

# THE KAISEI ACADEMY

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## 2014-2017 School Profile

Yukio Yanagisawa  
*Principal*

Toshiro Nebashi  
*Director, College Counseling*

Shaun Iwasawa, Yuji Yamada  
*Foreign University Admissions Advisors*

### The School

Founded in 1871, the Kaisei Academy is a private, boys' day school with grades 7 through 12. The Academy has provided an active learning environment for its students, in and out of the classroom, and has long had a national reputation for academic excellence and leadership qualities.

### The Principal

Kaisei is very fortunate to have Dr. Yukio Yanagisawa as our principal. Dr. Yanagisawa taught environmental science at the Harvard school of Public Health for over ten years as an associate and adjunct professor. In addition, he was a professor at University of Tokyo for fourteen years before coming to Kaisei. With his in-depth knowledge of both American and Japanese universities, he is uniquely qualified to be the leader of Kaisei.

### Student Body

The Academy consists of a Junior High School (Grades 7-9) and a Senior High School (Grades 10-12) with approximately 900 and 1,200 students respectively. Students hail from all over the greater Tokyo area. We welcome qualified students with a variety of talents, interests, and perspectives regardless of race, religion or ethnic origin. Admission to Kaisei is highly competitive, and applicants are selected on the basis of entrance examinations. Historically, almost all Kaisei graduates are admitted to Japan's most prestigious universities, each year 40% to 50% of them attending the University of Tokyo. (The #1 ranked university in Japan according to U.S. News.) For more information see *Matriculation* below.

### Academics and Extracurricular Activities

The Academy operates on trimesters and reports final grades on student transcripts. Grades are usually given based on exam scores achieved during the term. Our grading system is 5 through 1, 5 representing an unweighted average score of 80% or higher, and 4 representing 70% or higher (more details on transcripts). GPAs are provided on transcripts for each grade of the Senior High School (10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup>).

In Japan's education system, there are no such courses as "Advanced Placement" or "Honors." However, we offer our students opportunities to explore subjects of special interest at advanced levels in a wide variety of areas. Our top quality education and vibrant extracurricular activities have long been a special feature of students' lives at Kaisei. Many of our students are medal winners at both national and international levels in fields as varied as the International Mathematical Competition and the Japan Juggling Championship.

### Student Council

The student council at Kaisei is representative-based. They work actively to help share students' ideas, interests, and concerns with the teachers and the principal in order to make students' lives more purposeful and comfortable.

The main tasks are the following:

- making a basic plan for the distribution of the budget for each team and club
- organizing students in cleaning the school
- discussing issues raised by students and looking for solutions
- making suggestions to the school about the revision of school regulations if necessary

When they work on these tasks, they use their own initiative. A sense of independence is seen in every activity. Take budget planning for example. Before they decide on the final plan, they have an interview with a representative of each of the fifty or so teams and clubs and collect a lot of information about the present situation surrounding them. Although almost all the teams and clubs ask for an increased budget compared to the previous year, the council members try their best not to cause a sense of unfairness in a single team or club, spending a lot of time on discussion among themselves. What is sometimes surprising to somebody new here is that teachers never interfere in their discussion, despite the substantial amount of money they deal with (about 10 million yen each year). In every activity, teachers always stand by them and respect students' autonomy.

## Athletic Meeting

An annual athletic meeting is one of the highlights of the students' experiences at Kaisei. In our school the students take about a year to prepare for the athletic meeting. This is the largest sports event held annually which is run completely by students, and once again teachers function as just advisors. It is a big responsibility for the third year students in high school as the students organize the event. Taking care of their juniors isn't easy. The third year students learn a lot from this experience.

Students in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade play a cavalry battle. The winner is the one who first makes their opponent touch the ground. Students in the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades play *botaoshi*, a game involving pulling a pole down. When they cannot pull the pole down, the inclination of the pole decides the winner. In view of the physical nature of these games, we always have a doctor standing by.



## Matriculation 2014 – 2017

For the years 2015 through 2017, Kaisei students have matriculated at each of the following institutions. The schools listed below are some of the most competitive universities in Japan. Kaisei has attained first place for the number of students who passed the entrance examinations for the University of Tokyo for thirty-five consecutive years. Note that medical schools are available not only as a graduate program but as an undergraduate program in Japan.

	2017	2016	2015
National and public universities			
The University of Tokyo	161	171	185
Kyoto University	10	11	10
Hitotsubashi University	9	6	11
Tokyo Institute of Technology	9	11	10
Private Universities			
Keio University	170	178	183
Waseda University	195	283	238
Medical Schools			
Chiba University (Faculty of Medicine)	14	10	14
Tokyo Medical and Dental University	12	13	12
The Jikei University	21	19	21
Nippon Medical School	7	6	7
Juntendo University	18	16	18

Class of:	2014-17 Accepted	2014-17 Entered
Babson College	1	0
Boston University	1	0
Bowdoin College	2	1
Bucknell University	1	0
Carleton College	3	1
Colby College	1	0
College of William & Mary	1	1
Colorado College	1	0
Columbia University	1	0
Cornell University	1	0
Grinnell College	3	1
Hamilton College	1	0
Harvard University	3	3
Macalester College	1	0
McGill University	1	0
Middlebury College	1	0
Montana State University	1	1
Pitzer College	1	1
Pomona College	1	0
Princeton University	4	2
Swarthmore College	1	0
University of California, Berkeley	1	0
University of California, Irvine	2	0
University of California, Los Angeles	2	0
University of California, San Diego	1	0
University of Chicago	2	2
University of Toronto	2	0
Wesleyan University	2	0
Williams College	1	1
Yale University	3	1
Yale-NUS College	3	0

Before 2013 it was very rare for Kaisei students to go to a university overseas directly after graduation. Since then that route has become more popular. As can be seen by the chart above, we currently have 15 students at universities in the U.S.

## Course Highlights

### Japanese

#### Japanese I

This course is a combination of 2 credits of Contemporary Japanese and 3 credits of Classical Japanese.

#### Modern Writings

This course covers modern Japanese literature.

#### Classics I

This course focuses on classical Japanese.

#### Classics Reading

This course focuses on classical Chinese.

### Geography & History

#### World History

Course A focuses on the later modern period whereas Course B takes up an overview of all recorded history.

#### Japanese History

Course A focuses on the later modern period whereas Course B takes up an overview of all recorded history.

#### Geography

Course A focuses on raising global perspective through learning world geography whereas Course B mainly focuses on studying topography to understand the features of each region.

### Mathematics

#### Mathematics I

Algebra, Trigonometric Ratio, Quadratic Function, Basic Analysis

#### Mathematics II

Analytic Geometry, Equation of Higher Degrees, Precalculus, Exponential and Logarithmic Function, Trigonometry

#### Mathematics III

Differential and Integral Calculus, Limits, Complex Plane

#### Mathematics A

Counting and Probability, Integers and Figures

#### Mathematics B

Probability Distribution and Statistics, Sequences, Vectors

#### Mathematics C

Matrices, Statistical Processing

### Science

Course I is a basic introductory course whereas Course II is a more advanced level course. Advanced courses are only provided for students in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

#### Physics

Classical Mechanics, Thermodynamics, Electromagnetism, Wave Phenomena, Optics, Quantum Physics, Nuclear Physics

#### Chemistry

Physical Chemistry, Theoretical Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Inorganic Chemistry

#### Biology

Cell and Molecular Biology, Genetics, Organismal Biology, Neurology, Evolution and Diversity, Ecology, Biochemistry

#### Earth Science

Geology, Astronomy, Geophysics, Oceanography, Atmospheric Science

## Notable Alumni of the Kaisei Academy

### Science, Technology, and Medicine

Miwa, Tetsuro Former President of Tokyo Medical University

Nagaoka, Hantaro Physicist, 1<sup>st</sup> President of Osaka University, Recipient of *Order of Culture*

Shimizu, Fumihiko Bacteriologist, Former Professor at Tokyo Medical and Dental University

Takemi, Taro Former President of Japanese Medical Association and World Medical Association

Yanagisawa, Yukio Principal of the Kaisei Academy, Professor Emeritus at University of Tokyo, Former Associate Professor at Harvard School of Public Health

### Politics, Law

Muto, Toshiro Director General of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, Former Chairperson of the Board of Directors at the Kaisei Academy, Former Deputy Governor of Bank of Japan, Former Administrative Vice-Minister of Finance

Tadaki, Keiichi 44<sup>th</sup> General of Public Prosecutors Office, current Board member

Hashimoto, Ryogo 78<sup>th</sup> Minister of Education, 21<sup>st</sup> Minister of Welfare

Matsudaira, Tsuneo Former Ambassador of United Nations

Machimura, Kingo 53<sup>rd</sup> Superintendent of Police Department, 2<sup>nd</sup> Governor of Hokkaido Prefecture

Okada, Keisuke 31<sup>st</sup> Prime Minister of Japan, Admiral in Imperial Japanese Navy

### Business

Watanabe, Tsuneo CED/President/Editor in Chief of the *Yomiuri Shimbun* newspaper

Ishizuka, Kunio President of *Isetan Mitsukoshi Holdings Co., Ltd.*

Nakajima, Michio Former President of *Citizen Holdings Co., Ltd.*

Sato, Keita Former CEO of *Takara Tomy A.R.T.S.*