



The Alternative School For Math & Science



Annual Report
2025-2026



Mission Statement

The Alternative School For Math and Science, a diverse community of students, teachers, and parents, provides an academically challenging and supportive learning environment uniquely designed for 10 to 14 year olds. The School’s innovative curriculum, atmosphere of trust and respect, and commitment to life-long learning enable the positive development of the whole child. Every aspect of school life is intended to help students acknowledge the ideas, values, and beliefs of others, build integrity and character, and become responsible members of the broader community.

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Letter from the Leadership Team

Every school year tells a story and the 2025/26 narrative was filled with learning, laughter, giving back, and personal growth. Throughout the school year, our students were challenged not only to build knowledge and skills, but also to develop the character, confidence, and habits of mind that will help them thrive in the world they live in today and in the future.

This year, we expanded opportunities for students to thoughtfully engage with emerging technologies and digital tools while strengthening the critical thinking skills needed to use them with purpose and integrity. Students learned to evaluate information, ask better questions, recognize bias, and think independently all while learning how to balance technology with essential skills such as collaboration and creativity.

Outside the classroom, students had the opportunity to grow through experiences. Class trips provided opportunities for exploration and discovery, from sixth graders building community at Watson Homestead to seventh graders experiencing Buffalo’s rich cultural and historical landmarks, and eighth graders deepening their understanding of our nation’s history in Washington, D.C. These experiences encouraged students to connect classroom learning with the wider world while strengthening friendships and independence.

Our students also demonstrated a deep commitment to service and leadership. Through various fun and engaging activities that were organized and led by the eighth-graders, students raised funds to support two students in Haiti. Along with community service every month, these efforts reflect the empathy, initiative, and sense of responsibility that are hallmarks of an ASMS education.

The impact of these experiences extends well beyond middle school. One of the greatest affirmations is hearing that our graduates are thriving in their pursuits and, furthermore, have maintained the friendships and bonds that were formed while they were students at ASMS. Hearing about ASMS alumni staying connected around the world and traveling to be in each other’s weddings brings us such joy.

Whether you give your time by volunteering at the school or invest financially in our mission, your support enables us to provide an excellent middle-school education.



Your generosity is reflected in every opportunity our students experience and in the young people they become.

In closing, we invite you to hear directly from our students by scanning the QR code below to watch a short video featuring students sharing what ASMS means to them. Their voices capture the heart of ASMS better than we ever could.

Kim Nightingale
Academic Head of School

Jessica Ortiz
Administrative Head of School

Student Voices
ASMS 2026



Board of Directors

Doug Anderson
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Monica Phillips Nix
Brittany Salgado
Michelle Schaut

Amy Schwartz
Thomas Squires*
Marianne Young*
Shirley Zhu

*Not pictured



Annual Fund Development Campaign

Includes matching gifts and corporate support
Does not include donated services/goods or depreciation

Cumulative Cash Contributions
Since Founding

\$13,724,634

2003/04 \$293,262 — 2025/26 \$873,747

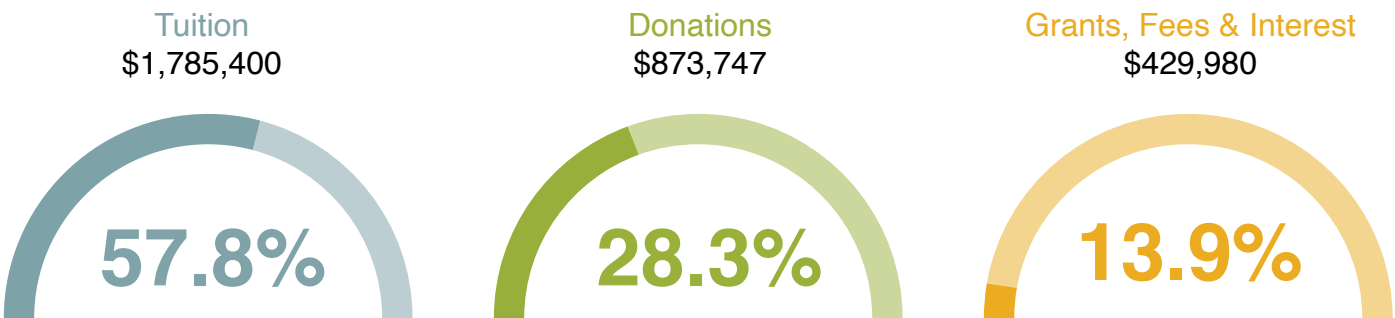
Cumulative Scholarship Awards
Since Founding

\$5,131,862

2003/04 \$7,296 — 2025/26 \$324,090

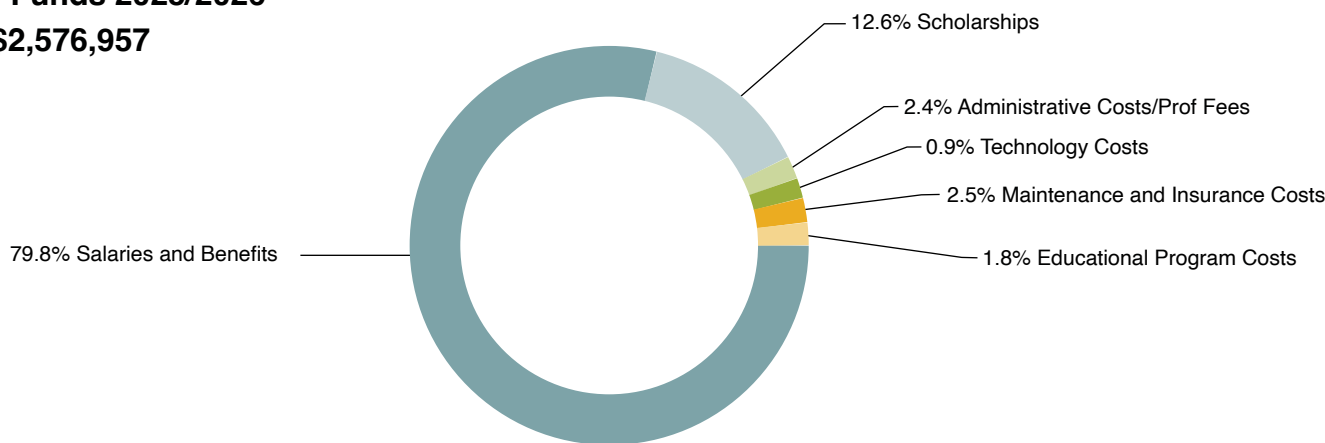
Source of Funds 2025/2026

Total: \$3,089,127



Use of Funds 2025/2026

Total: \$2,576,957



Students provided **6,936 hours** of volunteer service to community organizations and neighbors during the school year. Approximately 135,177 hours have been donated since ASMS opened in 2004.

132 students in grades 6-8, with 3 sections of students at each grade level



51% of students have a parent who works for Corning Incorporated

Student body is **50% female** and **50% male**

26 full and part-time faculty and staff members support the ASMS program



ASMS serves students from 9 local school districts, with **68%** from the Corning-Painted Post School District

Other Districts:
Athens, Elmira, Elmira Heights, Horseheads, Ithaca, Odessa-Montour, Tioga Central, Watkins Glen

30% of students receive need based scholarships totaling \$324,090

Student Awards & National Competitions

NEW YORK STATE SCHOOL MUSIC ASSOCIATION (NYSSMA) AREA ALL-STATE CHORUS AND BAND

Coraline Ashton
Nick Basu
Savannah Elliott
Jessica Fu
Hazel Fuchs
Michael Jin
Lia Kunigonis
Allison Lee
Chinny Okoro
Asher Orr
Luke Robinson
Henry Schaut
Annabelle Sun
Adelaine Swanson
Lyla Terry
Levon Willette
Lucy Wing
Maura Wing
Johanna Yu
Adam Zhou

ALL-COUNTY CHORUS AND BAND

Charlotte Anderson
Zakhariy Chornyy
Piper Daugherty
Zuriel Egboiyi
Savannah Elliott
Jackson Fang
Jessica Fu
Jonathan Fu
Hazel Fuchs
Allyson Galinski
Oliver Garner
Cora Gross

Michael Jin
Lia Kunigonis
Allison Lee
Zoe Merchant
Isabella Nardone
Chinny Okoro
Asher Orr
Colin Orr
Veda Patel
Gideon Rizkallah
Luke Robinson
Michael Robinson
Adrian Salgado
Henry Schaut
Angela Shang
Jessica Stanke
Annabelle Sun
Dagen Taggart
Lyla Terry
Quinley Terry
Alex Warkins
Levon Willette
Lucy Wing
Maura Wing
Johanna Yu
Zachary Zakharian

AMERICAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION 8 and 10

Etse Aitsebaomo⁸
Nick Basu⁸
Piper Brown^{8,10}
Luke Chung^{8,10}
Ian Cowley^{8,10}
Bix DeLamielleure¹⁰
Savannah Elliott⁸
Ada Ercel⁸

Jackson Fang⁸
Jessica Fu^{8,10}
Jonathan Fu⁸
Hazel Fuchs⁸
Daniel Han^{8,10}
Sebastian Hartley⁸
Avyaan Jain⁸
Michael Jin^{8,10}
Amulya Kodali⁸
Lia Kunigonis⁸
Allison Lee^{8,10}
Brayden Liu⁸
Hannah Lu^{8,10}
Beth Magaziner^{8,10}
Manuel Mendoza^{8,10}
Sophia Mendoza^{8,10}
Harris Nasir⁸
Chinny Okoro⁸
Asher Orr^{8,10}
Abhi Patel⁸
Veda Patel⁸
Muhammad Qaroush⁸
Gideon Rizkallah⁸
Walid Sadik⁸
Adrian Salgado^{8,10}
Angela Shang⁸
Genevieve Stoker⁸
Annabelle Sun^{8,10}
Lucy Wing⁸
Maura Wing⁸
Johanna Yu^{8,10}
Leo Yuan⁸
Adam Zhou^{8,10}

FIRST LEGO LEAGUE ROBOTICS

Fledgling Robotics

Core Values Award

Cassandra Deichmann
Jaeighlynn Fontanez
Hannah Lu
Lincoln Maser
Luke Robinson
Aiden Sturdevant
Emerie Tague
Caiden Wilson

Cyber Owls

3rd Place and Advanced to Regionals

Nick Basu
Luke Chung
Ada Ercel
Jessica Fu
Mahmoud Hazime
Abhi Patel
Muhammad Qaroush
Charlie Tedone
Maura Wing
Johanna Yu

RUBE GOLDBERG

Toy Box Tales

Hazel Fuchs
Sebastian Hartley
Harris Nasir
Joseph Rajaratnam
Molly Roye
Ben Seaman

Playground

3rd Place

Clara Harris
Alyvia Miner
Chase Nichols
Sage Pitner
Caroline Triplett
Levon Willette
Asher Winquist

Murder Mystery

Osi Aitsebaomo
Jenna Brink
Ibaad Chowdhry
Dante Kimball
Adelaine Swanson
Adam Zhou

GAME DEVELOPMENT

Coraline Ashton
Roman Aumick
Piper Brown
Ian Cowley
Bix DeLamielleure
Daniel Han
Peter Hunt
Jacob Kaufman
Niels Kjar
Beth Magaziner
Adrian Salgado
Kieran Wasson
Caitlin Wyrick
Hojin Yoon

SCRIPPS NATIONAL SPELLING BEE

Amulya Kodali, 2nd place regional winner

Manuel Mendoza

TOSHIBA/NSTA EXPLORAVISION

Avian: Fly Again

Emmaline Nickerson
Natalie Reimel
Jessica Stanke

Beckie: Brain Computer Interface Glasses

Honorable Mention

Kinley Hart
Chinny Okoro
Annabelle Sun

Previva: Vaccine to Prevent Ischaemic Heart Disease

Etse Aitsebaomo
Allison Lee
Sophia Mendoza
Genevieve Stoker

The Oasis: Organic Atmosphere, Self-sustaining, Integrated Structure

Henry Schaut
Gabriel Wyrick
Leo Yuan

The Nano-Bullet: Targeted Treatment for Small Cell Carcinoma

Honorable Mention

Zakhariy Chornyy
Manuel Mendoza
Asher Orr

AI 911

Kylie Colegrove
Marlo Fuchs

Doctor Drone

Kaeden Merchant
Noah Winquist

Beta Crisp

Seoyeon Choi
Sloan Dundas
Amulya Kodali

BioPrint Life

Charlotte Anderson
Lia Kunigonis
Lucy Wing

Student Participation in ASMS Sponsored Activities

ASMS offered 10 after-school sports activities during 2025/2026 school year.
83% of ASMS students participated in one or more sports.

We are proud of the exceptional levels of student participation in many school sponsored activities. All of the activities listed require a significant investment of time and effort on the part of our students to learn and improve their skills. We celebrate our students’ commitment to personal excellence and to the success of the larger group!

ASMS After-school Sports:

Badminton - Basketball - Volleyball - Wiffle Ball - Ultimate Frisbee - Flag Football - Yoga - Running - Ice Skating - Strength/Conditioning - Handball

Etse Aitsebamo	Jonathan Fu	Sophia Mendoza	Tristan Schwind
Osi Aitsebamo	Hazel Fuchs	Kaeden Merchant	Ben Seaman
Charlotte Anderson	Marlo Fuchs	Zoe Merchant	Angela Shang
Cecilia Anderson	Allyson Galinski	Alex Miner	Dinah Siddiqui
Maryam Ansari	Oliver Garner	Alyvia Miner	Brynn Simons
Coraline Ashton	Cora Gross	Elise Monichetti	Ava Stauffer
Roman Aumick	Daniel Han	Tyler Nale	Genevieve Stoker
Nick Basu	Clara Harris	Elyas Nasir	Aiden Sturdevant
Dyllon Bollinger	Sebastian Hartley	Harris Nasir	Annabelle Sun
Jenna Brink	Mahmoud Hazime	Chase Nichols	Adelaine Swanson
Seoyeon Choi	Hayley Horton	Adanna Nkrumah	Charlie Tedone
Zakhariy Chornyy	Peter Hunt	Chinny Okoro	Lyla Terry
Ibaad Chowdhry	Natalie Hurd	Asher Orr	Quinley Terry
Luke Chung	Michael Jin	Colin Orr	Ellie Towner
John Cleland II	Jacob Kaufman	Abhi Patel	Levon Willette
Kylie Colegrove	Dante Kimball	Veda Patel	Caiden Wilson
Ian Cowley	Niels Kjar	Sage Pitner	Asher Winquist
Charlie Daniels	Amulya Kodali	Aleen Qaroush	Noah Winquist
Piper Daugherty	Lia Kunigonis	Muhammad Qaroush	Caitlin Wyrick
Bix DeLamielleure	Allison Lee	Joseph Rajaratnam	Gabriel Wyrick
Sloan Dundas	Brayden Liu	Natalie Reimel	Hojin Yoon
Ace Dunkleberger	Vincent Long II	Gideon Rizkallah	Johanna Yu
Savannah Elliott	Beth Magaziner	Luke Robinson	Leo Yuan
Ryker Eppinger Ford	Lincoln Maser	Michael Robinson	Zachary Zakharian
Ada Ercel	Kaleb Mawhir	Molly Roye	Adam Zhou
Jackson Fang	Norah McClain-Baker	Walid Sadik	
Andrew Ferratella	Silas McLaughlin	Adrian Salgado	
Jessica Fu	Manuel Mendoza	Henry Schaut	

ASMS After-school Music Groups

Boys Ensemble	Tristan Schwind	Kinley Hart	ASMS Jazz Band	Adrian Salgado
Osi Aitsebaomo	Dagen Taggart	Lia Kunigonis	Charlotte Anderson	Henry Schaut
Roman Aumick	Landon Tong	Allison Lee	Nick Basu	Ben Seaman
Nick Basu	Alex Warkins	Beth Magaziner	Piper Brown	Aiden Sturdevant
Zakhariy Chornyy	Levon Willette	Sophia Mendoza	Ibaad Chowdhry	Annabelle Sun
Ryker Eppinger Ford	Gabriel Wyrick	Zoe Merchant	Luke Chung	Adelaine Swanson
Jackson Fang	Hojin Yoon	Alyvia Miner	Savannah Elliott	Lyla Terry
Jonathan Fu	Adam Zhou	Chinny Okoro	Jackson Fang	Ellie Towner
Oliver Garner	Owl Chorale	Veda Patel	Jessica Fu	Levon Willette
Daniel Han	Etse Aitsebaomo	Natalie Reimel	Hazel Fuchs	Maura Wing
Peter Hunt	Cecilia Anderson	Brynn Simons	Allyson Galinski	Johanna Yu
Michael Jin	Charlotte Anderson	Jessica Stanke	Daniel Han	Leo Yuan
Brayden Liu	Coraline Ashton	Ava Stauffer	Sebastian Hartley	Adam Zhou
Vincent Long II	Piper Brown	Genevieve Stoker	Michael Jin	
Kaeden Merchant	Kylie Colegrove	Annabelle Sun	Amulya Kodali	
Elyas Nasir	Piper Daugherty	Adelaine Swanson	Lia Kunigonis	
Harris Nasir	Bix DeLamielleure	Lyla Terry	Allison Lee	
Asher Orr	Zuriel Egboiyi	Quinley Terry	Beth Magaziner	
Colin Orr	Ada Ercel	Caroline Triplett	Manuel Mendoza	
Abhi Patel	Savannah Elliott	Lucy Wing	Kaeden Merchant	
Joseph Rajaratnam	Jessica Fu	Maura Wing	Harris Nasir	
Gideon Rizkallah	Hazel Fuchs	Maryn Wren	Chinny Okoro	
Luke Robinson	Marlo Fuchs	Caitlin Wyrick	Sage Pitner	
Michael Robinson	Cora Gross	Johanna Yu	Luke Robinson	
Henry Schaut	Clara Harris		Michael Robinson	

ASMS Musical

Willy Wonka™ Jr.	Charlie Daniels	Lia Kunigonis	Annabelle Sun
Etse Aitsebaomo	Piper Daugherty	Allison Lee	Adelaine Swanson
Cecilia Anderson	Zuriel Egboiyi	Norah McClain-Baker	Lyla Terry
Charlotte Anderson	Savannah Elliott	Izzy Nardone	Quinley Terry
Maryam Ansari	Jaeighlynn Fontanez	Chinny Okoro	Landon Tong
Roman Aumick	Jessica Fu	Asher Orr	Ellie Towner
Layla Austin	Hazel Fuchs	Veda Patel	Lucy Wing
Nick Basu	Marlo Fuchs	Natalie Reimel	Maura Wing
Piper Brown	Oliver Garner	Luke Robinson	Maryn Wren
Zakhariy Chornyy	Cora Gross	Molly Roye	Caitlin Wyrick
John Cleland II	Clara Harris	Jessica Stanke	Johanna Yu
Kylie Colegrove	Hayley Horton	Ava Stauffer	

Annual Campaign Supporters

Special Thanks

With sincere thanks and appreciation, we gratefully acknowledge the generosity of the many contributors who provided \$873,747 in funding to support scholarships, capital purchases, and annual operating expenses.

2025-2026 Annual Campaign Supporters

Contributions received between July 1, 2025 and June 30, 2026

Founder (\$25,000 and Above)

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We are especially thankful for the creation of named scholarship funds that enable sustained support for students demonstrating need:

Robert F. Cummings, Jr. Scholarship Fund
Weeks Family Local 1000 Scholarship Fund
Rachel Wood and Joseph Miller Scholarship Fund
Marianne Wilder Young Scholarship Fund

We are also grateful for our community partners who support the development of our students and provide opportunities for growth and enrichment outside the walls of ASMS.

Community Partners

171 Cedar Arts Center
Corning Children’s Center
Corning Community Food Pantry
Corning Museum of Glass
Corning-Painted Post School District
Dayspring Apartments
Food Bank of the Southern Tier
Southeast Steuben County Library
Spencer Crest Nature Center
The Y at Watson Woods



Alumni Spotlight



Sophia Verkleeren

Please provide a brief educational and professional summary.

After ASMS, I graduated from Horseheads High School and then attended Williams College in Massachusetts. At Williams I majored in chemistry but focused additionally on biology, math, and economics courses. I also competed as a varsity swimmer and worked as a synthetic chemistry research assistant. I graduated with my liberal arts degree in 2025 and just wrapped up my first year of working in the pharmaceutical industry.

Where are you located and what are you doing now?

I am working at Vertex Pharmaceuticals in Boston as an associate scientist! I develop analytical methods to quantify impurities in medicines which are progressing through clinical trials. The tests I make are used to inform control strategies throughout drug development. I have been enjoying working in various disease areas, delving into the pharmaceutical sciences, and learning about all of the processes necessary to deliver effective and reliable medicines.

What are your plans in the near future?

Right now I'm focused on growing as much as possible in my current role. Drug development is an amazingly complex field, so I am continuing to learn something new every day. After a couple more years of working in industry, I plan to pursue a graduate degree. My longer term plans are still evolving as I gain experience, but there's many areas I'm excited to explore!

What do you do for fun?

I love to be active outdoors in my free time. I'm training for the Wineglass half marathon this year and I volunteer as a guide for runners with disabilities. I also spend a lot of time biking, playing pick-up soccer (extremely poorly), and exploring Boston with my friends.

Is there anything else you'd like us to know?

Favorite memory from middle school?

I'm so grateful for ASMS! My middle school years were incredibly valuable and formative. I have many fond memories and lasting friendships from my time there. I especially loved Mr Weachock's math class, the school community service days, and of course my biggest accomplishment: winning the 8th grade basketball tournament in 2017.



Kevin Bayne

Please provide a brief educational and professional summary.

After ASMS I went to Notre Dame High School where I graduated in 2019. After graduating from Notre Dame, I went to Virginia Tech where I majored in Wildlife Conservation and minored in Forestry. Upon graduating from Virginia Tech in December 2022 with my Bachelors, I worked various wildlife and forestry jobs: including capturing and collaring bobcats, timber surveying and marking, habitat management/creation, and conducting prescribed burns with the DEC. I am now an Environmental Conservation Officer (ECO) with the NYS Department of Conservation (DEC).

Where are you located and what are you doing now?

I am currently working in Queens as an ECO for the DEC. I will be transferring to Greene County at the end of this year. An ECO is another term for Game Warden: a state police officer for fish, wildlife, and environmental quality issues. My job varies day to day where I can be dealing with pesticides or tidal wetlands violations one day to working with federal agencies the next day.

What are your plans in the near future?

I plan to move to Greene County in the near future and continue my job as an ECO there.

What do you do for fun?

When I'm not working I enjoy cooking, woodworking, hunting, reading and being outside with my yellow lab.

Is there anything else you'd like us to know?

Favorite memory from middle school?

My favorite memory from middle school was the soccer rivalry I had with Ms. Cole, one of the administrators. Her favorite team was Chelsea and mine was Manchester United. Every Monday morning, during the Premier League season, we would recount the scores from the weekend games and whose team was ahead of the other.



Gabrielle Porter

Please provide a brief educational and professional summary.

After ASMS, I attended West High School and participated in the IB Diploma Program. I then earned my bachelor's degree in Economics from Spelman College in Atlanta, GA, graduating Summa Cum Laude. While at Spelman, I studied abroad in Madrid, Spain for a semester at Universidad Carlos III. After college, I spent four years in consumer goods brand management before pursuing my MBA at Harvard Business School.

At HBS, I was involved in the Tech Club, where I helped organize programming and events for students interested in careers in technology; the African American Student Union, where I helped produce panels for the organization's annual conferences; and Consulting for Impact, where I advised nonprofit boards on operations and marketing. I also traveled to more than 20 countries, built a strong professional network, and learned how to be a strong and effective leader, both personally and professionally. After HBS, I transitioned into product management, where I now focus on building digital products and experiences.

Where are you located and what are you doing now?

I live in Chelsea in New York City with my husband, whom I recently married in August 2026 in Paris, France. I work at Capital One as a product manager in the commercial division. I currently build business-to-business digital banking experiences for some of Capital One's largest clients.

What are your plans in the near future?

I plan to continue building my career in product management, with the goal of eventually joining a consumer technology company where I can build products that reach millions of people. I also want to become more involved in the New York City community through volunteer and nonprofit work to help give back.

What do you do for fun?

I love to travel, try new recipes, read novels, and explore New York City. There's always a new restaurant, neighborhood, or activity to discover, so I'm still finding new things to do even after living here for several years.

Is there anything else you'd like us to know?

Favorite memory from middle school?

My favorite memories from ASMS are the trips we took each year to Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., and New York City. They were always so much fun and gave us a chance to spend time together outside of the classroom and bond through a variety of educational and cultural activities.



Brian Anderson

Please provide a brief educational and professional summary.

After ASMS, I attended Notre Dame High School, graduating in 2017. During that time, I completed two summer internships with Corning in additive manufacturing research. I then attended Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute where I graduated with a BSc in Information Technology & Web Science in 2021 and an MBA with a concentration in Business Analytics in 2022. Throughout college I spent summers interning with General Dynamics, as a counselor at a children's wilderness summer camp in the Adirondacks, and at Harris Hill where I continued working towards a soaring license. Following my graduation from RPI, I joined Sandvik, a multinational mining and manufacturing technology company, as part of their Global Graduate Program (GGP). Over 15 months, I completed three rotations in different parts of the business, including one rotation at a recently acquired software business and another at Sandvik's headquarters in Stockholm, Sweden. I also had the opportunity to travel with my peers in the program to visit the company's operations across the globe.

Where are you located and what are you doing now?

I now live near Saranac Lake, NY in the Adirondack Park. I work remotely as a Business Analyst at Sandvik, though I frequently visit my team at our Dublin, Ireland office.

What are your plans in the near future?

I plan to continue in my current role while I develop my skill set and gain more responsibility and ownership. I am also considering a relocation to Dublin to be nearer to my team.

What do you do for fun?

I enjoy getting outside and moving in all of its forms. I help run a climbing club, which aims to make an inviting community and lower barriers around outdoor climbing, which is often an intimidating sport. For my summer vacation, I returned to the summer camp I had worked at in college to volunteer as a trip leader. This past spring, I retraced the route of Teddy Roosevelt's midnight ride from Mt. Marcy to North Creek station on foot and bike with a few friends. By the time this is published, I will have run in the Wineglass marathon.

Is there anything else you'd like us to know?

Favorite memory from middle school?

I have great memories of all of my teachers from ASMS. I believe they made my time there so formative, and I'm sure that continues to today. Other favorite memories: the opening of the north building, Zumba at the YMCA (c.2011 had great dance music), late night - LEGO robotics meetings.

