

Judy Chamberlain  
Head of School

P.O. Box 1657  
St. John, USVI 00831  
(340) 776-1731 ph  
(340) 776-1739 fax



Meghan Duffy  
School Counselor  
meghanduffy@giffthillschool.org

CEEB: 550078  
www.giffthillschool.org

## School and community information

Giff Hill School is located on the island of St. John in the United States Virgin Islands. St. John is approximately 19 square miles with a population of just over 4,000 residents. Founded as Pine Peace School in 1978, the school has grown and evolved into a fully-accredited, coeducational day school serving PreSchool-12<sup>th</sup> grade. We are the island's only high school and only Preschool-12<sup>th</sup> grade program. Our Preschool-12<sup>th</sup> grade enrollment is 155 students, with 38 students in the high school and 11 seniors in the Class of 2012. Approximately 75% of our students receive tuition assistance. Our students engage in a challenging college-preparatory curriculum while benefitting from an economically and racially diverse population, beautiful scenery, and eco-friendly community that is our island home.

## Profile of our faculty

19 teaching/administrative staff in grades 9-12  
2/3 of faculty hold a Masters degree or beyond with a combined 260 years of experience.

## Accreditation/Affiliations

Giff Hill School is accredited by The Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. We are also affiliated with the following organizations: National Association of Independent Schools, Caribbean Association of Independent Schools, National Association of College Admissions Counselors, Interscholastic Athletic Association, and National Honor Society.

## Graduation requirements

1 full credit is granted for a full year course, .5 credits is granted for a semester course. A total of 24 credits is required to graduate from Giff Hill School, including 4 credits in English, 4 credits in Social Studies, 4 credits in math, 4 credits in Science, 2 credits of Foreign Language, and 72 hours of community service. Students can earn a "Diploma with Honors" by meeting additional requirements.

## Grading system

Grade	Numerical Grade Range	GPA equivalent
A+	96.50-100	4.0
A	92.50-96.49	4.0
A-	89.50-92.49	3.7
B+	86.50-89.49	3.3
B	82.50-86.49	3.0
B-	79.50-81.49	2.7
C+	76.50-79.49	2.3
C	72.50-76.49	2.0
C-	69.50-72.49	1.7
D	64.50-69.49	1.0
F	Below 64.50	0.0

\*Note: Giff Hill School does not rank our students.

\*Grades in Honors/AP courses are given an additional weight of 1.0.



## Special Programs

**Mini-mesters** – Two week-long programs during which students engage in and experience something of interest to them outside of the classroom.

**Travel abroad** – GHS students fundraise to travel to places such as China, the Grand Canyon, Costa Rica, and Europe to enrich their cultural experiences.

**GHS Gives Back Day** – A day where every GHS student in grades PreSchool-12<sup>th</sup> grade spends the day volunteering in our community.

**EARTH program** – In partnership with Iowa State University – **E**ducation **A**nd **R**esiliency **T**hrough **H**orticulture - students grow, maintain, harvest, and cook dozens of varieties of fruits and vegetables as well as plan and implement projects to beautify our campus.

## Extracurricular Opportunities

Giffit Hill School offers the following sports and activities: Science Bowl, Math Counts, Student Council, Cross country (elementary, JV, varsity), Flag Football (elementary, JV), Tackle football (Varsity-Arawaks), Cheerleading, Volleyball ( JV and Varsity) , Boys basketball (Varsity), Girls basketball (Varsity), and Soccer ( JV).

**Course offerings:** Below is a listing of our academic and elective offerings at Giffit Hill School.

### English

Multicultural Lit  
World Lit  
American Lit  
Philosophical Lit

### History

Caribbean & VI History  
World History  
US History  
Govt/Economics  
Philosophy

### Math

Geometry  
Algebra II  
PreCalculus  
Calculus  
Business Math

### Science

Physical Science  
Biology  
Chemistry  
Marine Bio/Oceanography  
Paleontology

### World Language

Spanish I, II, III

### Physical Education

All four years  
Health

### Electives

Music, Journalism, Photography, Film, Art,  
Fitness, Computer, Video Production

**College Admissions:** Below is a sample of colleges to which our recent graduates have been accepted.

Colorado State Univ.	Lewis & Clarke	Stanford
Davidson	Maryville	Sweet Briar
Emerson	New York University	Tufts
Flagler	Northeastern	UC Santa Barbara
Florida Institute of Tech	Ogelthorpe	University of Idaho
Georgetown	Randolph Macon	University of New Orleans
Hampton	Rider	University of Rhode Island
Lawrence	Savannah Coll of Art & Design	University of the Virgin Islands
	Simmons	