



HIGH MEADOWS
SCHOOL

**2023-2024
Application Guide**

WELCOME TO HIGH MEADOWS SCHOOL

We are thrilled that you have decided to explore our school for your family and look forward to sharing our community with you.

High Meadows is a magical place. My own children have spent their childhood on our beautiful campus, nurtured and supported by a school family unlike any other. It has given us great joy to watch them grow in skill and confidence, building lasting friendships, and pursuing their interests in a place where every day offers a new adventure.

As you walk around our 42 acre campus and observe classes in action, you will notice the lively engagement with which our students pursue their learning. Our classrooms feel comfortable, friendly, and homelike. They are filled with discussion, laughter, creativity, and challenge. You might also notice the use of outdoor spaces, meadows, cabins, and wooded paths as natural classrooms.

Amidst these dynamic spaces, profound learning takes place. About the world, about problem solving, about math, science and literature, and about becoming a community member.

It will be my pleasure to get to know your family and answer your questions along your journey of getting to know our school.

Warmly,
Laura Nicholson

Laura Nicholson

Director of Enrollment & Advancement
lnicholson@highmeadows.org



“When we established High Meadows, our goal was to encourage creativity and autonomy so that children could use their own decision-making skills in a safe, enriching environment. And we wanted them to connect with the beautiful world around them. A love of learning is innate... we worked to nurture that in our children.”

Jody Holden
Founder

Since 1973, generations of High Meadows children have spent hundreds of joyful hours hiking through fields and forest glades, running across hill and valley, embarking on their own quests for knowledge, and creating memories that will last a lifetime.



WHY HIGH MEADOWS SCHOOL?

Families who choose High Meadows are looking for more than just a school. They seek a community where children are honored, learning has meaning and purpose, and kindness and collaboration are key. Our families want their children to play outdoors, learn through doing, ask questions, and solve problems. They are looking for partners both in the education of their children, and in raising confident, kind, and successful individuals.

By design, High Meadows School offers an academic environment where...

- 🌱 Discovery, adventure, and play complement robust academic pursuits
- 🌱 The questions matter as much as the answers
- 🌱 Diverse learners create a supportive community
- 🌱 An expansive campus offers ever-changing experiential lessons
- 🌱 Children become expert thinkers, solvers, and doers

Our Graduates

High Meadows School students go on to care not only about their academic and professional success, but also about the positive impact they make in the world around them. Our graduates remember High Meadows School as the place they learned to be their best selves.

Our alumni are...

- 🌱 Enthusiastic Learners
- 🌱 Collaborators
- 🌱 Globally Minded
- 🌱 Intellectually Curious
- 🌱 Innovators
- 🌱 Conscientious
- 🌱 Skilled Communicators
- 🌱 Academically Prepared
- 🌱 Compassionate
- 🌱 Self-Advocates
- 🌱 Confident
- 🌱 Action Oriented

To learn more about the schools our graduates attend, visit the 'Student Outcomes' page of our website.

“At High Meadows, we carefully attend to the developing child. We spend time and resources allowing children to focus on building strong relationships and becoming resilient learners who pursue their interests and passions. Naturally, we provide children with necessary skills to grow and succeed academically, but perhaps more importantly, we grow learners.”

-Lori Kennedy, Lower Years Principal





WHAT WE LOOK FOR IN AN APPLICANT

The admission process at High Meadows School seeks to determine if the school is the right “match” for the applying child and family. We look at applicants holistically and use many criteria to predict whether a child will be successful at High Meadows. We value diversity and welcome families of all races, colors, creeds, national origins, religions, and sexual orientations. Though making the right match is more art than science, below are the guidelines used by our admission committee to evaluate students and families for admission to High Meadows School.

Our Admission Committee reviews applications for demonstration of:

- 🌱 Positive interactions with peers and teachers
- 🌱 The ability to work both independently and collaboratively
- 🌱 Natural curiosity and motivation
- 🌱 Enthusiasm about the school environment
- 🌱 Socially appropriate behavior
- 🌱 The ability to adjust to transitions throughout the school day
- 🌱 Self-regulation of body and behavior
- 🌱 Respect for peers and learning
- 🌱 As applicable, performance that is on or above grade level as evidenced by school transcripts, progress reports and any standardized tests that may have been taken
- 🌱 Favorable assessments and comments on recommendation forms regarding both academic and social performance

The successful applicant's parents or guardians will...

- 🌱 Show a propensity for embracing a child-centered, globally-focused, progressive approach to education
- 🌱 Be supportive, realistic, patient and communicative
- 🌱 Partner with the school to support student growth and learning
- 🌱 Demonstrate a willingness to volunteer their time and talent in support of the school
- 🌱 Understand the school's basic financial model and agree to participate in philanthropic giving to the best of their ability
- 🌱 Understand and support the school's goals and initiatives around diversity, equity and inclusion



HOW TO APPLY

Application

We will begin accepting applications for the 2023-24 school year on October 1, 2022. Complete the online application for admission at www.highmeadows.org through our online application host, Ravenna Solutions.

Supplemental Forms

For grades 1-8, delegate the AAAIS Transcript Release Authorization and Teacher Evaluation Form(s) to your child's current school through your online Ravenna application account. For Pre-K applicants who have attended a previous school or daycare, please delegate the Teacher Evaluation Form to your child's current teacher or caregiver through your Ravenna application account.

Visit Us

Attend a High Meadows Open House, Family Farm to Forest event, or Campus Tour. You may register for all events through your Ravenna account online.

Classroom Visits and Assessment (Applicants to grades 1-8)

Applicants to grades 1-8 will attend a shadow day at High Meadows during which they will join a classroom of peers for a typical day of school, and for some grade levels, complete a brief academic assessment. Visit days will be held January-March 2023.

Pre-K and Kindergarten Play Assessments

Pre-K (age 3 and 4) and Kindergarten applicants participate in a brief Play Assessment. The Play Assessment is a chance for our teachers to observe your child's interactions, interests, and communication within a small group of peers. Once you have submitted your online application, we will contact you to schedule your Play Assessment date, which your child will attend in February or March 2023.

Parent Interview

As part of the application process, we like to sit down with parents/guardians to hear more about their family, their child, and what they are seeking in a school. Our goal is to enroll not only students who will benefit from and contribute to our school community, but also families who value our progressive school model and community. Most interviews will take place between December and February and are typically conducted via Microsoft Teams online meetings.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Begin Accepting Applications	October 1, 2022
Preferred Application Deadline	February 9, 2023
Financial Aid Deadline	February 17, 2023
Common AAAIS Notification Date	March 30, 2023
AAAIS Response Deadline	April 11, 2023

TUITION

Annual tuition for the 2022-2023 school year

*2023-2024 tuition will be published in Feb. 2023

Program	Tuition
Pre-K (age 3) 3 mornings	\$7,320
Pre-K (age 3, age 4) 3 full days	\$10,416
Pre-K (age 3, age 4) 5 mornings	\$11,560
Pre-K (age 3, age 4) 5 full days	\$16,808
Kindergarten	\$19,964
First-Fifth Grade	\$20,436
Sixth-Eighth Grade	\$22,332

Our tuition is intentionally comprehensive and covers most annual expenses including school supplies. Grade level fees range by student age and primarily fund field trip and yearbook expenses.

AFFORDING HIGH MEADOWS SCHOOL

High Meadows offers need-based financial aid to qualified families with children in five-day Pre-K through Eighth Grade.

We utilize School and Student Services (SSS), a confidential third party, to process financial aid applications and help the financial aid committee to objectively assess a family's ability to contribute toward educational expenses. According to standard practice, all household income for all parents and guardians is considered when determining financial need.

To begin your financial aid application, visit <https://www.solutionsbysss.com/> and click on "SSS for Families." Financial aid eligibility will be considered only for families who have completed the school application process.

Financial aid applications for the 2023-24 school year are due no later than Friday, February 17, 2023, with 2022 tax documents due March 1, 2023.

To learn more about how to apply, please visit the Affording High Meadows page on our website.

DIVERSITY

Our community is made up of families with many different backgrounds, cultures, values, and perspectives. Our belief is that by embracing diversity, we expand our understanding of others, stimulate learning and growth, and connect with one another and the world.



OUR MISSION

The High Meadows community celebrates and perpetuates each individual's quest for knowledge and skill, sense of wonder, and connection to the natural environment. We empower each to be a compassionate, responsible, and active global citizen.



HIGH MEADOWS
SCHOOL & CAMP



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