



Kite and Leaf...

The good news email from TCS!

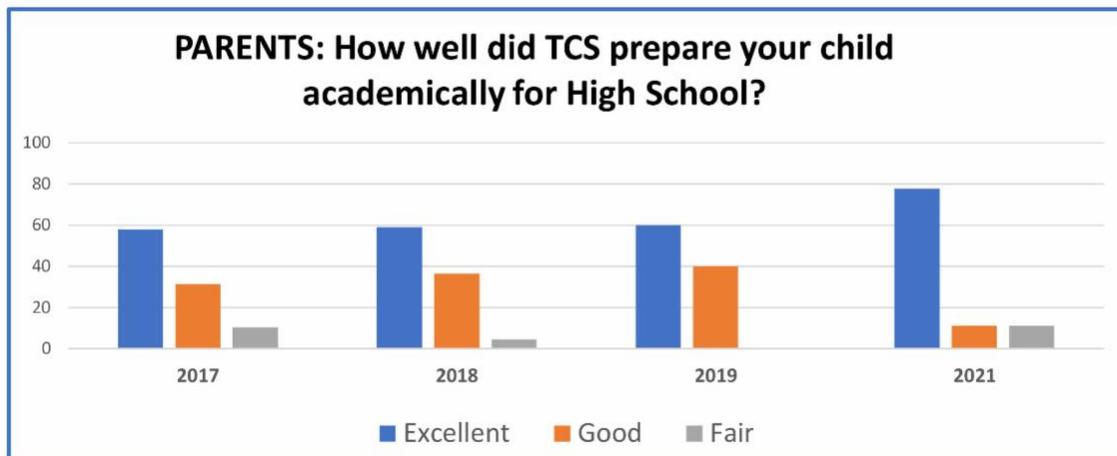
The Children's School Prepares Students Very Well for High School and Beyond!

One issue on many of our parents' minds is how well an education at The Children's School prepares students for high school success, especially our middle school.

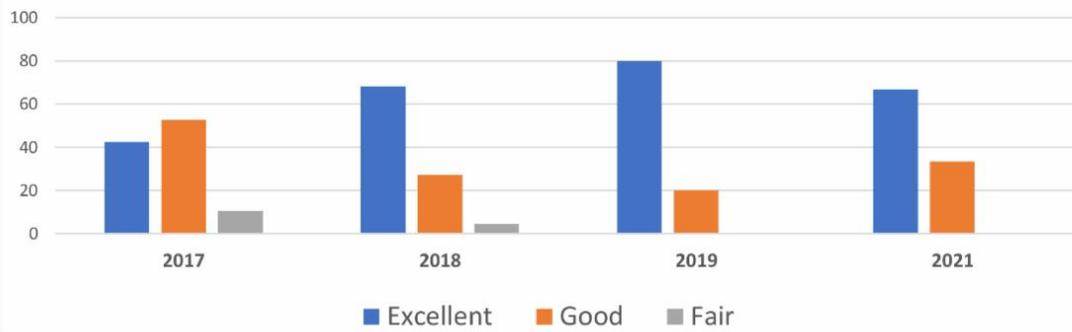
This is one area where parents can rest easy: for the most part, our students do exceptionally well in high school and college, and report that TCS gave them many advantages.

In the graphs below, you can see that more than 90% of our parents rated both their child's preparation for academics as well as the socio-emotional demands of high school as "excellent" or "good."

Insights From The Children's School Alumni Surveys



PARENTS: How well did TCS prepare your child for the socio-emotional adjustments of High School?



Tracking our alumni through surveys and staying in touch is important to us, and helps us make adjustments to our programs. We receive both quantitative survey data, as well as more informal feedback from our alumni like some of the quotes below:

"I was particularly prepared with skills including critical thinking, problem-solving, creativity, group work, self-motivation, and general understanding across academic subjects."

TCS Alumni

"TCS taught me how to be a leader and to always ask questions when something didn't make sense. I was allowed to be myself and was encouraged to challenge myself and take some responsibility for my own education."

TCS Alumni

"School has been in session a week and a half and all of his teachers are already saying that he is doing really well and is ahead of the game. The biology teacher said he has a very strong grasp of science in a holistic way, not just memorized facts. She said she realized she's going to have to step up her game with him."

TCS Alumni Parent

"My child was challenged and inspired almost nonstop from Kindergarten through 8th grade. She had good relationships with her teachers and friends, she was encouraged to speak up for herself and others, and she learned to experiment, take risks, and try new things. What more could anyone ask from a school?"

TCS Alumni Parent

"The focus on writing and creative problem-solving was a huge help to me. I feel that I am frequently better prepared to solve difficult problems than my peers, and am able to offer a lot of help. Also, I think that TCS kids tend to be much better at helping other students in a

"We often discuss how the foundation TCS provided was key to the well-rounded success of our High School Junior. She's always stayed true to herself and has made thoughtful decisions along the way. Her drive to succeed and do what she loves has

subject they might be good at, I always see them as the first ones to offer assistance."

TCS Alumni

remained focused since her TCS days. She is a master researcher and loves learning new things."

TCS Alumni Parent

Another reassuring factor is that our grads succeed in a wide variety of schools both large and small, public and private - from larger public high schools to alternative schools to rigorous college preparatory schools.

High Schools Attended by TCS Alumni

Beacon Academy	The Latin School	St. Ignatius High School
Chicago High School for the Arts	Lyons Township High School	St. Joseph's High School
Fenwick High School	Madison Memorial High School	Tallgrass Sudbury School
Fusion Academy	Morton West High School	Trinity High School
GCE Lab School	Nazareth Academy	The Wolcott School
Illinois Math and Science Academy	Oak Park River Forest High School	Verde Valley High School

Colleges Attended by TCS Alumni

Brandeis University	Macalester College	University of Iowa
Butler University	Purdue University	University of Puget Sound
Coe College	Reed University	University of Southern California
Columbia University - Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons	Roosevelt University	University of Wisconsin
Drake University	Santa Clara University	Vanderbilt University
Fordham University	University of Dayton	Washington University
Lawrence University	University of Illinois at Chicago	Whitman College
	University of Illinois - College of Engineering	Yale University

Why do our graduates do so well? Many aspects of progressive education are especially suited for adolescents, keeping them engaged and excited about learning. Hear TCS founder Daniel P. Ryan, EdD discuss these aspects in the

short videos below:

**"Why Progressive Education?"
Adolescents and Progressive Ed**



**"Why Progressive Education?"
Preparation for High School**



We have several ways you can explore more about the advantages our TCS middle school offers, as well as more first-hand alumni stories and survey statistics, including:

Attend Our Middle Level Open House

WHEN: Wednesday, January 12th, 7:00 pm

WHERE: Onsite at The Children's School

Come to a socially distanced tour of our middle level program and meet our middle school faculty and other members of our school community.

Learn why The Children's School and its progressive education program for middle schoolers offer unique advantages in high school preparation, and in creating confident lifelong learners.

Read Alumni Profiles Online



[Click to read about Iris, Class of 2005 \(5th Grade Grad\)](#)



[Click to read about Sydney, Class of 2011 and Isabelle, Class of 2013](#)

View an 8th Grader's Capstone Project on Alumni Success

Eighth graders at TCS each complete a major individual capstone project on a topic of their own choosing. Our 2019 graduate, Micah Nasralla, conducted research into how well TCS alumni succeed in high school. Here is a link to the project which not only surveys TCS grads in high school but also high school teachers on their evaluation of students from TCS.

[**Read or Download the "TCS to High School" Capstone Project!**](#)

Meet Our Alumni on Video!

Sometimes, the best insight on the value of a TCS education comes directly from our graduates. Below are two videos featuring words from Alumni on what they're doing now and how TCS helped them adjust to high school and college. The first video was prepared by alumni parents Dan Andries and Anne Northrup, and the second is a recording of our recent online alumni panel.



Still Time to #Support TCS and the Class of 2030 During Our Year-End Appeal

Our 2021 Year-End Appeal ends on January 15th. That means there is still time to support our programs with your generous contribution of any amount.



During this season of giving, give the gift of project-based learning, critical thinking skills, the joy of play, wonder, and curiosity, and the fun of looking forward to school each morning. We can't wait to watch our class of 2030 (above) and all our students year by year as they grow into lifelong learners!

[Donate Online to our 2021 Year-End Appeal Now!](#)

[Learn More About Giving To TCS on our Website](#)

or, text 'Support TCS' to 243725

