



# Paonia High School

## 2015-2016 School Profile

846 Grand Avenue, Paonia, CO 81428

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<http://phs.deltaschools.com>

CEEB Code: **061-145**

Principal: Mr. Randal Palmer

Asst. Principal/Guidance Counselor: Mrs. Lindsay Prendergast

*As a member of the Delta County Joint School District, Paonia High School values rigor, relevance, relationships, responsibility, and results.*

### **The Paonia Community**

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The Paonia area is an eclectic, rural community of approximately 1600 people located in Western Colorado, a six hour drive Southwest of Denver. The town is situated at the base of the West Elk Mountains where the landscape provides a beautiful backdrop to a unique population. The nearest stoplight is 25 miles away and the closest airport 70 miles. Yet for a small and geographically isolated area, there is a tremendous diversity of lifestyles and ideas. The principal economic base consists of three coalmines, cattle ranches, fruit orchards, and organic farms. Recently the area has seen the growth of grass-roots organizations such as Solar Energy International, a thriving vineyard industry, independent business owners, a renowned public radio station, and a nationally distributed magazine, High Country News. Paonia High School represents the community's diversity and reflects its commitment to higher education as an avenue for sustaining the lifestyle provided in this rural area.

### **The School**

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Paonia High School is a public, four-year college preparatory school accredited by the Colorado Department of Education. Our school is the smallest of the four Delta County School District high schools with a current enrollment of 148 students. We have an average graduating class size of 33 students. In 2003 seventh and eighth grades were added in a new wing on the high school campus for a total current enrollment of 227 students.

The daily schedule consists of seven 54-minute periods, five days per week. One exception to this was in the 2011-2012 school year, the schedule was modified to only six periods per day. Currently, an eighth period called CAP ('Career Action Planning') is added every day for thirty minutes to offer remediation and enrichment opportunities. Our school calendar is comprised of two 17-week semesters, totaling 168 days in length.

Paonia High School offers a rigorous academic program based on Colorado Academic Standards. College-credit classes are offered on our campus under the supervision of Colorado Mesa University. Entry into these courses is based on the University's admission standards. Overall class offerings do change from year to year based on the interests and needs of the current students. Advanced Placement courses were added for the 2013-2014 school year in Literature, Environmental Science, and Statistics and enrollment is open to Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors interested in the classes. Fall of 2014 marks the addition of AP Biology, AP Language & Composition, AP Calculus AB, AP Computer Science, and AP US History with the support of funding and training from the Colorado Education Initiative. Students choosing a vocational track travel 35 miles to the Delta Vocational College for technical classes.

## Recognition

*Newseek* ranked Paonia High School in top 500 schools in the country for college readiness, 2014  
Mile High Sports Magazine ranked Paonia High School 4<sup>th</sup> in CO for sports titles won, 2014  
US News & World Report 2013-2014 Bronze Medal High School  
US News & World Report 2012-2013 Bronze Medal High School  
2014, 2013, 2012 CHSAA 2A Wrestling State Champions  
2014 – 1 Colorado All-State Choir participant  
2014 – 1 National Merit Scholarship Program Commended Student  
2014 – 1 Boettcher Foundation Scholarship winner  
2014 – 2 Daniels Fund Scholarship winners  
2014, 2013 CHSAA 2A Girls Track State Champions  
2014, 2013 CHSAA 1A Football State Champions  
2013 – 2 Colorado All-State Choir participants, 1 Colorado All-State Orchestra participant

## Faculty and Staff

Paonia High School has a staff of eleven full-time teachers and four part-time teachers, and three instructional aides. Almost all of our teachers teach in the Junior High in addition to the high school. 80% of our teachers hold Master's degrees in their field of teaching, and the rest are currently in pursuit of a graduate degree. All teachers at Paonia High School share the multitude of responsibilities involved in operating a thriving extra-curricular program, and every teacher coaches or sponsors at least one activity. Through these additional roles, staff and students have strong bonds, not unlike a large family, that support the mentorship of students into resilient, compassionate, accomplished individuals.

## Athletics and Activities

Colorado High School Athletics Association member, 2A classification (1A for Football)  
National Interscholastic Association of Athletic Administrators, member  
Western Slope Sports League, member

### Boys Sports

Football  
Cross Country  
Tennis (Hotchkiss HS)  
Soccer (Delta HS)  
Wrestling  
Basketball  
Track

### Girls Sports

Cross Country  
Softball (Cedaredge HS)  
Volleyball  
Basketball  
Soccer (Delta HS)  
Tennis (Hotchkiss HS)

### Activities and Clubs

Student Council (since 1990)  
Knowledge Bowl (since 2012)  
National Honor Society (since 1990)  
Speech & Debate Team (since 2012)  
Science Fair (beginning in 2013)

## Marking System

Paonia High School began using a weighted grading system for AP classes for the class of 2015.

Unweighted GPA: A = 4.0	90-100%	Weighted GPA: A = 5.0	91-100%
B = 3.0	80-89%	B = 4.0	82-90%
C = 2.0	70-79%	C = 3.0	73-81%
D = 1.0	60-69%	D = 2.0	64-72%
F = 0.0	0-59%	F1= 1.0	60-63%

\*All courses that receive a letter grade are calculated into the grade point average.

\*Students taking high school courses before 9<sup>th</sup> grade earn letter grades of 'P' for a 70% or higher; these credits may go toward their high school graduation requirements, but they *are not* calculated into high school GPA and class rank.

## **Graduation Requirements for Class of 2015**

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\* Paonia High School is on the semester system. A semester is valued at .5 credit, a full year at 1.0 credits.

English	4 credits
Mathematics	3 credits
Science	3 credits
Social Studies	3 credits
Physical Education	1 credit
Electives	10 credits
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24 credits</b>

## **Test Scores**

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<b>Paonia High School Class of 2015 ACT Scores</b>					
100% of students from the PHS Class of 2015 completed the ACT in April 2014.					
	English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite
CO Avg.	19.7	20.1	20.5	20.4	20.3
District Avg.	19.2	19.0	19.7	20.1	19.6
<b>PHS Avg.</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>22.6</b>	<b>21.8</b>

## **Paonia High School Class of 2015 SAT Scores**

<10% of students from the Paonia High School class of 2015 have completed the SAT. Due to the low percentage of test takers, SAT scores for the class of 2015 are not included.

## **Paonia High School Advanced Placement Scores earned in Spring 2014**

Test Taken	# of students tested	Students scoring 3 or higher
Statistics	6	2
Literature & Composition	15	6
Environmental Science	9	9

## **Grade Point Average Distribution for Class of 2015 as of January 2015**

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Rank	GPA	# of students
1-4	4.00-4.06	4
5-9	3.97-3.85	5
10-23	3.79-3.11	14
24-37	2.85-1.63	14

## College Matriculation and Acceptances 2011-2015

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In 2014, 34 students graduated from Paonia High School. Approximately 82% are enrolled in college: of those attending college, 75% attend 4-year schools and 25% attend 2-year schools. Students enrolled in colleges outside of Colorado account for 25% of those attending college.

Abilene Christian University	Marion Military Institute
Arapahoe Comm. College	Metro State University
Azusa Pacific University	Montana State University
Baylor University	New Mexico State University
Boise State University	North Dakota State University
Boston College	Northeastern Junior College
Brigham Young University	Northern Arizona University
California Polytechnic University	Northwestern University
Coe College	Northwestern Nazarene University
College of Charleston	Ohio State University
Colorado Christian University	Pepperdine University
Colorado College	Portland State University
Colorado Mesa University	Red Rocks Community College
Colorado Mountain College	Regis University
Colorado Northwestern Comm. College	Rocky Mt. College of Art & Design
Colorado School of Mines	Savannah College of Art & Design
Colorado State University	Seton Hall University
Colorado State University, Pueblo	Shelton State Community College
Colorado Western State University	Sierra Nevada College
Community Coll. of Aurora	South Dakota School of Mines
Cornell College	Tarleton State University
Dartmouth College	Trinidad State Junior College
DeVry Institute of Technology	Tulane University
Drake University	United States Coast Guard Academy
Eastern Oregon University	United States Military Academy at West Point
Eckerd College	University of California, San Diego
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical Univ.	University of CO, Colorado Springs
Florida State University	University of Colorado, Boulder
Fort Hays State University	University of Denver
Fort Lewis College	University of Miami
Friends University	University of Missouri
Front Range Community College	University of Montana
George Fox University	University of North Dakota
Gonzaga University	University of Northern Colorado
Grand Canyon University	University of Oregon
Johnson and Wales University	University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School of Business
Le Tourneau University	University of Utah
Lewis & Clark College	University of Wyoming
Lubbock Christian University	West Texas A & M University
	Western Wyoming Comm. Coll.
	Whitworth University

**Course Offerings 2011-2015**

\*Indicates a course that is not offered every year

<b>College Preparatory</b>	<b>Advanced</b>	<b>Concurrent Enrollment</b>
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**English**

English I

English II

English III

AP Literature &amp; Composition\*

English IV

AP Language &amp; Composition\*

**Math**

Algebra I

AP Statistics\*

College Algebra

Intermediate Algebra\*

AP Calculus AB\*

College Trigonometry

Geometry

AP Computer Science A\*

College pre-Calculus

Algebra II

College-pre Algebra

**Science**

Geophysical Science/Lab

AP Environmental Science\*

College Anatomy/Lab\*

Physical Science\*

AP Biology\*

College Biology/Lab\*

Biology/Lab

General Biology\*

Natural Resources\*

Environmental Science\*

Engineering\*

Psychology\*

Conceptual Physics\*

Physics/Lab\*

Chemistry/Lab\*

**Social Studies**

World History/Geography

AP US History\*

American History

AP Human Geography\*

American Government

Economics\*

Criminal Justice

**Foreign Language**

Spanish I

Spanish II

Independent Study courses through online software have been offered in Spanish III and French

**Electives**Applied Technology *or* Principles of Technology\*

Introduction to Business

Speech\*

Journalism\*

Accounting\*

Art

Advanced Art

Personal Business/Finance\*

Senior Seminar

ACT Preparation

Physical Education

Weights

**Music**

High School Band

Swing Choir

Mixed and Women's Choir\*

Music Studio\*