



BROWNELL TALBOT COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

2024-2025 Upper School Profile

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About BT

Brownell Talbot is the only private, independent, coeducational college preparatory day school in the state of Nebraska. Brownell Hall opened on September 17, 1863, as an Episcopal girls' boarding school and transitioned to a coeducational facility in 1952. In 1963, the first freshmen boys were admitted, and the school became Brownell Talbot, taking the names of both bishops responsible for its creation. In 1969, the school ended its formal relationship with the Episcopal Church and became independent.

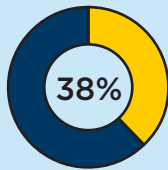
OPENING DAY ENROLLMENT

Lower School (PS-4): **197**

Middle School (5-8): **137**

Upper School (9-12): 152

Total student body: **486**



US students
of color

FACULTY

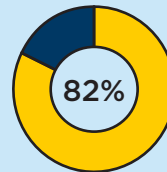
19.5 FTE Upper School faculty members

Upper School student to faculty ratio: **7.8:1**

Average years in education: **20.5**

Upper School average class size: **12.2**

Largest individual class: **23**



US faculty
members hold
advanced degrees

MISSION STATEMENT

*Brownell Talbot College Preparatory School:
Every student. Every mind. Every heart.
Known. Inspired. Challenged.*

400 North Happy Hollow Boulevard, Omaha, Nebraska 68132

Phone: 402.556.3772 • FAX: 402.553.2994 • brownell.edu • School Code #281695



Innovative Programs

College Counseling

All students have dedicated time with college counselors starting in seventh grade, and students are enrolled in a standalone (ungraded) college counseling seminar class each year during Upper School. Each small group class meets 10-25 times per year, with topics ranging from personality profiles and college research to résumé writing and compiling a college list.

RULER

RULER is a systemic approach to social emotional learning, developed at the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence. RULER aims to infuse the principles of emotional intelligence into all aspects of school, informing how leaders lead, teachers teach, students learn, and families support students. As a preschool through grade 12 school, RULER allows all Brownell Talbot students and staff to have a shared language around Recognizing, Understanding, Labeling, Expressing and Regulating emotions.

The House System

The House System is Brownell Talbot's advisory program. Students are inducted into their House when they enter Upper School and remain there through graduation. Houses meet twice a week and are led by a House Dean (faculty member) and House Leader (Upper Class student).

Common Ground Collaborative

Brownell Talbot recently became a member school within CGC, an international collaborative where all institutional members are like-minded in their goal to identify the pedagogical practices that support the school's common principles of learning at all levels - in BT's case, preschool through senior year. Underpinning all of this work are the attributes of a

global education that will be interwoven into BT's existing standards and curriculum that ensure our students are prepared for life beyond BT.

As we continue our work with CGC, we are addressing our school's specific strategic plan initiatives of:

- **Global Mindset**

Develop a globally-focused curriculum and staff that prepare students with knowledge and skills, including a global mindset, language, and culture, in order to successfully engage with the global community.

- **Learning Environments**

Define and become the standard for excellence in learning environments, facilities, equipment, campus safety, and technologies within global education.

- **Environmental Sustainability**

Create an environmentally conscious culture that focuses on sustainability and equability, by having a deep understanding of the impact human beings have on the natural world.

Malone Schools Online Network

Malone Schools Online Network is a consortium of college preparatory independent schools, each selected by the Malone Family Foundation to receive scholarship endowment funding in recognition of success in educating gifted and talented students. MSON provides students, generally juniors and seniors, with a variety of superior virtual, real-time classes that enhance the existing curriculum of each member school. Teachers for MSON have experience in independent school education and are experts in their fields. They share a commitment to excellence, small class sizes, and personal relationships. Participating students must demonstrate sufficient independence, commitment, and ability to succeed in a virtual discussion seminar setting.

Admission and Financial Aid

Brownell Talbot seeks to enroll students in preschool through grade 12 who show promise and proven ability and who are enthusiastic and eager to learn. Admission is competitive, and applicants for grades 1-12 are reviewed on the basis of their academic record (grades, test scores, and teacher recommendations), character, and extracurricular interests and talents.

For the 2024-2025 school year, more than \$520,000 in need-based assistance was awarded, which includes \$315,000 in scholarships. Approximately 20% of the school population (1 in 5 students) receives some form of financial assistance with roughly one-third of Upper School

students receiving scholarships and financial aid totaling \$230,000.

The Malone Scholars Program

The Malone Scholars Program seeks gifted and academically motivated students in grades 7 through 12 who require a minimum of 30 percent financial assistance. Malone Scholars can receive up to 100 percent of tuition and fees. Malone merit-based scholarships are available for qualified, high-ability students who test in the top five percent on Brownell Talbot's entrance exams and meet other requirements—students who are committed to achieving their full potential in high school and beyond.

Accreditation and Memberships

Accreditation: Independent Schools Association of the Central States, AdvancED, and the Nebraska Department of Education. Memberships: National Association of Independent Schools, Educational Records Bureau, Council for the Advancement and Support of Education, National Association for College Admission Counseling, Great Plains Association of College Admission Counseling, American School Counselors Association, Association of College Counselors in Independent Schools, and the School and Student Service for Financial Aid.

Portrait of a BT Graduate



I seek meaning and purpose in my existence.

I am motivated to explore my interests, passions, and moral purpose. I seek out opportunities to serve others, the community, and the world. Because I know myself and I am curious about my world, I am prepared to identify an impact only I can make, and I will make it. I strive for balance in my life, knowing it will benefit my personal well-being and the ways in which I am able to contribute to the world.

I have a strong sense of identity and understand the importance of my role in the world.

Who I am, my story, is unique. I am shaped by where I come from and the path I have chosen. I have value and so do my ideas. I have a voice and I am motivated to share what I know with others. I am proud of who I am.

I am an individual, but I am not alone. Just as I have value, I recognize that all humans have value and I am curious about others. I know that I don't have all the answers, and I know the convergence of thoughts and experiences generates the best ideas. I believe the diversity of human experience is its strength.

I am an effective communicator.

In every interaction, I am aware that the process of communication engages the ears and eyes first, seeking to fully understand the words and movements of others. Experiences with those different from me only enhance my ability to communicate and tell my story. Understanding that conflict and disagreement are inevitable, I have the skills to facilitate fair, peaceful, and successful resolutions. I am thoughtful, compassionate, empathetic, and effective in my communication.

I share a duty of stewardship for the world I inhabit.

I am a global citizen. I know my daily actions can and do make an impact and my influence begins with my family, school, and local community. I lead by example in caring for the natural world and for humanity. I am an advocate for myself and for others, speaking up for my own rights and the rights of others.

I am a creator, imagining new futures.

I am proud of what I know and willfully acknowledge there is much I don't know. I am continually learning and perceiving the world in new ways, finding hidden patterns to make connections between seemingly unrelated subjects. I make decisions, solve problems, and take appropriate risks when information is incomplete or not yet known. I am not afraid to fail and view it as an opportunity to learn; understanding that creativity and innovation is a cyclical process of small successes and frequent mistakes. It allows me to reflect and find new ways to approach old problems. I believe in my ability to grow and learn.

I investigate complex problems using a wide range of evidence to generate solutions.

I research, identify and analyze patterns of relevant information in order to make sound judgements and decisions based on effective reasoning. I can apply system-thinking processes and logic to ideas in order to improve and maximize creative efforts. I demonstrate inventiveness in work and understand real-world limitations that exist, but persist to develop relevant and concrete solutions.

Student Accomplishments

2023-2024 School Year

The Upper School Yakking Raiders speech team is perennially one of the state's best teams, having placed first (nine times) or second (four times) at nearly every state tournament over the past 15 years. The team has also earned numerous district and conference championships.



Four Upper School robotics teams competed in regional and state tournaments. At the regional level, these four teams earned four championship titles, two tournament finalists, including a State Runners Up. They earned a Judges Award, three Robot Skills Champions, a Design Award and two Excellence Awards. At the International level two teams qualified for the US Open and the Vex World Championships. At the CREATE US Open, one team was Tournament Finalists and won the Amaze Award. This team also won the Amaze Award at the VEX World Championships.

AP

7 students earned the AP Scholar with Distinction Award, 6 earned the AP Scholar with Honor Award, and 11 earned the AP Scholar Award.

The Competition Math Team has competed in the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Math Day each year, earning first place 15 times since 2007.

Since 2013, 31 BT graduates have gone on to participate in intercollegiate athletics.

16

Upper School students earned academic All-State honors representing their activities.

BT cheerleading has 21 members, including four who were named All-American. In addition to cheering at school athletic events, the team competes at local and state-level cheer competitions in the Traditional and Game Day categories. They have won numerous state champion and runner-up honors.

In the 2023-2024 school year, BT teams were champions of the volleyball regular season, girls basketball tournament, and speech. BT placed 2nd in the volleyball tournament and boys basketball tournament. Brownell Talbot's speech team placed runner up at Districts. The BT cheer team earned runner up at the State Championship in gameday and traditional. The BT varsity swim team had two state champions this year - one in girls diving and one in the 100-yard breaststroke.



Brownell Talbot has a thriving theatre community. We offer three main stage productions, with one performed by the Repertory Theatre class. The fall musical has been awarded Best Student Lighting Design by

Nebraska High School Theatre Association for the last two years. BT's one-act play, *I Never Saw Another Butterfly*, was chosen by Nebraska Thespians as their Chapter Select to perform at the 2023 International Thespian Festival; it garnered multiple individual acting awards at district and conference competitions. Students also performed in the opening ceremony, a number for the rebooted *Footloose*, at the 2023 International Thespians Festival. The Repertory Theatre class also performed the student directed production, *Just Another High School Play*, in a found space this past year. In addition, student actors premiered readings of screenplays during the Omaha Film Festival Writer's Theatre. BT's Thespian Troupe #8093 is a Nebraska Thespians Gold Honor Troupe; student representatives presented at the state capitol building for Theatre in Our Schools Advocacy Day meeting with legislators and the governor. BT students serve on the state board for the Nebraska Thespians with one serving as a Nebraska Student Thespian Officer. BT Theatre students received Superiors at the state and national levels from The Educational Theatre Association. Most recently theatre students were invited to perform at The Fringe Festival 2024 in Edinburgh. Students wrote and performed an original musical, *The Sleeping Beau*, at The Fringe and received standing ovations, and The Royal Crown Award for their performances and technical achievements. Brownell Talbot technical theatre students have the opportunity to take a technical theatre exit exam through The Education Theatre Association and the United State Institute for Theatre Technology that provides a certificate of learning competencies for colleges and professional opportunities.



The Upper School orchestra, choir, contemporary a cappella ensemble, and both of BT's

jazz combos all earned Level I (Superior) ratings at the 2024 District Music Contest, consistent with recent years. BT won multiple Vocalist awards and Best Beatboxer Award at the 2024 Gretna East A Cappella Excellence Competition. BT's two jazz combos earned Superior ratings at the Great Plains Jazz Festival at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

Last year the Academic Decathlon team won Regionals and the State Championship in the Very Small School division. The team finished 2nd overall amongst the Small School division and 4th overall in the entire state.

79%

of tenth through twelfth grade Upper School students took an Advanced Placement exam.

Graduate Successes

Classes of 2022-2024

- 100% of the seniors submitting college applications were accepted into four-year colleges and universities.
- Over \$17 million in scholarships were offered.
- 88% of graduates received one or more scholarship offers.

Class of 2025

3.59
Average
Cumulative
GPA

Grade Point Average
(6 semesters)

24 Class Members

Advanced Placement

100% of the Class of 2025 will graduate having completed at least one AP course.

National Merit Recognition

2 Semifinalists • 1 Commended

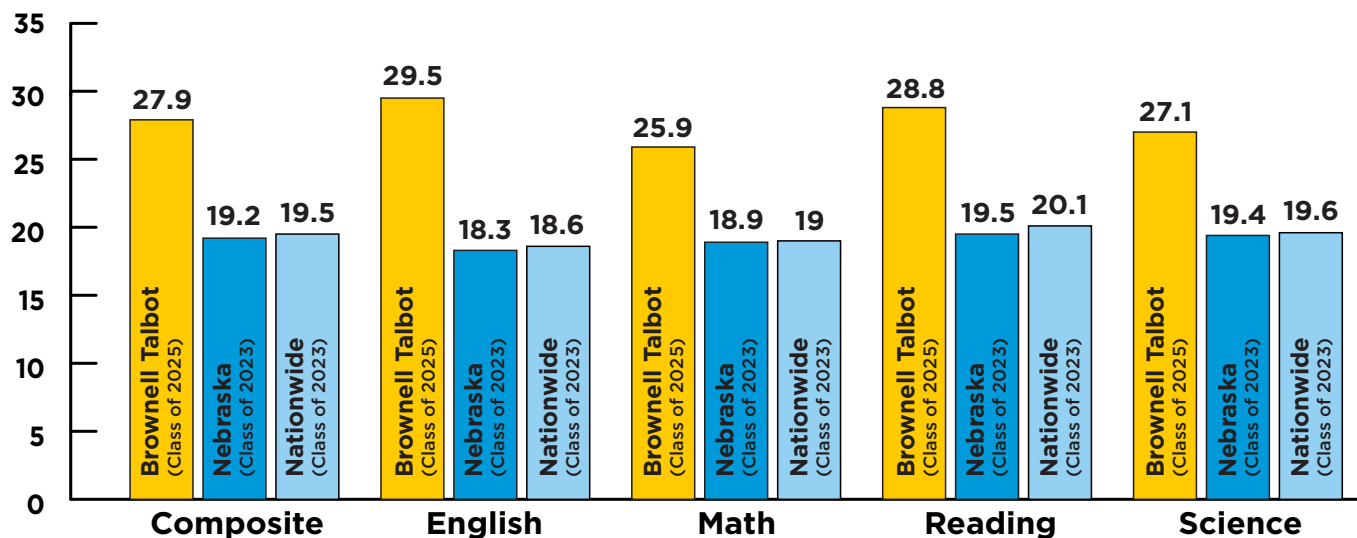
ACT Scores

63% of the Class of 2025 took the ACT.

SAT Scores

38% of the Class of 2025 took the SAT.

Standardized test statistics include scores through 8/2024 test dates. The testing culture at BT post-COVID is that students generally sit for one national exam; of the students represented in the data, 33% sat for more than one exam.



Transcript and Course Information

Grade Point Average

Each student has an individualized semester GPA and a cumulative GPA calculated from the beginning of ninth grade. The GPA includes grades from all classes. Transfer courses are not calculated into Brownell Talbot's cumulative GPA. We do not calculate unweighted GPAs.

GPA Scale

AP, MSON and Physics with Calculus courses are weighted an additional .5 GPA.

W=Withdrawal after the course drop/add deadline

A+, A, A-	4.0
B+, B, B-	3.0
C+, C, C-	2.0
D+, D, D-	1.0

Standard Grading Scale (prior to Fall 2024)

A	93-100
B	85-92
C	77-84
D	70-76
F	<70

AP, MSON, and Physics with Calculus Grading Scale

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	<60

Standard, AP, MSON Grading Scale (starting Fall 2024)

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	<60

Class Rank

Brownell Talbot is selective in admission and academic requirements and each class is relatively small; therefore, class rank is not calculated.

Course Schedule and Credits

Brownell Talbot uses a unique block schedule on a five-day rotation; one day of the rotation contains all eight classes at 40 minutes each, while the other days consist of four 85-minute blocks in a rotating schedule to vary the time of day each class meets. Additionally, each day contains a 30-minute flex period. Course credits are primarily determined by the frequency of classes during the five-day rotation. English, history, math, science, and world language courses are typically five credits per semester. One exception is Physics with Calculus, which is awarded six credits per semester, due to class time extending into one flex period per rotation.

Advanced Placement (AP) Policy

Brownell Talbot limits the number of AP and advanced (MSON) courses allowed each academic year and requires completion of the AP exam unless given special permission.

Sophomore Year: Up to 1 AP or MSON course

Junior Year: Up to 3 AP or MSON courses

Senior Year: Up to 3 AP or MSON courses

AP Courses Offered (21)

2-D Art & Design	English Language	Physics 2
3-D Art & Design	English Literature	Physics C: Mechanics
Biology	European History	Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism
Calculus AB	French	Spanish
Calculus BC	Environmental Science	Statistics
Drawing	Latin (denoted on transcript as Latin V)	US History
Chemistry	Physics 1	
Music Theory		

Unless special permission is granted, students can take a maximum of seven AP courses in their time at BT.

AP Scores do not appear on the transcript in accordance with School policy.

Graduation Requirements

BT has the highest graduation requirements in the State of Nebraska. Upper School courses are taught at an advanced level, comparable to honors level. However, this is not indicated on the transcript. Students must complete a minimum of 250 credit hours:

- 40 credits of history (eight semesters)
- 40 credits of English (eight semesters)
- 40 credits of mathematics (eight semesters)
- 30 credits of science (six semesters)
- 20 credits of the same world language (four semesters)
- Healthy Living plus three additional semesters of PE
- A minimum of one semester of arts each year (four semesters)

HISTORY

Minimum Requirements

40 credits, eight semesters

Required Courses

World History: Ancient to Renaissance

World History: Reformation to Modern or AP European History

U.S. History or AP U.S. History

U.S. Government

Economics

Additional Courses

World Religions

Humanities: Summer Session Abroad

Social Studies Seminars: The Korean War (fall 2022), Technology and the Rise of Authoritarianism (spring 2023)

ENGLISH

Minimum Requirements

40 credits, eight semesters

Required Courses

English 9: Foundations (Critical Reading and Writing)

English 10: Connections (Literature, World, and Self)

English 11: Explorations I (Personal Essay and Memoir) or English 11: Explorations II (Creative Writing)

English 12: Capstone

Additional Courses

AP Language and Composition

AP Literature and Composition

MATH

Minimum Requirements

40 credits, eight semesters

Required Courses

Algebra I, II

Geometry

Additional Courses

Advanced Algebra with Trigonometry

Pre Calculus

AP Calculus AB

AP Calculus BC

Statistics

AP Statistics

MSON Multivariable Calculus

SCIENCE

Minimum Requirements

30 credits, six semesters

Required Courses

Biology

Chemistry

Physics

Additional Courses

Introduction to Forensic Science

Plant Science

AP Biology

AP Chemistry

AP Environmental Science

AP Physics

WORLD LANGUAGE

Minimum Requirements

20 credits of the same language, four semesters

Required Courses

French I, II

Latin I, II

Spanish I, II

Additional Courses

French III, IV, AP

Latin III, IV, V

Spanish III, IV, AP

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Minimum Requirements

Healthy Living plus three additional semesters of PE

Required Courses

Healthy Living

Additional Courses

Team Sports/Officiating

American Red Cross Lifeguard Training Class

Strength and Conditioning

Yoga

Athletic Competition

Fitness for Life

Swimming

Dance for the Stage

FINE ART

Minimum Requirements

A minimum of one semester of arts each year, four semesters

Additional Courses

Chamber Music

Technology in Music

Music Theory

AP Music Theory

Band

Choir

Strings

Forensics I, II

Repertory Theatre

Acting

Dance for the Stage

Technical Theatre

Directing

Painting

Sculpture

Pottery

Photography

Portfolio

AP Portfolio (AP 2-D Art & Design, AP 3-D Art & Design or AP Drawing)

Applied Design

Beginning Journalism

Journalism

Yearbook I, II

Digital Media

Acceptances and Matriculation

Classes of 2022-2024

Schools where Brownell Talbot graduates have been accepted.

Names in bold indicate at least one matriculated student

Agnes Scott College	Fordham University	Reed College	University of California (Santa Cruz)
American University	Georgetown University	Regis University	University of Cambridge
Amherst College	Georgia Institute of Technology	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of Chicago
Anoka-Ramsey Community College	Gonzaga University	Rhode Island School of Design	University of Colorado Boulder
Arizona State University	Grinnell College	Rhodes College	University of Connecticut
Art Center College of Design	Hamilton College	Rice University	University of Denver
Auburn University	Hampton University	Rochester Institute of Technology	University of Exeter
Augsburg University	Harvard University	Rockhurst University	University of Florida
Barnard College	Harvey Mudd College	Rollins College	University of Georgia
Bates College	Haverford College	Rutgers University (New Brunswick)	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Baylor University	High Point University	Saint Louis University	University of Iowa
Bentley University	Hillsdale College	Saint Mary's College of California	University of Kansas
Boston College	Iowa State University	San Diego State University	University of La Verne
Boston University	Johns Hopkins University	San Francisco State University	University of Maryland (College Park)
Bowdoin College	Kansas City Art Institute	San Jose State University	University of Miami
Brandeis University	Kansas State University	Santa Clara University	University of Michigan
Brown University	Lawrence University	Santa Monica College	University of Minnesota (Twin Cities)
Bryn Mawr College	Lehigh University	Savannah College of Art and Design	University of Missouri (Columbia)
Bucknell University	Louisiana State University	School of the Art Institute of Chicago	University of Missouri (Kansas City)
Buena Vista University	Loyola Marymount University	School of Visual Arts	University of Nebraska (Lincoln)
California College of the Arts	Loyola University Chicago	Scripps College	University of Nebraska at Kearney
California Institute of Technology	Macalester College	Seton Hall University	University of Nebraska at Omaha
California Polytechnic State University (San Luis Obispo)	Marquette University	Simpson College	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
California State University (East Bay)	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Skidmore College	University of Northern Iowa
California State University (Long Beach)	Metropolitan Community College	Smith College	University of Notre Dame
Carleton College	Michigan State University	Southern Methodist University	University of Oklahoma
Carnegie Mellon University	Middlebury College	St. Edward's University	University of Oregon
Case Western Reserve University	Midland University	St. Olaf College	University of Pennsylvania
Chapman University	Milwaukee School of Engineering	Stanford University	University of Pittsburgh
Claremont McKenna College	Minneapolis College of Art and Design	SUNY at Albany	University of Puget Sound
Clark University	Missouri State University	Swarthmore College	University of Rochester
Clemson University	Morehouse College	Syracuse University	University of San Diego
Coe College	Mount Holyoke College	Temple University	University of San Francisco
Colby College	Nebraska Wesleyan University	Texas A&M University	University of Sioux Falls
Colgate University	New York University	Texas Christian University	University of South Carolina
Colorado College	North Carolina State University	The Ohio State University	University of South Dakota
Colorado School of Mines	Northeastern University	The University of Alabama	University of South Florida
Colorado State University (Fort Collins)	Northwest Missouri State University	The University of Manchester	University of Southern California
Columbia University	Northwestern University	The University of Tennessee (Knoxville)	University of Sussex
Community College of Denver	Occidental College	The University of Texas at Austin	University of Tulsa
Connecticut College	Oglethorpe University	Transylvania University	University of Vermont
Cornell University	Oregon State University	Tufts University	University of Virginia
Creighton University	Otis College of Art and Design	Tulane University of Louisiana	University of Washington
Dartmouth College	Oxford College of Emory University	Union College	University of Wisconsin (Madison)
Davidson College	Pace University (New York City)	United States Air Force Academy	Vanderbilt University
Doane University	Pacific University	United States Coast Guard Academy	Vassar College
Drake University	Parsons School of Design at The New School	United States Naval Academy	Villanova University
Drexel University	Penn State University (University Park)	University of Amsterdam	Virginia Tech
Duke University	Pepperdine University	University of Arizona	Washington University in St. Louis
Elon University	Peru State College	University of Birmingham	Wayne State College
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (Daytona Beach)	Pitzer College	University of California (Berkeley)	Wesleyan University
Emory University	Pomona College	University of California (Davis)	William & Mary
Escuela Superior de Administración y Dirección de Empresas (ESADE)	Portland State University	University of California (Irvine)	Williams College
Fashion Institute of Technology	Pratt Institute	University of California (Los Angeles)	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Florida State University	Princeton University	University of California (Riverside)	Xavier University
	Purdue University	University of California (San Diego)	Yale University
		University of California (Santa Barbara)	Yeshiva University