



HS Administration

DIRECTOR & COUNSELOR

Myna Anderson

ADVISOR

John Anderson



Graduates Applied to:

- Brown University*
- Columbia University
- Cornell University
- Dartmouth College
- Duke University
- Emory University
- George Mason U*
- Georgia Southern U*
- Northwestern University
- Princeton University
- Rice University
- Wellesley College*
- Yale University
- Loyola University Maryland*
- New York University
- Northeastern University
- Seton Hall University*
- Spelman University
- SUNY Stony Brook U*
- Temple University*
- University of La Verne*
- U of Pennsylvania
- UMass, Boston*
- University of San Diego
- Wellesley College*
- Yale University

*acceptances

School Profile

Mission: The Banjul American International School is an accredited international school providing a meaningful, rigorous American curriculum in a global context. In partnership with local and international communities, we empower students to become enthusiastic, creative, lifelong learners who value integrity, cultural diversity, and global responsibility.

Banjul American International School (BAIS) is an independent, coeducational day school for English-speaking students of all nationalities from Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12, founded in 1984. BAIS is a small school with a pivotal role; it serves international and local families from diplomatic, NGO and business communities by providing an international standard of education in The Gambia. The school's supportive learning environment and caring, creative teachers instill confidence, compassion and critical thinking in every student.

BAIS is fully accredited by Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. Instruction and socialization among the diverse international student body are in English. The BAIS high school program was offered distance education until 2020 when it opened an in-house, full high school. Classes of 2022, 2023 and 2024 had two (2), one (1), and three (3) students respectively.

High School Curriculum: BAIS offers an American, four-year, college preparatory High School program. Experienced teachers offer courses in English, mathematics, science, social studies, world languages (French, Wolof and Spanish), arts, technology and physical education. BAIS teachers have Bachelor's or Master's degrees and internationally recognized teaching credentials. Virtual elective courses (architecture, business, photography, etc.) may be offered to allow individual BAIS students to pursue their passions.

BAIS offers high levels of individualized attention and the BAIS Faculty is committed to challenging students with material at their individual levels to ensure maximum academic growth and university success. Students are encouraged to take AP courses, and BAIS is a College Board exam center for AP, PSAT and SAT exams. All high school students attend a Seminar course to ensure career/college counseling and life-after-high-school preparation. BAIS students also participate in a Service Learning program each year as a means of connection to The Gambia.

Co-Curricular Program: Three eight-week sessions of after-school activities are offered to students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 including a variety of artistic, athletic, and academic activities, for example: Mock Trial, Volleyball and MUN. A BAIS highlight is the annual musical with a role for every student in the school! High school students often organize and offer after school activities for peers and/or younger students. An active student council comprised of students Grade 2 to 12 is elected by students annually and organizes events (both in person and virtual during COVID lockdowns) to promote school community cohesiveness and spirit. They also pair secondary with elementary and Pre-K students as BAIS Buddies and organize monthly interactive activities.

Partnerships: BAIS is a member of the African International Schools Association (AISA) and participates in service, MUN, arts and athletic events with other AISA schools. It hosts cultural, sport and educational events for other schools in The Gambia, such as the BAIS Olympics, Health & Fitness Fun Day, Gambia Teachers Institute, etc. and frequently supports Special Olympics of The Gambia through peer-to-peer activities. BAIS students are involved with internships with the Medical Research Centre (MRC) of London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), the US Embassy, Coco Ocean Resort, and other NGOs and Service organizations.

Diversity: In 2022-23, the 14 high school students held passports from nine (9) countries: The Gambia, the USA, e-Swazini, Guinea, Nigeria, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka and the UK.



BANJUL AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

High School Graduation Requirements

Graduation requirements will be set by the Director in line with Accreditation standards. Once set, these will be included in the Policy Manual and Student-Parent Handbook. Special circumstances requiring adjusted graduation requirements may be approved upon the Director's recommendation and with Board approval.

Graduation Requirements

Students in Grades 9 - 12 study semester long or year long courses. Passing a course will earn the student credits. Courses meeting four to five periods per week will earn 1 credit for the full year (i.e. ½ credit for each semester with a passing score).

Successful completion of a minimum of 26 year-long credits are required for graduation. The credits must include:

- English 4 year-long credits
- Mathematics 4 year-long credits
- Science 4 year-long credits
- Humanities/Social Studies 4 year-long credits
- World Languages 3 year-long credits of one language
or 2 year-long credits of 2 languages each
- Physical Education & Health 2 year-long credits
- Arts (Studio Art, Music, etc.) 1 year-long credit
- Technology/Computer Science 1 year-long credit
- Elective Courses 3 year-long credits

and Satisfactory completion of two projects:

- Independent Service Project
- Independent Inquiry Project

The Director will ensure that the requirements and assessment for these projects are outlined in the Student/Parent Handbook.



Early Graduation

A student who has completed at least 3 full years of high school and who meets all the Requirements set by Policy may qualify for early graduation at the culmination of the period in which requirements are completed.