



American High School Prep Year

8th Grade at Lake Ridge Academy

[Watch Video About The Middle School](#)



Highlights:

- Highly Selective (only four students accepted annually)
- Science & Math (high school math placement available)
- Humanities & Social Development
- Technology & Art (2D & 3D)
- Theater & Music Programs
- Athletics & Clubs
- Engineering Fabrication Lab



High School Prep Year

Our engaging curriculum provides a superior academic foundation while simultaneously developing confident young leaders equipped with the skills necessary to succeed in 9th grade. Students have the opportunity to improve proficiency and acquire skills without impacting the high school transcript. Researching and analyzing material enables students to ask challenging questions that lead to intellectual growth.

Students emerge prepared to take on a U.S. high school curriculum where they will continue to improve their interpersonal, public speaking, and leadership skills, all necessary for success in work and in life.

8:1
student to teacher ratio

80%
of our faculty hold
advanced degrees

English Proficiency & Academic Support

Understanding the importance of language acquisition before high school, we immediately immerse our Prep Year students fully into the 8th grade curriculum alongside their American peers. Additionally, we provide our Prep Year students with a variety of supports including test-taking strategies, vocabulary acquisition, and writing and speaking skill development.

The Dean of International Students provides regular checkins to ensure each student's success. For additional one-on-one support, on-campus tutoring is available.



Social and Emotional Health

We are proud of how involved our students are at Lake Ridge Academy. From playing on a sports team to participating in clubs, our international students are part of the Lake Ridge community from the moment they step onto campus. Such a sense of belonging is important: studies show that supporting the academic, social, and emotional health of our students leads to better educational outcomes.

"I think it was a wise choice to enter in 8th grade. I made a lot of friends, and got used to the style of American schools. I learned how to participate, study, take notes and self-advocate by asking teachers for help when I needed it."

– Eric - Class of 2026

Special Experiences:

- **Science and Engineering Symposium:** Students, many of whom compete at the local and state level, develop scientific inquiry skills through research that integrates STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) concepts.
- **Sports and Clubs:** Lake Ridge offers students many opportunities to participate in extracurricular clubs and activities including Lego Robotics, Engineering, Debate, and sports.
- **Theater Program:** To build confidence and facilitate teamwork, all Middle School students participate in the production of the annual spring musical.
- **Trip to Quebec City, Canada:** Lake Ridge Academy understands the importance of developing cross-cultural understanding. As such, eighth-graders travel to Quebec City to experience the culture of French Canada.



93
acre campus

A+
Niche Rated



About Lake Ridge Academy:

- Located on a 93-acre campus in a residential suburban neighborhood, Lake Ridge Academy is a K-12 independent, secular, and coeducational college preparatory day school.
- International students live nearby with pre-screened and approved host families.
- Our school community is filled with passionate learners and educators. We offer a unique environment that encourages our students to achieve their best academically and socially. A Lake Ridge Academy education instills in each student our core values: respect, integrity, scholarship, and personal best.
- Upon successful completion of the 8th Grade Prep Year, students are automatically accepted into our Upper School, a school well known for its success in preparing students for college: 100% of our graduates are accepted at a 4-year college or university, often at the most prestigious American institutions.
- English language requirements for the 8th grade program: 60 TOEFL, 750 TOEFL Jr., 215 ELTIS, or 90 Duolingo.



"International students benefit greatly from the immersive classroom experience. Participating in the exchange of ideas and learning critical thinking skills benefits their development in middle school and beyond."

– Mat Barker - 7th & 8th Grade Social Studies Teacher

K-12 College Preparatory School

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Scan to view
my business card!

