



James S. Rickards High School

2024-2025

3013 Jim Lee Road; Tallahassee, Florida 32301

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<https://www.leonschools.net/rickards>



CEEB Code Number 101663

ACCREDITATION

Cognia (Southern Association of College and Schools)
International Baccalaureate Organization

SCHOOL AND THE COMMUNITY

James S. Rickards High School was established in 1960 as a coeducational public high school and is located in Tallahassee, Florida, the state capital. Rickards High School students and parents come from 51 different countries, and 39 different languages are spoken in their homes. Tallahassee offers numerous cultural and educational opportunities and is the home of Florida State University and Florida A&M University. The presence of the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory provides an additional scientific resource and special opportunities for our students. Leon County is located about 25 miles from the coastline of the Gulf of Mexico and shares a border on the north side with the state of Georgia.

2023-2024 Data

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------|
| Leon County Schools' enrollment K-12 | 34,268 |
| Rickards High School enrollment 9-12 | 1725 |
| Students in 2024 Senior Class | 356 |
| Number of 2023-2024 IB Diploma Candidates | 53 |
| Number of Public High Schools in Leon County | 6 |
| Number of Private Schools serving grades 9-12 | 3 |

FACULTY

The faculty of James S. Rickards High School is comprised of an instructional staff of 81, including the principal, 3 assistant principals, 4 counselors, and 1 media specialist. Twenty-eight percent of the faculty have 20 or more years of experience, thirty-two percent have 10-19 years and forty percent have 0 to 9 years of experience. Of the faculty, 8% have a Doctorate degree, 1% have an Education Specialist degree, 40% have a Master's degree, and 39% have a Bachelor's degree.

Guidance counselors are assigned students as follows:

- Ms. Alisha Bradley, Last Names A – E counselor, (bradleya1@leonschools.net)
- Ms. Terraca Jones, Director of Guidance & Last Names F – L counselor, (tonest@leonschools.net)
- Dr. Kwame King, Last Names M – R counselor, (kingkw@leonschools.net)
- Ms. Marqwesha Davis, Last Names S – Z counselor, (davism10@leonschools.net)

CURRICULUM AND ACADEMIC INFORMATION

GRADING SCALE

| | |
|---|--------|
| A | 90-100 |
| B | 80-89 |
| C | 70-79 |
| D | 60-69 |
| F | 0-59 |

GPA

Unweighted GPA is calculated using the 4.0 scale. Weighted GPA is calculated using the 4.0 scale plus an additional half point for every grade of C or better in any Pre-IB or Honors class. The weighted GPA for an AP, IB, or dual-enrollment course is calculated using the 4.0 scale plus an additional point for every grade of C or better.

CREDIT

Awarded at the rate of 1/2 credit per semester class with grades of D or better.

CLASS RANK

Calculated using weighted GPA of all members of the class. Rank is calculated at the end of each semester.

SCHOOL YEAR

Rickards operates on the semester system with two semesters each school year. Each semester has two 9-week grading periods. Students attend class 180 days per school year.

SCHOOL DAY

Students attend six classes a day for 50 minutes each. Classes in the Arts and TOK are offered during an optional seventh period for students supplying their own transportation.

SEMESTER EXAMS

Exams are given at the end of each semester that factor in at one-fifth of the semester average. All core academic classes require semester exams.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

International Baccalaureate students must meet the Diploma requirements set by the IB. Other students must earn 24 credits minimum, including 4 credits in English, 4 Mathematics, 3 Science, 3 Social Studies, 1 Physical Education, 1 Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate or Practical Arts and ½ Credit Personal Financial Literacy

ACCELERATION OFFERINGS

Students may pursue the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program in accordance with the curriculum offered by the International Baccalaureate Organization. Advanced Placement classes include World History, American History, Microeconomics, US Government, English Language, English Literature, French Language, Psychology, Spanish Language, Studio Art, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Music Theory, Statistics, Human Geography, Calculus AB and BC, Computer Science Principles and Computer Science A. Other AP classes are available through the Florida Virtual School. Dual enrollment is available at Florida A&M University, Florida State University, and Tallahassee State College.

STUDENTS

With a current enrollment of 1725, our student population is 72% African American, 8% Caucasian, and 20% other ethnic groups. The male to female ratio is 48/52. The rich diversity and broad spectrum of culturally diverse international students serves to enhance the environment in the classroom.

ACADEMY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

The mission of the Academy of Health Sciences is to produce competent, skilled students for entry into a healthcare related field and a postsecondary institution of education. The program includes a three-year planned course of study that pairs a thorough academic curriculum with on-site shadowing and internship experiences. The academy integrates language arts, mathematics, sciences, social studies, and medical/health courses to provide students with an in-depth background in mathematics and sciences. Prior to their clinical rotations, students will have certification in: HIV, HIPAA, CPR and Domestic Violence training.

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAM

The International Baccalaureate Program is a magnet offering opened in 1994, which draws academically motivated students from the entire Leon County school system. The students in the Rickards IB program represent multiple ethnic, economic, and racial backgrounds. Rickards' 297 IB students make up 19% of the total population of the school.

The 11th and 12th grade curriculum consists of a comprehensive and rigorous formal curriculum sanctioned by the IB Global Centre in Cardiff, Wales, UK. Each course of study concludes with an internationally standardized examination. Course work for the junior and senior years requires instruction in English (Language A), a secondary language, social studies, science, mathematics, and a sixth subject. Students must score successfully on IB exams in all six of these subjects. A theory of knowledge course must be successfully completed as well. In addition, at the beginning of the 11th grade, students must begin participating in eighteen months of continuous extracurricular community service as well as write and present a supervised extended essay of 4,000 words.

TEST DATA

| SAT & ACT Scores | 19-20 | 20-21 | 21-22 | 22-23 | 23-24 | SCHOLARSHIPS | 19-20 | 20-21 | 21-22 | 22-23 | 23-24 |
|------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| SAT Candidates | 412 | 285 | 284 | 376 | 402 | National Merit Semifinalists | 4 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 2 |
| Reading | 523 | 487 | 476 | 471 | 458 | National Merit Finalists | 4 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 2 |
| Mathematics | 508 | 462 | 423 | 441 | 421 | Commended Students | 6 | 8 | 4 | 9 | 6 |
| | | | | | | FL Academic Scholars | 29 | 37 | 31 | 33 | 24 |
| ACT Candidates | 156 | 182 | 267 | 178 | 215 | FL Medallion Scholars | 4 | 3 | 5 | 12 | 5 |
| Avg Comp Score | 19.1 | 19.0 | 16.7 | 18.1 | 17 | FL Gold Seal (CAPE) Scholars | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 |

| IB Summary | 19-20 | 20-21 | 21-22 | 22-23 | 23-24 | AP Summary | 19-20 | 20-21 | 21-22 | 22-23 | 23-24 | Post High School |
|--------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------------|
| Diploma Candidates | 46 | 61 | 56 | 66 | 53 | Total Candidates | 321 | 530 | 530 | 659 | 652 | IB Class of 2024 |
| Diploma Awarded | 30 | 46 | 38 | 40 | 30 | Total Exams | 647 | 927 | 855 | 1,051 | 1,066 | 4-year college: 85% |
| Percent | 65 | 75 | 68 | 61 | 58 | Scores >3 | 153 | 126 | 148 | 143 | 107 | 2-year college: 9% |
| Avg. Total Points | 29 | 31 | 30 | 30 | 29 | | | | | | | Other: 6% |

| SUMMARY OF MAY 2024 IB EXAMINATION SCORES | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------|--------------|--------|---|----|----|----|---|---|---|
| Subject | Level | No. of Cand. | SCORES | | | | | | | |
| | | | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | N |
| English A Lang & Lit | HL | 28 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 14 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| English A Lit | HL | 27 | 0 | 5 | 10 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Chinese B | SL | 8 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| French B | HL | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | SL | 9 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Spanish B | Ab in. SL | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | SL | 24 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| | HL | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Latin | HL | 8 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | SL | 10 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| History | HL | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | SL | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Psych. | HL | 35 | 0 | 4 | 10 | 14 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | SL | 10 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Env. & Soc | SL | 16 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Soc. Cul. Anth. | HL | 18 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | SL | 4 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Chemistry | HL | 12 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | SL | 5 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Biology | SL | 28 | 2 | 5 | 9 | 7 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Physics | SL | 22 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Math A&A | HL | 16 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 0 |
| | SL | 5 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Math A&I | HL | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | SL | 30 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 7 | 11 | 4 | 1 | 0 |
| Visual Arts | HL | 10 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | SL | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Music | HL | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | SL | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Film | HL | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | SL | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| AP | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | TOTAL |
|-----------------------------|---|----|----|----|-----|-------|
| SUMMARY | | | | | | |
| May 2024 | | | | | | |
| 2-D Art & Design | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Art History | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Biology | 6 | 6 | 7 | 7 | 138 | 164 |
| Calculus AB | 0 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 6 | 14 |
| Calculus BC | 7 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 16 |
| Chemistry | 4 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 17 |
| Chinese Lan/Cut | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Computer Science A | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 14 |
| Computer Science Principles | 2 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 18 |
| Eng Lang/Comp | 8 | 13 | 22 | 36 | 12 | 91 |
| Eng Lit/Comp | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 10 |
| Environmental Science | 0 | 7 | 4 | 12 | 14 | 37 |
| Human Geography | 5 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 24 |
| French Lang. | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 |
| Macroeconomics | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 11 |
| Microeconomics | 4 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 19 |
| Music Theory | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| Physics 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 14 | 27 | 49 |
| Psychology | 1 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 29 | 43 |
| Span. Lang. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 |
| Statistics | 3 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 4 | 26 |
| US Gov. and Pol. | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 10 |
| US History | 5 | 21 | 28 | 28 | 99 | 181 |
| World History | 5 | 15 | 5 | 14 | 8 | 47 |