

2025-2026 SCHOOL PROFILE

CEEB Code: 061312

Steamboat Mountain School is a K-12 coed school with a high school boarding program located in the **rural mountain town** of Steamboat Springs, Colorado—home to just over 13,000 residents and surrounded by national forest, rangeland, and a world-class ski resort. We combine rigorous academics, adventure, and community engagement. Students follow an 18-credit college-prep curriculum and engage in unique out-of-classroom experiences that build confidence, independence, and a strong sense of community. Due to the 8-mod schedule and individual differences in each student's schedule, some students may not receive a grade in all classes before mid-year reports are due to colleges. In addition, full courses are taken in three parts, taking 1-3 classes per mod.

FOUNDED BY LOWELL WHITEMAN, 1957
Formerly Lowell Whiteman School until 2014.

SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

Global Studies: This program is a year-long journey combining classroom learning with real-world experience. Students study the geography, history, and culture of a region before embarking on a 30-day immersive trip, living and learning as the locals do. Each experience blends cultural immersion, service, and adventure, challenging students to grow in independence, resilience, and compassion. Upon returning, students create comprehensive presentations reflecting their learning and personal growth. The result is a transformative experience that broadens perspectives and deepens understanding of the world—and themselves.

Competitive Winter Athletes: Students train year-round with the top-ranked Steamboat Springs Winter Sports Club, balancing elite-level competition. Our flexible schedule allows our top athletes to travel extensively and train at the very highest level. Many of these students have gone on to become D1 athletes, US National team members and in some cases, compete at the Olympic level.

Outdoor Education: This program is required for all students and provides wilderness experiences throughout the school year. It encourages students to step outside their comfort zones, build resilience and self-reliance, and form meaningful connections with peers and the natural world. Through guided outdoor adventures, practicing expedition-behavior, students develop confidence, practical skills, and a deeper sense of personal growth.

Community Stewardship: Our students take an active role in caring for our campus. Our Community Stewardship program engages students in daily tasks that support the operation and upkeep of campus life, fostering pride, teamwork, and a deep sense of contribution. Through stewardship students develop character, accountability, and a stronger sense of belonging.

Samantha Coyne Donnel
Head of School

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www.SteamboatMountainSchool.com



UPPER SCHOOL AT A GLANCE

80	14	6	6:1
STUDENTS	STATES	COUNTRIES	STUDENT TO TEACHER RATIO
10	100%	40%	
AVERAGE CLASS SIZE	OF GRADUATES ACCEPTED TO 4-YEAR COLLEGES/ UNIVERSITIES	OF STUDENTS ON FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE / SCHOLARSHIP	33 DAYS OF IMMERSIVE FIELD-BASED LEARNING
26		150	
BOARDING STUDENTS		ACRE CAMPUS	

HIGHLIGHTS FOR ADMISSION READERS

- Our rigorous, college-preparatory academic program is integrated with experiential education to foster a strong work ethic, intellectual curiosity, and a resilient mindset.
- **We do not offer AP** or dual-enrollment college courses in favor of our own honors offerings. We do administer AP exams for students who choose to prepare for them independently.
- Beginning in fall 2025, academically driven juniors and seniors have the opportunity to take **honors courses**, which allow for deeper engagement with material and challenge students to apply concepts within core courses to research topics of their own choosing. The honors option requires students to complete additional, independent work beyond the framework of the standard classes, and students may therefore only take a maximum of 2 honors courses per mod so as to help balance their workload.
- GPAs are *unweighted* through the year of 24-25 and we do not rank students; starting in 25-26 an honors class will be weighted an additional 1.0 grade point.

BY THE NUMBERS | CLASS OF 2026

STUDENTS | 22
HIGHEST GPA | 3.94
AVERAGE GPA | 3.40

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COURSE PROGRESSION AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Electives beyond the three-class requirement are worth .33 credits each. Courses offered at an honors level are **bolded**.

English - 4 credit requirement

Analytical Writing, Reading, and Thinking

- The Nature of Human Nature
- Identity: Self & Society
- Human vs. Machine

Novels to Film

- Conventions in Classical Noir & Intro to Film Analysis
- Psychoanalysis & Romanticism within Noir
- Contemporary Adaptations of Noir

American Literature

- Dystopias of the Past, Present, and Future
- Literature of Place
- American Horror Stories

Postmodernism

- Intro to Postmodernism: Humanism & Now
- Postmodern Satire & Social Commentary
- Postmodernism, Redux: Now, Again

Elective English Classes

- Poetry: Finding Voice
- The Art of Songwriting
- Shakespeare: How Not to Fear the Bard
- Artificial Intelligence: A Literary & Cultural Study
- Film History

Social Studies - 3 credit requirement

World History

- Middle Eastern Studies
- The World Wars
- Colonization in the Modern World

Human Geography

- Modern Cartography & Geology of the Mountain West
- Electoral Geography & Human Rights
- Storytelling, Border Conflicts, and Cultural Diversity

US History

- Indigenous History
- The American West
- Music & Revolution

Social Philosophy

- Intro to Social Philosophy
- Roots of Inequality
- Civil Disobedience

Elective Social Studies Classes

- Himalayan Studies
- Civics
- Disability Justice
- Female Anatomy & Women's Studies (cross discipline)

Elective Social Studies Classes

- Art History
- Sports & Society
- Standardized Reading Test Prep

Math - 3 credit requirement

- Integrated 1
- Integrated 2
- Integrated 3
- **Precalculus**
- **Calculus 1**
- **Calculus 2**

Elective Math Classes

- Demystifying Digital Assets
- Introduction to Engineering
- Statistics
- Personal Finance
- Standardized Math Test Prep

Science - 3 credit requirement

Biology

Chemistry

Anatomy & Physiology

- Fundamentals of A & P
- Kinesiology
- All the Goopy Guts

Environmental Science

- Ecological Systems
- Circular Economies: Waste Management & Reduction
- Designing for the Future

Physics

- Mechanics: Newton-Projectiles to Satellites
- The Nature of Matter, Electricity, Magnetism, Sound, and Light
- Atomic, Nuclear, Relativity, and Research

Elective Science Classes

- Female Anatomy & Women's Studies (cross discipline)
- Conservation Biology & Solutions to Pollution
- Wilderness First Aid
- Geology: How the Earth Works
- Astronomy
- IT Explorations

Language - 3 credit requirement

- Spanish 1
- Spanish 2
- Spanish 3
- **Spanish 4**
- **Spanish 5**

Art - 1 credit requirement

- Studio Art
- Intro to Drawing
- Advanced Drawing
- Intro to Painting

Art - continued

- Advanced Painting
- Mixed Media Fine Art
- Functional Ceramics & Clay Sculpture
- Garment Making: Fabric, Fashion, and Wearable Art
- Fiber Fine Art
- Assemblage Sculpture
- Media Art
- Fine Art Photography
- Commercial Photography
- Yearbook
- Performing Arts
- Dance
- Drama

Physical Education - 4 credit requirement

- POPs (Physical & Outdoor Pursuits)
- Steamboat Springs Winter Sports Club
- Third party that meets for at least four hours a week

Independent Study

Flexible, student-driven course allows participants to explore areas of deep interest beyond the standard curriculum.

One Schoolhouse Partnership

Quick Glance Graduation Requirements:

- **English** - 4 year requirement
- **Social Studies** - 3 year requirement
- **Math** - 3 year requirement
- **Science** - 3 year requirement
- **Language** - 3 year requirement
- **Art** - 1 year requirement
- **P.E.** - 4 year requirement

Reported GPA only reflects final grades from courses taken at SMS or through our partnership with One Schoolhouse.

Transcripts from previous schools & other programs are provided.

A+, 97-100 = 4.0	C+, 77-79 = 2.3
A, 93-96 = 4.0	C, 73-76 = 2.0
A-, 90-92 = 3.7	C-, 70-72 = 1.7
B+, 87-89 = 3.3	D+, 67-69 = 1.3
B, 82-86 = 3.0	D, 63-66 = 1.0
B-, 80-82 = 2.7	D-, 60-62 = 0.7
	F, Below 59 = 0

ENROLLED COLLEGES 2022-2025

American University
Babson College
Bates College
Baylor University
Bentley University
Berklee College of Music
Boston College
Carleton College
Chapman University
Claremont McKenna College
Clarkson University
Colby College
College of Charleston
Colorado College
Colorado Mesa University
Colorado School of Mines
Colorado State University-Fort Collins
Cornell College
Dartmouth College
Denison University
Emory University
Fort Lewis College
Front Range Community College Boulder County
Campus
Hampshire College
Harvard University
Hobart and William Smith
McGill University
Middlebury College
Montana State University
New School of the Humanities, London
New York University
Northeastern University
Oberlin College
Occidental College
Oregon State University
Pace University, Westchester Campus
Pepperdine University
Quest University Canada
Saint Michael's College
Southern Methodist University - Cox School of Business
St. Lawrence University
Swarthmore College
Syracuse University
Texas Christian University
The American University of Rome
The George Washington University
The University of Alabama
The University of British Columbia
The University of Melbourne
United States Military Academy
University of California-Los Angeles
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Denver
University of Hawaii at Manoa
University of Illinois Chicago
University of New Mexico-Main Campus
University of Oregon
University of Puget Sound
University of Utah
University of Vermont
University of Virginia-Main Campus
Wake Forest University
Western Colorado University
Western Washington University
Westminster University - UT
Williams College