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## 2008 -- 2009

### Location and Description

Our Lady of Mercy High School, a Catholic Secondary School for young women, grades 7 to 12, is sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy of Rochester, New York. The school is located in the Rochester suburb of Brighton, but in the Penfield School District.

To be considered for admission, applicants must take a standardized test and provide previous academic records. The student body is drawn from 40 school districts. The graduating class of 2008 had 124 members. The current senior class has 117 members, with overall school enrollment of 646.

### Accreditation

Our Lady of Mercy High School is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, and by the University of the State of New York.

### Administration and Faculty

The Mercy administration consists of a President, Principal, and Assistant Principals for Academics and Student Life. The faculty includes a professional staff of 55 educators and three full time school counselors. A nurse is provided by the Penfield School District.

### Curriculum

The academic program at Our Lady of Mercy High School is college preparatory, and follows the guidelines of the New York State Board of Regents.

- **Regents** courses correspond to the NYS curriculum.
- **Honors** courses are offered in English, social studies, foreign language and mathematics.
- **Advanced Placement** courses are offered in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Calculus, English Literature, European History, US History, World History, French Language, Spanish Language, Latin and Psychology. All Advanced Placement course audits submitted by Mercy faculty have been approved by the College Board.

### Graduation Requirements

Mercy students are required to earn 7.5 credits in 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades, and a minimum of 7 credits in 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades.

Students must earn credit for 4 years of English, 4 years of social studies, 4 years of mathematics, 3 years of foreign language, 3 years of science, 4 years of theology, and 4 years (2 credits) of physical education. Additional elective credits may be used to obtain a minimum of 26 credits.

#### *Mission Statement*

Our Lady of Mercy High School, A Ministry of the Sisters of Mercy  
Animated by our Motto -Via, Veritas et Vita  
We educate young women in...  
*the Way -embracing Gospel Values*  
*the Truth -unleashing creative energy for the pursuit of knowledge*  
*the Life -nurturing a hope-filled vision for leadership, responsibility and service*

## Student Academic Profile

100% of Mercy students graduate with a New York State Regents diploma. For the Class of 2008, 51% of those were Regents diplomas with Advanced Designation.

1,151 NYS Regents Examinations were written in January and June of 2008. 97% received a passing grade.

365 Advanced Placement Exams were written in May, 2008. 85% received a score of 3 or higher.

Comparison of Mercy 2008 SAT mean scores with national mean scores:

Verbal		Math		Writing	
OLM Nat'l		OLM Nat'l		OLM Nat'l	
584	502	555	515	600	494

Each year between 98% and 100% of Mercy graduates go on to higher education. Over the past five years, 92% went on to four year colleges, and 8% to two year colleges.

The Class of 2008 included three National Merit Finalists and six Commended Students. National Merit Finalists, Semi Finalists, and Commended Students have made up approximately 6% of the last five graduating classes.

## Distribution of Grades – Class of 2008

Top 20%:	98.8	–	94.1
2 <sup>nd</sup> 20%:	94.06	–	90.42
3 <sup>rd</sup> 20%:	90.3	–	88.3
4 <sup>th</sup> 20%:	88.25	–	84.3
5 <sup>th</sup> 20%:	84.18	–	76.7

## Transcripts and Grade Reporting

Rank is not assigned.

Advanced Placement course grades are weighted by 1.04. Honors course grades are weighted by 1.02.

Report cards are issued four times during the school year. Cumulative examinations are given in January and June. The four quarter grades represent 2/3 of the final grade; the midterm and final examinations comprise 1/3 of the final grade.

Numerical grades are used at Mercy. The following are letter grade equivalents:

95 – 100 = A+	70 – 74 = C
90 – 94 = A	65 – 69 = D
85 – 89 = B+	Below 65 = F
80 – 84 = B	P = Pass
75 – 79 = C+	F = Fail

## Post Secondary Education

	05–06	0–07	07–08
Number in graduating class	100	93	124
Higher Education	97	93	121
Four year college	92	83	113
Two year college	5	10	8
Other education / work	2	0	3
Exchange student	1	0	0

Among the colleges and universities that recent Mercy graduates attend are:

Boston College, Bucknell University, Clarkson University, Cornell University, Columbia University, Dickinson College, Duke University, Georgetown University, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Hofstra University, Ithaca College, LeMoyne College, Loyola College in Maryland, McGill University, Nazareth College, New York University, Oberlin College, Providence College, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Rochester Institute of Technology, St. John Fisher College, St. Bonaventure University, Smith College, SUNY Geneseo, Syracuse University, University of Notre Dame, University of Rochester, Vassar College, Villanova University and Wellesley College.