



San Dieguito H.S. Academy



***A different
pathway to***



***educational
excellence***



Why we do what we do at San Dieguito Academy

Our students want...	So we have...
<i>Strong academic program</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A rigorous curriculum that is aligned with district and state standards • A college focused atmosphere with high expectations where all students have the opportunity to complete the A-G college entrance requirements • Honors, Advanced Placement, college prep, career technical education, and elective classes • A 4x4 schedule that allows in-depth academic exploration
<i>Personal attention</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Events which emphasize appreciation of unique individuality and creativity (e.g., Exhibition Day, homecoming, graduation, student art shows) • Emphasis on acceptance, respect, and inclusion; ASB class and the Student Forum design activities to involve and connect students; Academy Awards for effort as well as achievement • Small school atmosphere • Commitment to being student-centered: students have a sense of ownership and responsibility for “our school” and we make decisions based on what’s best for kids • Atmosphere of trust, open-mindedness, and personal freedom backed by high expectations for responsible behavior in and out of the classroom • Each teacher serves as homeroom teacher to a group of about 35 students on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday • Tutoring available after school • Writing Lab to help students with writing assignments and projects
<i>Teachers who are caring, excited, and competent</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expectations for teachers to be accessible and involved (e.g., Mustang Hour activities, Elective Fair, clubs, staff development/in-services) • Expectations for positive participation in homeroom • Expectations for instructional strategies that promote student engagement and learning • Expectations for active intra and inter-disciplinary collaboration and camaraderie
<i>More electives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4x4 schedule (students may complete 80 credits per year rather than 60) • Other benefits of the 4x4: students feel empowered and connected by getting to choose electives; teachers have fewer students each term; students and parents get more frequent feedback about progress; elective classes are heterogeneous which reinforces schoolwide acceptance and respect
<i>Career awareness</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9th grade technology “wheel” to introduce students to elective choices • Internship • 4x4 schedule allows students to explore a favorite subject • California Colleges.edu • Career Pathways in four Industry Sectors
<i>Choice</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All students living in the San Dieguito Union High School District can apply to SDA • If more students apply to SDA than we have space for, students are selected by random lottery. Siblings of current SDA students receive priority enrollment.
<i>Open campus at lunch</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a privilege we extend to all 9-12th grade students. Students must exercise responsibility or run the risk of losing this privilege. • The governing board of the San Dieguito Union High School District, pursuant to Section 44808.5 of the Education Code, has decided to permit the pupils enrolled at San Dieguito H.S. Academy to leave the school grounds during lunch period • Students are invited to stay on campus and enjoy the Mosaic Cafe

Benefits of the 4 X 4 schedule



There are many benefits of the 4x4 schedule including multiple opportunities to learn and improved relationships between students and teachers.

The 4x4 schedule allows students to complete 80 credits per year. This means that after satisfying graduation and college entrance requirements, they still have room in their schedules to take extra classes. Some choose additional sciences or world language classes, and some choose valuable elective courses like peer tutoring, art classes, Culinary Arts, or internship. The 4x4 schedule allows them to explore new academic or personal interests, or study a favorite subject in depth. Consequently, San Dieguito Academy has implemented Career Pathways to allow students to participate in courses in which they have an interest or aptitude.

Because students on the 4x4 take many electives that are open to all grade levels, it's quite

common to have freshmen sitting next to seniors in class—with very positive results. Older students are supportive, accepting, and helpful in the classroom setting, while younger students feel welcomed and comfortable. This spills over outside the classroom and creates a school culture of mutual respect and acceptance.

The 4x4 is beneficial to teachers as well. On a 60-credit per year schedule, whether it's rotating block or single periods, teachers have five classes of students to keep track of and get to know. On the 4x4 schedule, teachers have three classes at a time—that's 75 students less! Teacher-student relationships are strengthened because teachers have daily contact with fewer students. Teachers know their students and students thrive on the personal connections with caring adults.

Teachers work in collaborative teams. Collaboration time enables teachers to design instructional activities that engage students in their learning and to develop curriculum that is interrelated, rigorous, and relevant.

SAMPLE 4 X 4 SCHEDULE							
Freshman Year		Sophomore Year		Junior Year		Senior Year	
Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring
English 9	Year 1 P.E.	English 10	World History	English 11	U.S. History	English 12	Government/Economics
Math 1	Introduction to Tech.	Math 2	Chemistry	Math 3	Physics	Intro to Calculus	AP Calculus AB
Elective	Biology	Elective	P.E.	Spanish V	AP Spanish	Internship	Elective
Spanish I	Spanish II	Spanish III	Spanish IV	V & P Arts	Elective	Elective	Elective

- Students are enrolled in four classes. Ten-credit classes are completed in 18 weeks.
- Elective choices may be focused, such as in a Career Pathway, or may just reflect student interest.
- Academic courses may be College Prep, Honors, or Advanced Placement classes.

Student Connection at San Dieguito H.S. Academy

Connecting students to school and their futures...

More Learning Opportunities

One benefit of the 4 x 4 schedule is that students complete 80 credits per year, compared to 60 on the traditional schedule. We encourage freshmen and sophomores to choose a wide variety of electives in order to explore areas of interest like theater, art, biotechnology, American Sign Language, or welding. Juniors and seniors can then narrow their focus of studies, i.e., they can “major” in a certain area and explore one of our Career Pathways. Students who love science, for example, can satisfy every college entrance requirement and still have room in their schedules to take all the science classes we offer plus a few at a community college.

Counselor Workshops

Counselors see students every year in grade level classroom presentations. For freshmen, counselors address four year planning. Sophomores get information about how to connect with the community, careers, jobs, and volunteering. Juniors learn about college options, how to search for the right college, SAT/ACT testing and how to read their transcript. Seniors are given information about how to apply to college and financial/scholarship information. All grade levels are taught the graduation requirements and the UC/CSU A-G college admissions requirements. Every presentation is followed up with a workshop in a computer lab about how to use CaliforniaColleges.edu.



Career Speaker's Bureau

SDA believes that it is important for students to see the relevance of what they are learning in the classroom to the world of work. Professionals from the community enrich and support the curriculum by serving as guest speakers in classes. Speakers share highlights of their career, necessary training and preparation, and discuss how high school impacted them on the job today.



Homeroom Olympics

Homeroom Olympics is an opportunity for students to participate in friendly competition against other homerooms, to increase student connectedness on campus and build community. At SDA, we place great importance on student wellness — intellectual, emotional, physical, and social — and Homeroom Olympics is a time to get outside, get together, and strengthen bonds between students and teachers alike! Some examples of Homeroom Olympics events are: homeroom flag-making contest, scavenger hunt, dance party competition, homeroom performances, cooking challenges, relay races, and more!



Exhibition Day

For many of us, student Exhibition Day is the highlight of the year. Shortened class periods allow four exhibition periods during the day, and students can move freely from exhibit to exhibit. Exhibition Day features student bands, a science fair, a sign language demonstration, concerts, dance performances, a woods/metal/photo exhibit, a poetry reading, a Robotics demonstration, dramatic scenes, an academic team demonstration, a Comedy Sportz demonstration, and much more. Parents and community members are invited to this celebration of student learning.



Homeroom is a time:

- for students to feel connected to school and to others
- for counselors to visit and talk about 4-year plans, college entrance exams, and registration
- to hear news from ASB students or read news in the bulletin and *The Mustang*
- to develop both long-range (end of high school) and short-term goals (this quarter, term, year)
- to discover ways to connect personal goals with the required curriculum
- to regularly assess progress toward goals and to reflect on how students are doing
- for students to feel important (e.g. birthdays recognized, grades noticed, etc.)
- for school-wide activities (e.g., nominations for Homeroom Court, Homeroom Olympics, and assemblies)
- for the counselors to offer career speakers, career seminars, college visits, etc.
- for Senior Java and Junior Java

Link Crew

SDA's Link Crew high school transition program is designed to welcome incoming freshmen and support them throughout their first year. Freshmen converge on the SDA campus a few days before the school year begins to be introduced to the SDA campus and culture. This full-day orientation is followed by activities throughout the year. Link Crew group leaders are hand-selected juniors and seniors who guide freshmen to discover what it takes to be successful during the transition to high school. More and more studies show that if students have a positive experience their first year in high school, their chance for success increases dramatically. Link Crew provides the structure for freshmen to receive support and guidance from juniors and seniors who have been through the challenges that high school poses, and understand that the transition to a larger school can sometimes be overwhelming.



SDA Student Life



Associated Student Body (ASB)

Our ASB students are the voice of the SDA student body and receive training through their leadership class. They host a wide variety of events throughout the year for our students and staff.

Athletics

San Dieguito H.S. Academy will be competing in the Avocado East League of the North County Conference in the San Diego County CIF Section.

Fall Sports:

Cross Country, Field Hockey, Girls' Tennis, Girls' Volleyball, Girls' Golf, Boys' Water Polo

Winter Sports:

Boys' Basketball, Girls' Basketball, Boys' Soccer, Girls' Soccer, Girls' Water Polo

Spring Sports:

Track & Field, Boys' Tennis, Softball, Boys' Golf, Baseball, Boys' Volleyball, Boys' Lacrosse, Girls' Lacrosse

Clubs

San Dieguito Academy has over 70 clubs and academic teams on campus such as:

Amnesty International	Model United Nations
ASL Honor Society	Mustang American Red Cross
Calculus Club	Mustang Minds
Comedy Sportz	National Honor Society
Community Perf. Arts	PALs
Drama Club/Thespians	Robotics Team Paradox
Environmental Leaders	Science Olympiad
French Honor Society	Spanish Immersion
Interact Club	Speech/ Debate
Japanese Nat'l Honors	Stang Gang
Key Club	Writers Block
MECHA Club	Young Leaders in Health Care

Learning Commons

The Learning Commons is open from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday and until 3:30 p.m. on Friday. Our Learning Commons is wireless with 80 Chromebooks and 14 desktop computers for student use. Staff is available to assist students with the print collection and on-line data base. Our new flex lab is equipped with 20 Chromebases (desktop computers) and 23 Chromebooks.

Counseling

We have four full time counselors who support students with services including:

- Academic, personal/social, and college and career counseling
- Individual counseling
- Support groups
- PALs—Peer Assistance Listeners
- Group presentations
- Parent/student meetings
- College application assistance
- CaliforniaColleges.edu

Tutoring

SDA offers math tutoring Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 3:15 to 4:15 p.m. Monday through Thursday the Learning Commons is open for extended teacher tutoring from 3:30-5:00 p.m. in specific subject areas (English, Science, Social Science and Spanish). Tutoring is also offered for students by students in all subjects by the National Honors Society. All students are welcome to attend this free tutoring service. Most teachers are available at various times for assistance. In addition, an adult tutor is available Monday and Wednesday, 8:00 to noon and 1:00 to 3:30 and Friday 8:00 to noon and 1:00 to 3:00 in the Writing Lab to help students with their writing needs.

Monthly Forum and Student Congress

All interested students gather monthly at the **Forum** for pizza and passionate discussion about whatever topics are of most interest to the student body. This venue for voicing thoughts and feelings is student-led and the room is always packed! Many teachers and administrators participate as well, but the students are the primary actors. Congressional Forum gives students an additional way to have their voices heard by student leadership and administration. To ensure that SDA reflects all students, homeroom representatives survey their classmates then participate in the quarterly discussions, after which, representatives report back to their homerooms. At SDA, students voices matter!

Peer Tutors

Juniors and seniors work directly with other students in the classroom to support learning.

Additional Academic and Elective Courses

Honors Courses

English 9 and 10 Honors

Integrated Math 1 Honors

Integrated Math 2 Honors

Integrated Math 3 Honors



Advanced Placement Courses

Calculus (AB)

Calculus (BC)

Statistics

Biology

Chemistry

Physics

Environmental

Science



Sample Electives

Acting

Architectural Design

Automotive Technology

AVID

Band

Business Management & Ownership

Cartooning

Culinary Arts I

Design/Drawing

Drama Production

Engineering Technology

Guitar Making

Healthcare Essentials

Intro. To Biotech

Intro. to Japanese Culture

Journalism

Leadership

Metals/Welding

Musical Production

PALs

Photography

Recording Arts

Robotics & Engineering

Sculpture

Screen Printing

Skateboarding PE

Surf PE

Symphonic Band

Technical Theater

TV/Broadcasting

Video Film

Weight Training

Wood Tech

Yoga

American Government

Economics

Psychology

U.S. History

World History

European History

Comparative Politics

Art History

Music Theory

Studio Art

English Language

English Literature

French Language

Japanese Language

Spanish Language

Special Education and Support Classes

Academic Support

Math Support





Career Pathways

BRIDGING ACADEMICS TO THE WORLD OF WORK

San Dieguito Academy is the proud recipient of the **California Distinguished Schools Exemplary Career Technical Education Award for its innovative Career Pathways program**. Students are afforded multiple opportunities to sample different electives and get a glimpse into future careers, or to pursue one career pathway in depth. Students need to recognize and develop their interests and skills to prepare them for a global workforce and be able to access resources, process information, and think dynamically in order to become confident, effective communicators and life-long learners.

Career Pathways supports and develops programs to provide students with the necessary skills for the 21st century workforce. We present cutting-edge technology and introduce students to both traditional and non-traditional careers while teaching life skills that lead to success after high school. Rigorous instruction is delivered in a student-centered and collaborative environment. Our staff continually updates their skills, vocabulary, and experiences in the world of work. We strive to maintain the human connection in curriculum and new technologies.

Career Pathways are taught to all students in the course registration process as well as class presentations. Career Pathways continue well into life after high school and the many options are taught to students. There are multiple opportunities to expand their area of interest from internships, apprenticeship programs, community college programs as well as four year college preparation.

ENGINEERING DESIGN

SDA's outstanding applied technology program spans a breadth of skills in courses such as Architectural Design, Auto Technology, Welding and Metal Fabrication, and Robotics and Engineering. Many courses are articulated with the community college and students receive both high school and college credit.

FOOD SERVICE AND HOSPITALITY

SDA offers several opportunities to explore the food service career path. With Culinary Arts, Baking and Pastry, and Sous Chef our students get a varied experience. We also have supported our growing program with a new culinary arts classroom.

MACHINING AND FORMING

We are fortunate to have a series of classes to help students gain exposure to a growing industry in San Diego. With the opportunity to take Metals I, Metals II and Welding and Metal Fabrication, they can build their skills and knowledge in preparation for a future career.

PATIENT CARE

SDA provides students with a remarkable opportunity to explore careers in the largest growing industry in San Diego county — health services through Healthcare Essentials and biotechnology. Strong community partnerships offer real world experience and exciting internships in the field.

For more information, visit the Career Pathways link on the website: sd.sduhsd.net (under Departments).





San Dieguito High School Academy

A California Distinguished School



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SAN DIEGUITO ACADEMY FOUNDATION

Enriching the Student Experience

The mission of the San Dieguito Academy Foundation is to raise funds and organize events that enrich every student's SDA experience. The core values of our organization's vision of an enriched educational experience for every student include:

- **Integrity** – We uphold the highest standards of integrity and promote an environment that values respect, fairness and honesty.
- **Inclusive** – We acknowledge the importance of multiple viewpoints, diverse backgrounds, and shared solutions to creating a vibrant and vital school community.
- **Collaborative** – We collaborate with school and district staff, parents and community partners to fulfill our mission.

The SDA Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is dedicated to supporting the unique culture and quality programs of San Dieguito High School Academy. When your student becomes a part of SDA, you – as a parent or family member – also become a part of SDA. Your presence matters and you're welcome to join us and the SDA parents and families in actively supporting our learning community.

We invite you to learn more about the SDA Foundation by visiting sdafoundation.com or sending an email to sdafoundation@sduhsd.net. Go, Mustangs!