



ALCOTT HIGH SCHOOL *for the* HUMANITIES

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Form 2:
Vision and Mission

AHSH VISION AND MISSION

VISION

AHSH envisions creating an environment of safety - both physical and academic, that enables the judgment-free exchange of ideas and opinions and establishes an open forum firmly grounded in knowledge while looking toward the future. A natural extension of Alcott Elementary's emphasis on habits of mind developed through literature, writing and the arts, AHSH's Humanities-based curriculum will provide the ideal framework to empower each member of the learning community to reach their maximum intellectual and emotional potential.

AHSH's educational plan will be driven by the belief that the demands on 21st Century high school students far exceed those of the past, and that these demands warrant greater individual attention and support to ensure college and post-secondary success. To that end, AHSH's design team is keenly focused on selecting highly qualified teachers who demonstrate both deep understanding of content areas and ability to facilitate best practices. We will apply models of team teaching, integrated curriculum, and differentiation that have formed the foundation for our successful elementary school, as they organically evolve in the high school environment.

Through AHSH's Humanities-based curriculum, students will explore the core disciplines using methods that are largely analytic, critical, or speculative, and become acquainted with the unique perspectives of each, developing four key capacities: understanding the purpose of disciplinary expertise; understanding an essential knowledge base; understanding inquiry methods; understanding forms of communication.

MISSION

The mission of the Alcott High School for the Humanities (AHSH) is to meet the demand for expanded options for 9th through 12th grade students by providing a dynamic small school focused on closely monitored progress and a rigorous curriculum based in the Humanities practices of disciplinary expertise, strong knowledge, inquiry and communication. Emphasizing solid mentoring towards college and postsecondary success, AHSH will nurture a student body capable of critical thinking, active citizenship and private contemplation.