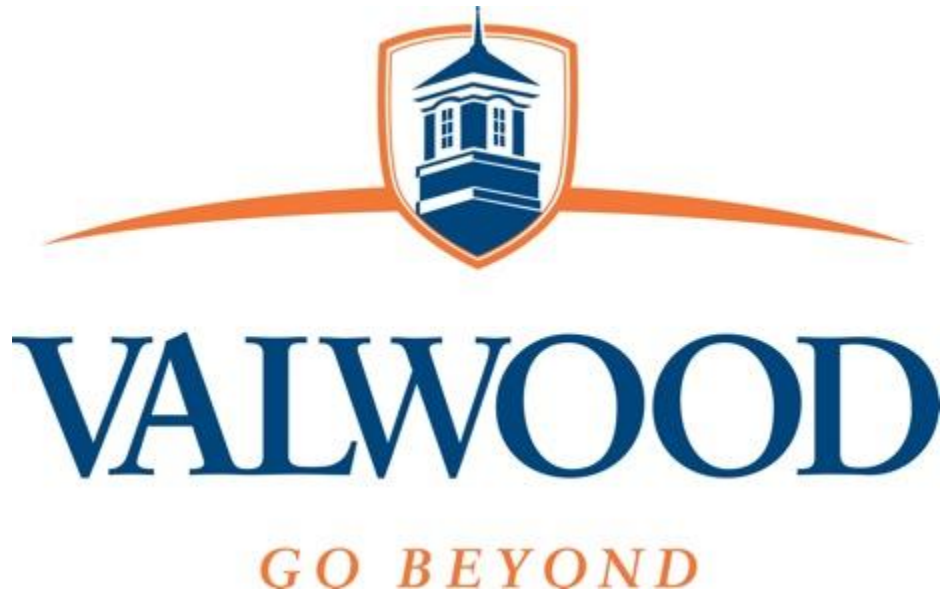


# *College Guidance Information*



## **Profile of the Upper School 2011-2012**

*Darren J. Pascavage, Ph.D., Headmaster*  
*Peter Allen, Upper School Co-Dean and College Guidance Counselor*  
*Marcia Felts, Upper School Co-Dean and College Guidance Counselor*  
*Ginger Holley, Director of Admission*

## School and Community

Founded in 1969, Valwood School is an independent, coeducational, college preparatory day school serving nearly 400 students in grades pre-kindergarten through twelve. Valwood students are immersed in a challenging academic program and are encouraged to participate in a wide variety of extracurricular activities.

The 45 acre campus was built in 2002 and is located in Valdosta, Georgia, the state's tenth largest city, a community of 55,000 located in south-central Georgia approximately twenty miles north of the Florida state line. Valdosta is served by interstate 75 and is a two-hour drive from Macon (GA), Gainesville (FL), Jacksonville (FL), and Tallahassee (FL). The greater Valdosta area has enjoyed both demographic and commercial growth during the past two decades and is home to Valdosta State University and Moody Air Force Base. Valwood serves students from Valdosta and attracts students from an approximate 30 mile radius from the school.

## Accreditation and Memberships

Valwood holds dual accreditation from the Southern Association of Independent Schools (SAIS) and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). In addition, Valwood School is a member of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), Southern Association of Independent Schools (SAIS), the Georgia Independent School Association (GISA), the College Board, and the Southern and National Associations for College Admissions Counseling (SACAC and NACAC).

## Faculty

Many members of the Valwood faculty hold advanced degrees. Teachers facilitate individual learning styles and choose materials they deem appropriate. In the Upper School, the average class includes 11 students, ensuring a high level of personal attention and instruction.

## UPPER SCHOOL COURSE OFFERINGS

ENGLISH	SCIENCE	FOREIGN LANGUAGE
English I	Biology	Spanish I, II, III, IV, V
English II	Physical Science	Spanish III, IV – Honors
English II – Honors	Chemistry	AP Spanish Language
English III	Anatomy and Physiology	French I, II
AP English Language	Physics	French III – Honors
English IV	*AP Biology	AP French Language
AP English Literature	AP Chemistry	
Language Arts	*AP Environmental Science	<b>FINE ARTS</b>
Composition I	AP Physics	Drama
Composition II		Chorus
Composition IV	<b>MATHEMATICS</b>	Visual Arts
Speech IV	Algebra I / Algebra I B	AP Studio Art
	Geometry	<b>HEALTH &amp; PHYS ED</b>
<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b>	Geometry – Honors	Health
Government / Economics	Algebra II	Personal Fitness
World History I	Algebra II – Honors	Conditioning / Team Sports
World History II	Pre-Calculus – Honors	
AP World History	Algebra III / Trigonometry	<b>TECHNOLOGY / ELECTIVES</b>
U.S. History	AP Calculus AB	Technology
AP U.S. History		Yearbook
Psychology		
Global Issues	<i>*Offered in alternating years</i>	

## Graduation Requirements

4 units of English  
 4 units of Mathematics, beginning with Algebra I  
 3 units of Social Studies – Government/Economics,  
 World History, U.S. History  
 4 units of Lab Science – Biology, Chemistry, 2 Electives  
 2 units of the same Foreign Language  
 ½ unit of Senior Speech  
 ½ unit of Senior Composition  
 ½ unit of Technology  
 1 unit of Health and Personal Fitness  
 1 unit Fine Arts  
 2½ units of Additional Electives  
 20 Hours of Community Service per year

## Grade Point Average and Class Rank

Grades earned in academic subjects are used to determine a student's weighted GPA and class rank. All subjects are included in the computation of a student's unweighted GPA. Valwood does not report student rankings, except to note those seniors with the highest and second highest cumulative GPAs. The scale used to determine weighted GPA is as follows:

Grade	College Prep	Honors	Advanced Placement
90 - 100	4.0	5.0	6.0
85 - 89	3.50	4.375	5.25
80 - 84	3.0	3.75	4.50
75 - 79	2.5	3.125	3.75
70 - 74	2.0	2.5	3.0
65 - 69	1.0	1.25	1.5
< 65	0	0	0

## College Admissions Testing – Class of 2012 Mid 50% Range (through June 2011)

<b>SAT</b>	Critical Reading	510-650
	Math	470-600
	Writing	480-620
	Composite Score (CR + Math)	980-1240
<b>ACT</b>	English	20-30
	Math	20-26
	Reading	25-32
	Science Reasoning	22-30
	Composite Score	23-30

## Advanced Placement

All Valwood students are encouraged to take a challenging course load, including Advanced Placement courses. Students enrolled in AP classes are **required** to take the AP exam.

	2011	2012
% Class taking at least one AP Exam	69	64
% Exams with scores of 3 or above	61	83

## National Recognition of Students

	2011	2010	2009	2008
National Merit Finalists	-	1	-	-
National Achievement Recognition	-	1	-	-
National Hispanic Scholars	-	-	-	-
National Merit Commended Students	1	1	-	-
Advanced Placement Scholars (through 5/10)	6	9	3	2
Class Enrollment	28	21	18	31

## College Acceptances

Graduates of the past four classes have received acceptances to the following schools:

Abraham Baldwin Agri. Coll.	Pennsylvania State University
Amer. Acad. Dramatic Arts	Pratt Institute
Am. Musical & Dramatic Aca.	Rhodes College
Appalachian State University	Samford University
Arizona State University	Savannah Coll. Art & Design
Armstrong Atlantic State Univ.	South Georgia College
Auburn University	So. Polytechnic State Univ.
Berry College	Spelman College
Boston College	St. John's University – Queens
Brooks Inst. of Photography	Stetson University
Clemson University	Toccoa Falls College
Coastal Carolina University	Troy State University
Colby College	Tulane University
College of Charleston	Tusculum College
Dartmouth College	Tuskegee University
Davidson College	University of Alabama
Eckerd College	University of Arizona
Florida A&M University	University of Arkansas
Florida State University	University of CA – Santa Cruz
Fort Valley State University	University of Colorado
Furman University	University of Connecticut
Georgia College & State Univ.	University of Georgia
Georgia Institute of Tech.	University of Miami
Georgia Southern University	University of Mississippi
Gulf Coast Comm. College	University of Montana
High Point University	University of Richmond
Kennesaw State University	University of South Carolina
Knox College	University of Southern Miss.
Liberty University	University of the South
Louisiana State University	University of Virginia
Mercer University	University of West Alabama
Middle Tennessee State Univ.	University of West Georgia
Mississippi State University	University of Wisconsin
NY Conservatory Dramatic Arts	Valdosta State University
North Carolina State Univ.	Vanderbilt University
N. Ga. College & State Univ.	Wake Forest University
Oglethorpe University	Washington & Lee University
Pace University	Western Carolina University

# GRADE DISTRIBUTION FOR THE CLASS OF 2012

Grades 9 - 11

## CLASSES TAKEN AT VALWOOD

	A		B		C		D	F
	95-99	90-94	85-89	80-84	75-79	70-74	65-69	<65
English I	1	5	5	1	0	6	2	0
English II	0	0	0	1	2	4	2	0
English II – Honors	0	2	4	5	0	0	1	0
Composition I	1	5	7	0	4	1	0	1
Composition II	0	4	3	4	4	1	0	1
English III	0	0	2	3	0	0	4	0
AP English Language	0	2	4	5	0	0	0	0
Language Arts	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Algebra I / IB	0	1	3	1	2	0	1	0
Geometry	0	0	1	2	2	2	1	0
Geometry – Honors	2	5	3	3	0	0	0	0
Algebra II	0	1	1	1	1	2	4	0
Algebra II – Honors	1	3	3	1	3	0	0	0
Algebra III / Trigonometry	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Pre-Calculus – Honors	2	4	2	1	2	0	0	0
AP Calculus	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
Biology	4	7	2	1	1	3	2	0
Physical Science	0	0	2	5	1	0	0	0
Chemistry	2	3	3	4	1	0	7	0
Physics	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
AP Biology	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	0
AP Chemistry	1	1	1	2	1	0	0	0
Economics	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Global Issues	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Psychology	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
World History I	3	4	4	4	2	1	0	0
World History II	1	2	1	3	0	2	0	0
US History	0	1	1	5	1	0	1	0
AP World History	1	5	4	1	0	0	0	0
AP US History	5	5	2	0	0	1	0	0
Spanish I	2	0	7	2	1	0	3	0
Spanish II	1	2	2	4	0	1	0	0
Spanish III	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Spanish III – Honors	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
Spanish IV – Honors	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	0
French I	0	0	4	0	3	0	0	0
French II	0	1	2	2	0	0	1	0
French III – Honors	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0
AP Studio Art	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0