Rachel McGowan

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Education

Kirby School, Santa Cruz, CA · Class of 2027 — 2022–present

- Cumulative weighted GPA 4.81
- Science and Technology / Humanities Intensive Path: Custom Combination, Capstone Final Project

Cabrillo College, dual enrollment

- Courses: Health & Social Justice, Sociology, Computer Science, Macroeconomics, Digital Photography

University of Chicago, LEAD: Leadership, Engagement, and Discourse — July 2026

Stanford Pre-Collegiate Summer Institutes, Innovation and Entrepreneurship — July 2025

Rice University, Economics for Leaders (Foundation for Teaching Economics) — June 2025

Leadership & Activities

Advisor & Co-creator, Middle School Student Leadership Council — 2026–present

President, Student Council (Vice President, 2024–25) — 2025–26

Captain, Coach & Founder, Girls' Varsity Tennis — 2023–present

Founder & President, Media and Marketing Club — 2024–present

President, Economics Club — 2024–25

Member, Ethics Bowl — 2024–present

Founder & President, Entrepreneurship Club — 2023–present

Kirby School Ambassador — 2023–present

Girl Scouts — CPR and lifesaving certified; 30+ service hours a year — 2015–present

- Gold Award project (expected 2027): "Her Health, Her Voice: Empowering Girls Through Medical Self-Advocacy" — herhealthhervoice.com

Experience

Creator & Author, Kirby Chronicle — 2024–present

Writer, DearTeacher.com — 2026

Intern, Kirby Media and Marketing — 2024–25

- Designed posters for school plays and musicals and distributed them to businesses across the county
- Conducted interviews and wrote promotional copy for the school website, the weekly "Blast" and monthly newsletters; created written and visual content for the website and social media

Honors & Awards

Athlete of the Year, Kirby School — top varsity athlete across all sports — 2026

Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA), Regional Delegate, Rotary District 5170 — June 2026

Service to Kirby Award — top student volunteer, 100+ hours of school-centered service — 2026

English and History Department Recognition Awards — top student in research, analysis and writing — 2026

PCAL Division Champions, Girls' Varsity Tennis — undefeated season, Pacific Coast Athletic League — 2025

Most Valuable Player, Girls' Varsity Tennis — undefeated in league matches — 2023–25

Scholar Athlete Award — 4.0+ GPA while competing in varsity sports, three consecutive years — 2023–26

Math Scholar (2024–26) and **National Latin Exam**, magna cum laude (2023) — 2023–26

Girl Scout Silver Award — created, filmed and edited a promotional video for the SPCA — 2023

Student Diversity Leadership Conference — selected to represent Kirby, St. Louis, MO — 2023

Girl Scout Bronze Award — 2020