



This is Pennington!

“Do all the good you can,  
*By all the means you can,*  
In all the ways you can,  
*In all the places you can,*  
At all the times you can,  
*To all the people you can,*  
As long as ever you can.”

—John Wesley, *founder of Methodism*



# Our Mission

*The Pennington School is committed to  
developing individual excellence  
in all of its students.*









“Our commitment to our students goes far beyond learning in the classroom to include their continuing development as thoughtful, ethical, and curious young people who don’t just acquire knowledge but who seek truth and ask incisive questions.”

—Dr. William S. Hawkey, *Head of School*





# Pennington at a Glance

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535

Total  
Enrollment

135

Boarding  
Students

100

Middle School  
Students

41

Countries  
Represented

50+

Residential  
Faculty

6:1

Student-to-  
Teacher Ratio

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*"Being in the Pennington community, I am surrounded by peers, teachers, and faculty members who want nothing but the best for me. I see this in the motivating words they speak as well as the effort they pour into me. I am so blessed to be amid such energy, love, and support."*

*—Chisom O. '25*



# 1838

## School is founded

- The Pennington School was founded as the Methodist Episcopal Male Seminary.
- The first students enrolled in the spring of 1840, including the first international student (from Mexico).

# 1853

## Coeducation begins

- Renamed the Pennington Seminary and Female Collegiate Institute, the School welcomed young women to campus.

# 1885

## International students arrive

- Students from Cuba, Mexico, South America, Asia, and Europe came to campus by boat and train.
- A west wing was added to Old Main around this time to accommodate the growing student body.

# 1917

## Commitment to service

- The School began compulsory military training; students wore military uniforms on campus during World War I.
- 150 Pennington students and alumni served in the war.





# 1934

## Pennington opens doors

- During the Great Depression, financial support was offered to students of modest means.
- John Wesley Sparks left the bulk of his estate to Pennington, enabling the School to build a gymnasium and to offer its excellent opportunities to young people regardless of their ability to afford the tuition.
- During World War II, Pennington welcomed international Jewish students.

# 1975

## Diverse learning styles

- The Cervone Center for Learning was established to offer additional academic support to bright students with learning differences, within the traditional college-preparatory curriculum.
- This program, unique in 1975, became a well-known model for other schools around the country.

# TODAY

## Pennington today

- Over 40 countries and cultures represented by current student body
- 535 students (Middle and Upper School)
- 32% of students receive financial assistance.
- 100% of students spend over 5,000 hours involved in community service.
- Students create and participate in clubs with diverse interests, including the Intersectional Feminism Club, Black Student Union, Exchange of Many Cultures, and many more.

## A Living History of Inclusion

The Pennington School, with its roots in the Methodist church, has long been a place notable for its diversity and inclusion. Early on, the founders identified three guiding principles for the School: “the education of the physical, the training of the mental, and the grounding of the soul in character.” These principles reflected the vision of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, who envisioned schools as places that cared for the whole individual. The Pennington School welcomes students from all religious, racial, and socioeconomic backgrounds, and they have found it to be a warm and welcoming place to learn and live.

# Academics

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“It is believed that there are multiple intelligences, that learning should be a nurturing of success rather than a cataloguing of errors.”

—Dr. Edmund Cervone, *founder, Cervone Center for Learning*

## 19 Advanced Placement Courses

AP Biology

AP Calculus AB

AP Calculus BC

AP Chemistry

AP Computer Science A

AP Economics

AP English Language and Composition

AP English Literature and Composition

AP French Language and Composition

AP German Language and Composition

AP Latin

AP Modern European History

AP Music Theory

AP Physics C

AP Spanish Language and Composition

AP Statistics

AP Studio Art

AP US Government and Politics

AP United States History

## World Languages

French, German, Chinese,  
Latin, and Spanish

## Specialized Programs

Applied Science Certificate Program

Global Studies Certificate Program

Edmund V. Cervone Center  
for Learning

Cross-Cultural Experiential  
Learning Abroad

Horizon Senior Experience

Grade 9 Seminar

Grade10 Seminar

*44 Advanced Placement and honors courses offered*





“Pennington students actively engage in small, seminar-style classes, in which their collaboration and shared insights lead to deeper understanding of the material.”

— Scott Peeler, *Dean of Academic Affairs*



Pennington's unique **Global Studies Certificate Program** offers an interdisciplinary academic and co-curricular environment in which students participate meaningfully to learn about and address global issues. Students in this two-year program develop their capacity to understand and act on topics of worldwide significance, broaden their outlook beyond Pennington's campus, and take their places as true global citizens in our ever-changing world.





Our **Applied Science Certificate Program** gives students many opportunities to take the strong skills they develop in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics and combine them with their capabilities in critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, and collaboration in order to innovate practical applications and real-world solutions. By participating in STEM experiences, interacting with industry professionals, and performing hands-on work, students enjoy creative learning experiences that enrich their perceptions and offer insight into how they can apply what they learn to make a difference.



INTO THIS *space*  
-Dr. Jill Bolte Taylor



# Middle School

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*Our focus is on the development of the whole child.*

100 students

Dedicated Middle School faculty members

Exploratory/Elective classes in addition to core academics

Full Arts program: Visual Art, Drama, Instrumental, and Vocal instruction

Physical Life Skills curriculum

Middle School athletic teams

Faculty advisor and Junior Proctor mentoring programs

Health and Wellness Counselor and classes

Full slate of after-school and extracurricular activities

# Transformational Growth

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*Most alumni reveal that they experienced transformational personal growth while at The Pennington School, which is intentionally developed through activities that include:*

Community Service Opportunities

Grade 9 Seminar in Humanities Skills

Sophomore Character Development Program

Grade 10 Seminar

Junior Proctor and Peer Leadership Programs

Senior Year Horizon Experience

Residential Prefect Program

Student-led Extracurricular Activities

Stephen Crane Lecture Series

Travel Opportunities

STEM Speaker Series

Weekly Chapel Program

Global Studies Speaker Series

Weekly Advisory Program

Grade 9 Seminar in Health and Technology





Pennington faculty members are dedicated to helping all students reach their individual potential.



# Arts

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*Pennington's Arts program connects students to the world through hands-on projects that exercise skills of inquiry, curiosity, correlation, response, and analysis.*

## Theatre

- Scene Study
- Acting
- Directing
- Senior Seminar

## Music

- Instrumental Lab
- Vocal Ensemble
- Rhythm of the Sacred
- Music Technology
- Composition
- Music Theory
- Advanced Composition
- AP Music Theory

## Visual Arts

- Drawing Foundations
- Color and Design
- Art Studio
- AP Studio Art
- Modern American History and Art
- Ceramics

## Lens-Based Arts

- Photography  
(Darkroom and Digital Imaging)
- Video Production



The Pennington Drama program  
stages four full productions every year,  
including a Middle School play.





Completely renovated and updated in 2021, the **Michael T. Martin Aquatic Center** is home to our beautiful pool and our water polo and swim teams. Pennington hosts community swim programs for all ages and welcomes children from HomeFront for *Gym & Swim* events.



# Athletics

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*144 consecutive years of football*  
*Athletic leadership program for captains*  
*NCAA college recruitment program*  
*Member of MAPL League*

Baseball	Lacrosse
Basketball	Soccer
Cheerleading	Swimming
Cross Country	Tennis
Field Hockey	Track and Field
Fitness and Wellness	Water Polo
Football	Winter Track
Golf	

*The boys' and girls' soccer teams are two of the top high school soccer teams in the United States.*



# Student Activities

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The Pennington School offers **more than 90 extracurricular clubs and organizations** for our students. For an up-to-date list, please visit our website: [pennington.org/community/students/activities-clubs](https://pennington.org/community/students/activities-clubs)

# Residential Life

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“Pennington’s boarding life has been a great experience. It’s an awesome way to meet new people, socialize, and make friends from all grades. Everyone is so welcoming and kind. I have become a part of the community and it’s exhilarating!” —Helena ’27

Special SAT/ACT tutoring program

150+ weekend activities each year

No Saturday classes

Monday night formal dinners

15 minutes to Princeton

1 hour to NYC or Philadelphia

More access to campus and faculty

10 dormitory halls

Evening study halls

1 block to grocery store, restaurants,  
banks, shops, and much more

Second dinners

Hall parties and competitions

6 Community Weekends each year

Friday night movies

Life skills for college and beyond





# College Counseling

4

full-time  
college counselors;  
counselor-to-student  
ratio of 1:28

150<sup>+</sup>

colleges and universities  
visit Pennington  
each year to recruit  
our students.

404

AP exams  
administered  
to students;  
88% scored 3 or higher\*

20%

of the  
Class of 2024  
will participate in  
intercollegiate athletics.

Class of 2024  
attends

77

colleges/universities  
in 24 states and 4 countries

In 2023-24,  
we celebrated

523

acceptances from  
246 institutions.

*A selection of colleges and universities attended by Pennington graduates over the past five years:*

\* in 2023

American University  
Babson College  
Bard College  
Barnard College  
Bates College  
Bentley University  
Boston College  
Boston University  
Brandeis University  
Brown University  
Bucknell University  
California Institute of Technology  
Carleton College  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Chapman University  
Clemson University  
Coastal Carolina University  
Colgate University  
College of Charleston  
College of the Holy Cross  
Columbia University  
Connecticut College  
Cornell University

Dickinson College  
Drew University  
Drexel University  
Duke University  
Elon University  
Emory University  
Florida Institute of Technology  
Fordham University  
George Washington University  
Georgetown University  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
Gettysburg College  
Hamilton College  
Hampton University  
Harvard University  
Harvey Mudd College  
Haverford College  
High Point University  
Howard University  
Indiana University (Bloomington)  
Johns Hopkins University  
Kenyon College  
Lafayette College

Lehigh University  
Loyola Marymount University  
Marist College  
Middlebury College  
Monmouth University  
Muhlenberg College  
New York University  
Northeastern University  
Northwestern University  
Oberlin College  
Penn State University  
(University Park)  
Pepperdine University  
Pomona College  
Princeton University  
Purdue University  
(Main Campus)  
Quinnipiac University  
Rutgers University  
(New Brunswick)  
Salisbury University  
San Diego State University  
Santa Clara University

Skidmore College  
Smith College  
Southern Methodist University  
Spelman College  
St. Lawrence University  
Stevens Institute of Technology  
Swarthmore College  
Syracuse University  
The American University of Paris  
The College of New Jersey  
The University of Tampa  
The University of Tennessee  
(Knoxville)  
Trinity College Dublin  
Tufts University  
Tulane University of Louisiana  
United States Air Force Academy  
United States Military Academy  
at West Point  
United States Naval Academy  
University of California (Los Angeles)  
University of Chicago  
University of Delaware

University of Florida  
University of Maryland (College Park)  
University of Miami  
University of North Carolina  
University of Notre Dame  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of Pittsburgh  
(Pittsburgh)  
University of South Carolina  
University of Southern California  
University of St Andrews  
University of Virginia  
(Main Campus)  
University of Wisconsin (Madison)  
Ursinus College  
Vanderbilt University  
Villanova University  
Wake Forest University  
Washington University in St. Louis  
Wellesley College  
Wesleyan University  
William & Mary  
Williams College



Our college counselors work hard to find the best college for every student.





In the heart of campus, Meckler Library offers impressive print and digital resources, multiple computer workstations, an Archives and Special Collections room, and the support of full-time librarians to help students accomplish their best academic research and work.





The weekly Chapel program focuses on spiritual life, with messages of hope, challenge, inspiration, and reflection. We believe this program fosters character and morality in all our students—with an emphasis on the School's core values of **honor, virtue, and humility**.

# Campus and Facilities

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*Our 55-acre lush campus in beautiful Pennington has been completely updated over the past five years—enhancing the student experience every day.*

Yen Humanities building (2017)  
Meckler Library (*new plaza and amenities 2024*)  
Video production studio  
Makerspace (2018)  
Software engineering classroom  
Photography classroom  
and darkrooms  
Drawing/painting studio  
Beach volleyball court (2021)  
5 outdoor classrooms  
Black Box theater  
Set design studio/workshop  
Costume/wardrobe shop  
Recording studio

Silva Gallery of Art  
Ceramics studio  
Choral ensemble rehearsal room  
Lecture Center and stage  
Wesley Forum performance space  
Music theory classroom  
Instrumental and vocal practice rooms  
Robert E. Martini Center for  
Music, Arts, and Community  
(*MMAC renovated 2018*)  
Health and Wellness Center  
5-beds, open 24/7 (*updated in 2022*)  
10 residence halls  
Snack Bar (*renovated 2023*)  
Dining Hall (*upgrades in 2023*)

Student lounges  
Outdoor student lounge (2022)  
Sparks Memorial Gymnasium  
(*girls' locker room updated 2024*)  
Small Gym  
Michael T. Martin Aquatic Center  
(*renovated 2021*)  
Pearl Family Stadium (2023)  
Tom Liwosz Turf Field (*updated in 2023*)  
New press box (2023)  
Harold Poore Track and Field  
7 playing fields  
Tennis and pickleball courts  
(*renovated 2023*)









Apply now!



[pennington.org](https://pennington.org)

The Pennington School admits students of any race, religion, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the School. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, physical disability, national and ethnic origin, or sexual orientation in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and financial aid programs, employment policies, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

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HONOR • VIRTUE • HUMILITY

OFFICE OF ADMISSION

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