERY BASED GRADING

Over the past 7 years, SAU39 has reviewed, rewritten, and updated curriculum in every subject area to better align with the NH State Standards and the NH Minimum Standards for School approval that require scoring on competencies and the use of performance assessment in the classroom. SHS has improved both our instruction and assessment practices to provide students with the content and skills they need to be successful. All grades are rolling until the end of the course. Students continue to demonstrate evidence of their learning and earn scores throughout the course. A student's score is a reflection of what they know and are able to do at the end of the course. Course scores are converted to letter grades for transcript purposes.

HONORS CHALLENGE

The Honors Challenge curriculum is available to students who have a strong desire to strengthen their depth of knowledge and development of skills in a given subject. Students take on more complex, in-depth exploration of the course material and complete a variety of rigorous assignments, independent projects, and assessments. Students earn Honors credit after meeting the Honors expectations and successfully completing the course. Honors courses are indicated with an H on transcripts.

NEW HAMPSHIRE SCHOLARS

New Hampshire Scholars is part of the National State Scholars Initiative Network, a community-based program that encourages students to take a more rigorous Core Course of Study in high school. The program partners local business leaders and the school district. Students contract to complete the State Scholars Core Course of Study and participate in business activities in the community.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

The service program at Souhegan consciously promotes learning through serving. This program develops awareness of the need for helping others, builds self-esteem, stimulates knowledge of people with broader needs and experiences, and encourages a tradition of service in our youth. As a reflection of Souhegan High School's mission statement, this curriculum "inspires and honors the active stewardship of family, nation, and globe." All students at Souhegan must complete a minimum of forty hours as a graduation requirement.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

More than 82% of students at Souhegan further develop their individual interests through participation in one or more co-curricular activities. Students may choose from 40 different opportunities in academic, student government, and performing arts programs and 52 varsity and sub-varsity athletic teams in 29 different sports.

UNIQUE PROGRAMS

Advisory Groups – Small groups of students meet daily with a staff member who actively supports student's personal and academic development. The advisor is a primary contact person with parents and students and oversees various aspects of a student's life at Souhegan. Four years (2 credits) of Advisory is a requirement for graduation.

Integrated Math - A sequence of three courses covering the entire curriculum of Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II is required for all students. The philosophy of Integrated Mathematics is that algebra, geometry, and data analysis are naturally connected. Successful completion of the three year sequence prepares students to pursue Pre-Calculus and additional advanced mathematics courses.

Wintercession – Sophomores choose from a variety of weeklong, educational opportunities sharing similar passions and interests with a group of peers. Souhegan recognizes that experiential learning is an important component in a student's education and personal growth.

Division I Exhibition - At the end of grade 10, all students are expected to show evidence of their growth toward the Souhegan High School Learner Expectations by successfully completing this required exhibition. The Division I Exhibition is a three-part process including a portfolio of ninth and tenth grade work, a piece of reflective writing and a 45 minute "roundtable" presentation. Non – credit requirement

Junior Research Project - This year-long process requires students to complete three separate research papers rooted in the World Studies/World Literature curriculum. The goal is for students to learn and use a variety of research and writing skills as they work to understand the processes involved in rigorous academic research. Non – credit requirement

Post Grad Plan - All students complete a post-secondary plan during their junior year. The PGP includes elements of critical life skills such as decision making and goal setting. During the PGP, juniors explore college and career choices. The PGP exposes students to the skills and knowledge necessary to pursue a variety of post-secondary options. Non – credit requirement

Senior Seminar - This two credit course is an interdisciplinary seminar linking senior English with either social studies, science, film or art.

Senior Project - During grade 12, seniors have the option during the 2020-21 school year to pursue an independent study project in an area of special interest as a major culminating academic experience. Students engage in extensive research and reflection, apply their new knowledge and present their final projects to a public audience in the spring. Non – credit requirement.

The Virtual Learning Academy Charter School – VLACS is an approved charter school offering students extended learning opportunities and/or competency recovery. VLACS courses are designated as such on the transcript.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

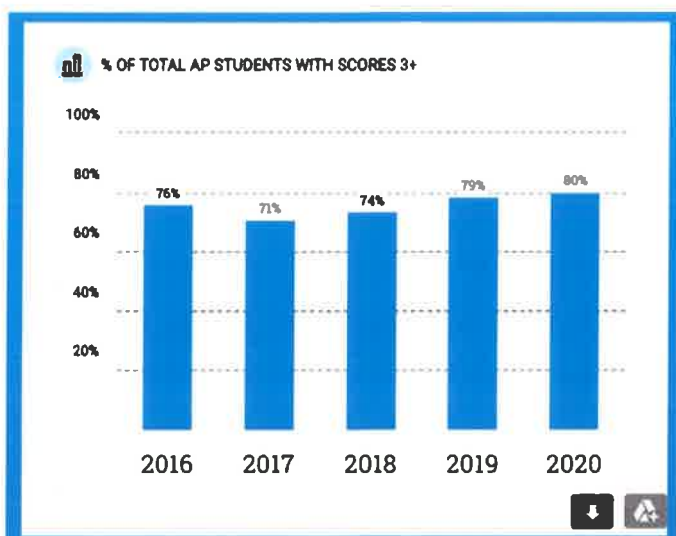
English	4.00	Health	0.50
Math	3.00	Fine Arts	0.50
Science	3.00	Computer Ed.	0.50
Social Studies	3.00	Advisory	2.00
Physical Education	1.00	Elective Courses	5.00

Total Credits 22.25

Souhegan is on an 8 period modified block. Students are now able to achieve a maximum of 7.5 credits per year.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Calculus AB	French Language
Calculus BC	Human Geography
Chemistry	Physics C
Computer Science A	Spanish Language
Computer Science Principles	Statistics
English Lang & Comp	Studio Art
English Literature	US History
Environmental Science	



DUAL ENROLLMENT CLASSES

Advanced Biology
 Anatomy & Physiology
 AP Calculus AB
 AP Chemistry
 AP Statistics (2019-20)
 Ethics Seminar SS
 Understanding Psychology

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TEST SCORES

SAT	2017	2018	2019	2020
Verbal/ERW	571	565	557	560
Math	546	546	542	546

ACT	2017	2018	2019	2020
English	24.8	24.1	25.6	*
Math	23.4	24.2	24.7	*
Reading	25.7	24.6	25.9	*
Science	24.5	23.2	25.0	*
Composite	24.7	24.1	25.4	*

*Information not available due to COVID

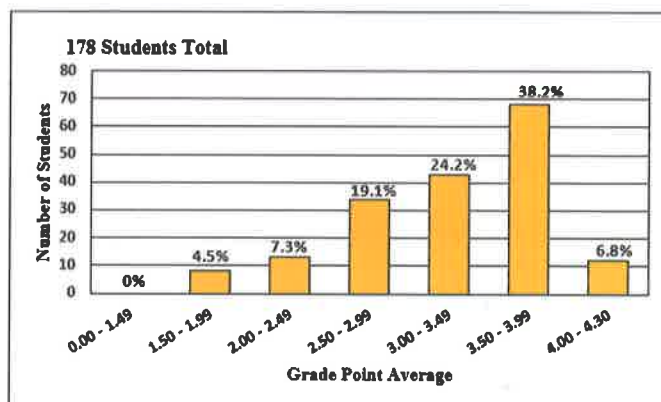
GRADING SYSTEM AND UNWEIGHTED GPA

A+	97-100	4.3
A	93-96	4.0
A-	90-92	3.7
B+	87-89	3.3
B	83-86	3.0
B-	80-82	2.7
C+	77-79	2.3
C	73-76	2.0
C-	70-72	1.7
NC	<70	0.0

Souhegan High School does not rank.

Beginning with the 2018 academic year, we have moved from a trimester grading system to a semester grading system. Transcripts will include mid-semester 1 and semester grades.

SENIOR CLASS GPA CLASS of 2021



Grade Scale: Souhegan High School uses a non-weighted 4.3 grade scale. The median GPA is 3.39; the mean GPA is 3.27; and the highest GPA is 4.10 for the Class of 2021. Data based on end of the year junior grades. GPA is recalculated at the end of Semester 1 and end of year.

PERFORMANCE DATA

	2017	2018	2019	2020
	216 Grads	225 Grads	177 Grads	189 Grads
4 yr colleges	81%	82%	81%	83%
2 yr colleges	11%	8%	6%	6%
Work	2%	4%	10%	6%
Other	6%	6%	3%	5%

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP RESULTS

Year	Commended	Semi Finalist	Finalists
2017	3	2	1
2018	3	1	1
2019	3	2	2
2020	0	0	0
2021	4	1	0

Requests for information concerning a student's discipline record must be accompanied by a signed release of information.

POST SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS ACCEPTED BY THE CLASS OF 2020

Graduating Class – 189

Allegany College of Maryland	University of Minnesota-Duluth	Montana State Univ	San Diego State U	University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
Allegheny College	University of Minnesota-Twin Cities	Moore College of Art and Design	Savannah College of Art and Design	University of Mississippi
American University	University of Montana	Florida Atlantic University	Sewanee-The University of the South	University of Missouri
Appalachian State University	University of New England	Florida Institute of Technology	Siena College	University of Montana
Arizona State University	University of New Hampshire	Florida State University	Simmons University	University of New Haven
Assumption University	University of North Carolina at Charlotte	Fordham University	Skidmore College	University of North Carolina at Charlotte
Auburn University	University of North Carolina Wilmington	Franklin & Marshall College	Smith College	University of North Carolina Wilmington
Baylor University	University of North Dakota	Franklin Pierce University	Southern Maine Community College	University of North Dakota
Bentley University	University of Pittsburgh	Franklin University	Southern New Hampshire University	University of Rhode Island
Berklee College of Music	University of Rochester	Switzerland George Mason University	Springfield College	University of Rochester
Boston College	University of South Carolina Beaufort	George Mason University	St. John's University	University of South Carolina Beaufort
Boston University	University of South Carolina Columbia	George Washington University	St. Lawrence University	University of South Carolina Columbia
Brandeis University	University of Southern Maine	George Washington University	Stony Brook University, State University of New York	University of Southern Maine
Bridgewater State University	University of Tampa	Georgia Institute of Technology	Suffolk University	University of Tampa
Brigham Young University-Idaho	University of Utah	Gordon College	Syracuse University	University of Utah
Bryant University	University of Vermont	Grand Valley State University	Temple University	University of Vermont
Bucknell University	University of Virginia	Guilford College	The American University of Paris	University of Virginia
Butler University	University of Wyoming	High Point University	The College of Saint Rose	University of Wyoming
California College of the Arts	Valdosta State University	Hofstra University	The College of Wooster	Valdosta State University
California State University, Long Beach	Vassar College	Husson University	The New School	Vassar College
Castleton University	Virginia Commonwealth University	Indiana University-Bloomington	Union College	Virginia Commonwealth University
Catholic University of America	Virginia Military Institute	Ithaca College	United States Military Academy	Virginia Military Institute
Centre College	Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University	Jacksonville University	University of Arkansas	Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Champlain College	Wentworth Institute of Technology	James Madison University	University of Colorado Boulder	Wentworth Institute of Technology
Clark University	Western Michigan University	John Cabot University	University of Connecticut	Western Michigan University
Clarkson University	Western New England University	Johnson & Wales University, Providence	University of Delaware	Western New England University
Colby College	Westminster College - PA	Keene State College	University of Denver	Westminster College - PA
Colby-Sawyer College	Wheaton	Kenyon College	University of Hartford	Wheaton
College of the Holy Cross	William and Mary Williams College	Laguna College of Art and Design	University of Kansas	William and Mary Williams College
Colorado School of Mines	Wingate University	Lasell University	University of Maine	Wingate University
Concordia University - Montreal	Winthrop University	Lehigh University	University of Maryland-College Park	Winthrop University
Connecticut College	Worcester Polytechnic Institute	Long Island University-Brooklyn	University of Massachusetts-Amherst	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Dartmouth College		Loyola University-Chicago	University of Massachusetts Boston	
Dean College		Loyola University-Maryland	University of Massachusetts Dartmouth	
Denison University		Maine College of Art	University of Massachusetts Lowell	
DePaul University		Marist College	University of Miami	
Drexel University		Maryland Institute College of Art	University of Michigan	
Duquesne University		Massachusetts College of Art and Design		
East Carolina University		Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences (MCPHS)		
Eastern University		Merrimack College		
Elmira College		Misericordia University		
Elon University		Monmouth University		
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University				
Emerson College				
Emmanuel College				
Endicott College				
Ferris State University				
Fisher College				
Fitchburg State				