



AN ACCREDITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL SERVING PRESCHOOL THROUGH EIGHTH GRADE

66 Children carry greatness within themselves.Our job is to make sure they are ready for it.

Julie Hansen Director, Thaddeus Stevens School

## Building Success

Our integrated approach to education:

### 66 At Thaddeus Stevens School,

we get to know strengths and creativity in your child that he or she might not even be aware of yet. We will develop that strength and that creativity. Our students come to understand that they have capacities well beyond what they believed to be true about themselves.

We welcome you to learn more about the Thaddeus Stevens School community. Please visit us so you can experience firsthand how our school can be the right place for your child.



Julie Hansen, Director

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## A Strong Foundation Comprehensive academic program

Our integrated curriculum challenges students to succeed. After graduation from Thaddeus Stevens School, your child will be prepared for the rigors of any high school they choose to attend. Our alumni have gone on to top colleges and universities and have entered exciting and meaningful careers.

## 2 Opportunities to Grow Enrichment experiences

Thaddeus Stevens School offers a wealth of opportunities that enrich the student experience. We help our students become responsible citizens by frequent engagement with our local community along with simulations like Model UN and mock trials. Field trips, academic competitions, foreign exchange student opportunities, sports, and clubs ensure that all students enjoy activities that broaden their lives.



## Nurturing Community Individual attention and small classes

Our teachers get to know their students well, and learn each student's likes, dislikes, strengths, and challenges. Because the classes are small, we have the opportunity to respond to the individual needs of every student. Above all, the school community is like a family. We care about everyone and work hard to treat everyone with respect and warmth.

66 My favorite thing about science is that we're not stuck in a classroom all day. We're outside embracing nature.

— Emily, eighth grade student

## A Strong Foundation

A Comprehensive Academic Program

#### Language Arts

Instruction focuses on enhancing the use of the English language in the four recognized strands of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. In the early grades, students learn to read; as their proficiency grows, students read to learn across our integrated humanities curriculum. Our writing program produces award-winning writers and poets in high school.

#### Science

In our acclaimed science program, our outdoor classroom provides an authentic locale for field science research and experimentation. Spending entire days on Burke Mountain, students learn to use the scientific method to create and test hypotheses, to analyze what they have learned, and to write meaningful conclusions.

#### Math

Our hands-on interactive math curriculum builds from developing number sense and math concepts in the early grades through algebra and geometry in the upper grades. To sharpen skills, students compete in MathCounts and international Math Olympiad competitions, and consistently do well. Most of our students are placed in honors and accelerated math in high school.

#### Social Studies/History

Our cross-disciplinary program combines history, literature, and art. We include historical content and analysis of national and world events and their impact on society. Through their studies, students learn to become knowledgeable citizens of their local community and the world.

#### Japanese

Thaddeus Stevens School is known for our Japanese program. We believe that it increases abstract thinking skills and fosters respect and understanding of other cultures. All students study Japanese, gradually acquiring the skills for conversation and writing. Cultural studies give context and include Japanese storytelling, games, and crafts.





66 My daughter absolutely loves the Japanese classes. I'm so impressed that the school offers that. She plans to continue learning Japanese in high school. Thaddeus Stevens School offers so many opportunities for kids to grow.

— Heather Stahler, parent

#### Visual Arts

Our two visual art teachers ensure that all students, starting in kindergarten, learn the craft of production and the scholarship of art history. All of our teachers work together to connect the academic curriculum to the study of the arts.

66 There is a lot of interconnectivity between the classes. For example, we built dioramas of different rivers around the world based on the social studies curriculum. And if I have a project I want to work on with the students, other teachers will adapt their curriculum to help bring it all together.

Charlie Hood, art teacher

#### Music

We consider music an essential part of the curriculum from first through eighth grade. Students learn to read music, sing together, and make musical instruments. They learn about rhythm using conga drums, maracas, and cowbells. In fifth through eighth grades, we offer individual instrumental instruction to all interested students. Accomplished students are able to play with the local high school band and are selected to participate in the annual statewide music festival.



66 Our students learn about compassion, empathy, and respect for their peers.

Grace Willow, teacher



Enrichment Activities

#### German Exchange Program

In partnership with the Moderne Schule Hamburg in Hamburg, Germany, seventh and eighth grade students travel to Hamburg, staying with host families and participating in school. In return, those students visit Thaddeus Stevens School and become part of our school community while they are here.

#### Field Trips to Boston, New York City, and Washington DC

Fifth through eighth grade students travel to Boston, New York City, and Washington DC. Each overnight and multi-day trip has a jam-packed itinerary of cultural and historic sights.

#### **Physical Education**

We incorporate movement into every day at Thaddeus Stevens School, including a daily one-mile walk for everyone. Outdoor recreation includes organized sports and self-directed play, because we believe that children need both. In the winter, all students participate in skiing or snowboarding at Burke Mountain.









#### **Community Engagement**

Our students participate in a variety of local community events as they learn to become responsible citizens. These include:

- · Raising funds for the Heifer Foundation
- · Hosting Peacham Memorial Day ceremony
- · Making "get out the vote" phone calls
- · Organizing a craft event for local children
- · Hosting MLK Day candlelight vigil
- · Participating in local youth shelter walk
- · Volunteering for local disaster relief
- · Holding food and toy drives
- · Participating in local Veterans Day ceremony

#### **Student Performances**

The whole school enjoys many opportunities to showcase students' talents, including:

- · Ramayana puppet show
- Musical performances
- · Poetry and prose Read-Ins
- · Theater production

#### Model UN / Mock Trials

Our students participate in Model UN to learn more about world issues. Through Mock Trials, students learn more about the US legal system, and present their cases at the county courthouse before a real judge.

#### Afterschool Clubs

Clubs are shaped by the interests and talents of teachers and students. Some clubs in recent years include: comic book club, computer programming team, homework club, felting club, art club.

#### **School Events**

Animal Celebration Day, an Annual Arts Gala, poetry workshops, and holiday celebrations from around the world are some of the all-school events that delight students and teachers alike.

### 66 I love going to school here. It makes me happy.

— Paisley, first grade



## Individual attention and small classes

We firmly believe that a providing safe learning environment helps students become self-sufficient and confident as they grow. Our students learn to question, test their ideas, and take intellectual risks, all within an atmosphere of support and encouragement.

## Our students and teachers say it best!

- 66 Thaddeus Stevens School is a great school because of the student-teacher relationship. There's a really good bond and the teachers respect you."
- Isabella, eighth grade
- 66 I would describe Thaddeus Stevens School as a school that focuses on you. Everyone in the school is very caring and everyone relies on each other."
- Jalal, eighth grade
- 66 The teachers are very involved and always open to questions. It's really a tight knit community here—like a family. The teachers care about the students a lot."
- Casey, eighth grade



- 66 I've been taught to look at everybody equally and to give everybody equal rights no matter what race they are and what sex they are. That's a very important lesson now and for the rest of our lives."
- Wilder, sixth grade
- We work hard to foster a community of respect, which is foundational to everything we do. Our students really blossom and flourish into individuals who are curious, ask questions, and create thoughtful responses."
- Emma Hansen,
   Dean of Students and
   English teacher
- 66 We strive to provide a well-rounded curriculum with emphasis on cultivating a strong sense of community in our students. It is a joy to work in an environment where all staff and students are so personally connected."
- James Ashley, humanities teacher
- 66 As teachers at Thaddeus Stevens School, we have a lot of control over our projects but we also allow for spontaneity. If a student thinks of something they'd like to do artistically, I can work with the student to pursue that goal."
- Charlie Hood,art teacher











### Montessori-Based Preschool

Kingdom Montessori at Thaddeus Stevens School introduces children ages 3 – 5 to a world of learning. The Montessori classroom is designed to give children a sense of independence. All interactions are based on respectful relationships between the children and adults. Through careful balancing of social and academic activities, children excel as they explore the beginnings of reading and writing, the foundations of math, the wonders of science, and the diversity of cultures in the world. Our program provides a safe, welcoming, happy, and stimulating environment in full or half-day settings.

A Day at Kingdom Montessori at Thaddeus Stevens School:

#### **Arrival**

**Sitting on the Line:** Group time for greetings, news, calendar, weather, and singing.

Work Time: Learning language, math, science, or geography using Montessori materials.

Individual or small group phonics instruction.

**Story Time:** Flexible time to explore stories and reading through a variety of fun techniques.

#### **Outdoor Play**

**Lunch:** For children staying for the full day.

#### **Rest Time**

**Afternoon Exploration:** Children work and play in the classroom or outdoors.

#### Dismissal

## Full Day Kindergarten

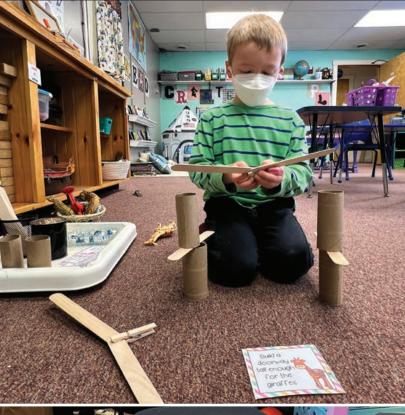
The Thaddeus Stevens School curriculum starts with kindergarten. In this grade, we engage a child's most powerful learning attributes: their natural curiosity and their inherent sense of play.

The kindergarten classroom is designed for students to learn through interactive experiences. For example, students might build compound words by combining single-word blocks; by finding hidden numbers and placing them in order, students learn counting skills. Morning is typically devoted to instruction in "academic" subjects, with a mid-morning break for imaginative outdoor play. Afternoon offers small group and one-on-one time with teachers to reinforce concepts and work on longer-term projects.

Kindergarten students at Thaddeus Stevens School develop a love of learning and acquire a sense of commitment to their school community. The small class size ensures that every child's individual needs are met. A strong student-teacher bond is formed in our kindergarten, and that gives young students the confidence to succeed as they move ahead.

66 My children are in kindergarten and preschool. I want them to be challenged, but I also want them to love learning. I fell in love with the school and its hands-on learning approach. My son was a little shy and I didn't want him to get lost. The culture here is super-inclusive and super-welcoming. He's really comfortable with his teachers, his classmates, and also with the older students, who are very kind to the younger ones."

— Caroline Porter, parent





## Where in the world are Thaddeus | Stevens School graduates?



#### Alex Milne '10

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW? I'm a licensed practical nurse caring for geriatric patients.

HOW DID TSS HELP PREPARE YOU FOR TODAY? It prepared me for high school (I learned how to write a great essay!) and taught me how to have professional interactions.

WHAT DID YOU LOVE ABOUT TSS? The small class sizes and the attention from the teachers.

A FAVORITE TSS MEMORY: Our class trip to Washington DC!

**COLLEGE:** Vermont Technical College, nursing



#### Sam Allen '06

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW? I'm a Real Estate Appraiser.

HOW DID TSS HELP PREPARE YOU FOR TODAY? The passion teachers had for their subject areas prepared me for both high school and college.

WHAT DID YOU LOVE ABOUT TSS? The personal relationship between teachers and students.

A FAVORITE TSS MEMORY: All of the school trips to cities, plus hanging outside during lunch.

COLLEGE: Gordon College, B.A. in Business Management

**66** Thaddeus Stevens School set me up for everything; it was truly foundational to my success. The academic rigor helped me excel in high school, college, and graduate school.

I cannot overstate how important TSS was to starting young adulthood on the right foot.

— Caitlin Morgan '02

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#### Tucker Morgan '04

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW? I'm a screenwriter.

HOW DID TSS HELP PREPARE YOU FOR TODAY? TSS is where I first learned that my past, Black history, started long before the boat ride over. My worldview regarding the fight for justice and equality for all is rooted in my time there.

WHAT DID YOU LOVE ABOUT TSS? TSS provided me with a safe learning space that helped me develop my unique voice and perspectives in a positive and supportive educational environment. TSS is also where I first discovered my interest in creative writing.

A FAVORITE TSS MEMORY: A school trip to Dartmouth College to look at murals painted by Orozco and participate in a candlelight march to commemorate Martin Luther King Day.

college: San Francisco State University, double major in Africana Studies and Cinema Studies.



#### Siobhan Gordon '00

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW? I'm a preschool teacher and mother of a wonderful 8 year-old.

HOW DID TSS HELP PREPARE YOU FOR TODAY? TSS opened my mind up to the world. I learned to empathize, to be curious, and to question everything, including my own opinions.

WHAT DID YOU LOVE ABOUT TSS? I loved that we weren't asked to adhere to a mold. Each of us were allowed, encouraged, to be uniquely ourselves.

A FAVORITE TSS MEMORY: My favorite memory is of going camping at Cow Hill! The girls pitched the tents together, and we roasted hot dogs and told stories in the chill of a Vermont evening.

**COLLEGE:** Saint Mary's College, B.A. in Art History; Erikson Institute, M.S. in Early Childhood Education.



#### Megan McGill '06

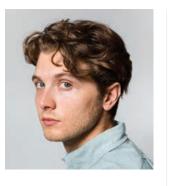
WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW? I worked in at UVM for 7 years as a blood pathology researcher. I worked at Lyndon Town School with children with behavioral and developmental issues. Now I've opened my own business selling my art and handmade home decor.

HOW DID TSS HELP PREPARE YOU FOR TODAY? The school community helped broaden my world beyond Vermont and encouraged my curiosity of altruism and culture.

WHAT DID YOU LOVE ABOUT TSS? I loved the size and personal attention and care given to each student.

A FAVORITE TSS MEMORY: I really hated P.E. in all other schools I attended. but I have no memories of anything but fun physical time at TSS!

**COLLEGE:** University of Vermont, degree in Psychology



#### Jasper Craven '07

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW? I'm a freelance investigative journalist based in Brooklyn covering military and veterans' issues.

HOW DID TSS HELP PREPARE YOU FOR TODAY? The School forged my moral compass, imbued me with a skepticism of power, and fed my unending curiosity. These are vital skills for a journalist.

WHAT DID YOU LOVE ABOUT TSS? Most appreciated was the respect all teachers had for their students. They were critical in developing my confidence and identity.

A FAVORITE TSS MEMORY: I always loved playing foursquare on long lunch breaks, snowboarding down the school's hills in winter, and winning capture the flag in the woods.

COLLEGE: Boston University, studied political science and journalism



#### Lauren Rauert '14

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW? I am a senior at the University of Vermont.

HOW DID TSS HELP

PREPARE YOU FOR TODAY? TSS built the foundation for my writing skills. It served me well in high school and college. I know that comes from the emphasis on creating quality work at TSS.

WHAT DID YOU LOVE ABOUT TSS? The teachers! They don't ignore the drama that occurs in middle school they help you learn how to process your emotions so you can move past whatever happened.

A FAVORITE TSS MEMORY: I loved Mock Trials, both the performance part and learning about the structure of trials.

college: Currently at University of Vermont, majoring in Communication Sciences and Disorders. Soon to start grad school in speech-language pathology.



#### Graham Edmondson '05

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW? I work as a Senior Project Manager and Lighting Designer in New Hampshire. I design and manage technical elements for social and corporate events.

HOW DID TSS HELP PREPARE YOU FOR TODAY?

I learned the value of differing viewpoints and the importance of questioning your own beliefs. Also, learning **POV-Ray and HTML** programming at a young age helped me understand more complicated programming languages later.

WHAT DID YOU LOVE ABOUT TSS? I really enjoyed the mock trials every year.

A FAVORITE TSS MEMORY: Watching Kenneth Branagh's Henry V every October to celebrate Saint Crispin's day. It remains one of my favorite movies of all time.

COLLEGE: Boston University, B.F.A. in Theatrical Design.

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Learn more at ThaddeusStevensSchool.org

## Admissions

We welcome you to become part of the Thaddeus Stevens School family, and encourage prospective parents and students to visit the school.

#### Application

#### It's easy to apply. Contact us:

- · Call 802-626-0370, or
- Visit ThaddeusStevensSchool.org
   and click on "Apply Now." Complete
   the short application form online,
   and we'll contact you right away to
   arrange a school visit.

#### **Tuition**

Tuition rates for K – 8th grade follow the announced Vermont state average for public school tuition.

Preschool tuition is based on full or half-day attendance and a regular schedule of 2, 3, 4, or 5 days per week. Tuition includes the Vermont state childcare subsidy.

Please visit, **ThaddeusStevensSchool.org**, for up-to-date tuition rates.

#### School Choice in Vermont

Some Vermont towns do not operate a local elementary or middle school. Students in these towns are eligible to choose an approved school to attend. Under Vermont's school choice tuitioning system, the "sending" towns pay tuition directly to the "receiving" schools. When students are tuitioned to independent schools, the payment is set at the Vermont statewide average per-pupil cost, as calculated by the Department of Education.

Thaddeus Stevens School is an approved independent school eligible to receive tuition under the school choice system.

#### School choice towns in the local area include:

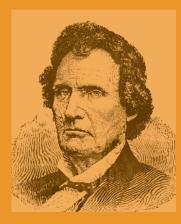
Averill, Avery's Gore, Bloomfield, Brunswick, Canaan, East Haven, Ferdinand, Granby, Guildhall, Kirby, Lemington, Lewis, Maidstone, Norton, Peacham, Victory, Warner's Grant, and Warren's Gore.

#### Financial Aid

Thaddeus Stevens School strives to ensure that all students who want to attend the school can do so regardless of the family's financial resources. If you decide to apply for financial aid, we use a third party, School & Student Services, to assess your family's financial need. You can apply for financial aid online at https://sforce.co/35Pum3Q.

# The Legacy of Thaddeus Stevens

Thaddeus Stevens was born in Danville. Vermont in 1792 and attended the Peacham Academy until his entrance to Dartmouth College. Stevens overcame physical disability and childhood poverty, becoming a powerful Representative in the US Congress. He was known as a fierce advocate of equality for all: rich or poor, black or white, Christian or Jew. He argued against the Fugitive Slave Act in Congress and in the court. During Reconstruction, Stevens advocated for the voting rights of freed slaves and equality for all. He was a primary author of the 14th Amendment, known today as the Civil Rights Amendment.



The legacy of Thaddeus
Stevens inspires our
school's deep commitment to civil and human
rights that permeates our
beliefs about education,
the school's curriculum,
behavioral policies, and
community of parents,
students, teachers, alumni,
and friends.

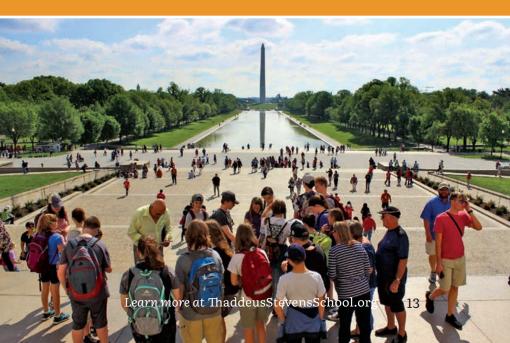
Stevens, a Vermonter who overcame the odds to become one of the most influential Representatives in Congress and write one of the most significant Constitutional amendments. But when he was in grade school, he didn't know the heights of achievement he would reach in his life.

That's what I want our students to know—that they carry greatness within them, just like the person our school is named for. And we are here to help them get ready for their greatness."

— Julie Hansen, Director

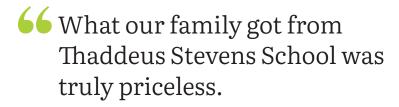












66 The unique environment of the school and its academic approach have made our son a more confident person, a more passionate learner, and a more responsible citizen. We could not be happier with our decision to enroll him here.

#### —Carla Ciardelli, parent

66 We were so fortunate to have found Thaddeus Stevens School. Their classes were small, and their teachers were dedicated, attentive, and very much a part of the fabric of the school. Now in high school, we find that they've been prepared exceptionally well for the challenges of accelerated and advanced placement coursework.

#### -Jen Castle, parent

66 This school was a perfect fit for my son. He didn't want to go to his old school at all; now he can't wait to see his friends at Thaddeus Stevens School. This feels like his family. When I occasionally stay for morning meeting, I leave with tears of inspiration and gratitude that these students are learning how to be informed, to take care of each other, and create a better world. We are so proud to be part of this amazing school community.

—Andrea Thibaudeau, parent





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