

San Dieguito



Academy



***A different pathway
to educational excellence***



Why we do what we do at San Dieguito Academy

Our students want...	So we have...
Strong academic program	<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
Personal attention	<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 size (class size averages are the same as the other high schools in the district) • 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
Teachers who are caring, excited, and competent	<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
More electives	<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
Career awareness	<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 • Naviance Career Exploration • Career Pathways in seven Industry Sectors
Choice	<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.
Open campus at lunch	<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, 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
Geometry	Introduction to Tech.	Algebra II	Chemistry	Math Analysis w/Trig.	Physics	Pre-Cal. Honors	AP Calculus
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 to their futures...*



Exhibition Day

For many of us, student Exhibition Day is the highlight of the year. Shortened class periods allow for two to 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, a fashion show, a dance performance, 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.



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 Naviance.



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.

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 to specific subject areas. Teachers use the Speaker's Bureau to connect students to the concrete work skills they will need after high school and beyond. These skills include not only technical ability but inter-personal skills. Speakers share highlights of their career, necessary training and preparation, and discuss how high school impacted them on the job today.



Homeroom

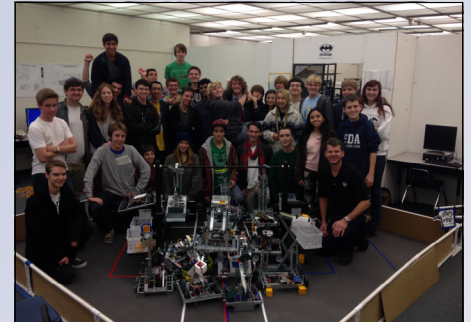
Homeroom is a time:

- 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/read school news such as the bulletin, SDA Live, or *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

Internship

Juniors and seniors can serve as interns with community members in their offices and places of business. Attorneys, chefs, school teachers, software engineers, and veterinarians are a few of the community members who provide mentoring experiences for our students. Students enrolled in the internship class complete résumés while earning credit as interns.

SDA Student Life



Associated Student Body (ASB)

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

Athletics

San Dieguito Academy competes 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

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:

Artists for a Cause

ASL Honor Society

Comedy Sportz

Culinary Arts Club

Drama Club

ECO Club

Fashion Entrepreneur

Helping the Hungry

Interact Club

Japanese Honor Club

Key Club

Mustang Minds

National Honor Society

Outdoor Adventure Club

PALs

Random Acts of Kindness

Science Olympiad

Speech/ Debate

Stang Gang

Writers Block

Young Leaders in

Health Care

Media Center

The library is open from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday and until 3:30 p.m. on Friday. Our library is wireless with 48 Chromebooks and 15 desktop computers for student use. Staff is available to assist students with the print collection and on-line data base.

Counseling

We have three 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
- Naviance College & Career Exploration and support

Naviance

Naviance is a college and career exploration and preparation tool. All grade levels are taught how to log in and use it. We encourage students to explore the personality inventory, career interest profiler, use the college search tools, and access scholarship information. We offer ongoing Naviance workshops during homeroom for all grade levels. Our seniors use Naviance when applying to college. It is also our communication tool for students and parents. The home page offers lots of current information including how to sign up for on-campus college visits. As an SDA family, Naviance is accessible for both students and parents. Parent trainings are also available.

Peer Tutors

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

Tutoring

SDA offers math tutoring Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday after school. Monday through Thursday the Media Center is open for extended teacher tutoring from 4-6 p.m. in specific subject areas. 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 in the Writing Lab to help students with their writing needs.

Additional Academic and Elective Courses

Honors Courses

English 9 and 10 Honors

Algebra II/Trigonometry
Honors
Pre-Calculus Honors



Advanced Placement Courses

Calculus (AB)
Calculus (BC)
Calculus D
Statistics

Biology
Chemistry
Physics
Environmental Science



Sample Electives

Acting
Architectural Design
Automotive Technology
AVID
Band
Business Management &
Ownership
Cartooning
Culinary Arts
Design/Drawing
Drama Production
Engineering Technology
Guitar Manufacturing
Healthcare Essentials
International Cuisine
Intro. to Japanese Culture
Journalism

Leadership
Metals/Welding
Musical Production
PALs
Photography
Recording Arts
Sculpture
Silk Screening
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

Support Classes

General Education

CAHSEE- ELA
CAHSEE- Math
Algebra Support

Geometry Support
Academic Literacy

Special Education

Academic Support
Reading for Success

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.

ARTS, MEDIA, and ENTERTAINMENT

SDA offers a creative, innovative, and individualized approach to the arts. Students can study two and three dimensional visual art, explore every aspect of theater arts from costume design to technical theater to drama production, or delve into music with Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, Instrumental Music, or perhaps AP Music Theory. Several departments collaborate on the student TV production course (Advanced Video Film) in which students write scripts, act, produce, and film a running TV series. Our Arts Program is cutting edge, student-centered, and stimulating for every creative mind.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY and BUSINESS

Information technology is a valued skill for the 21st century. Courses in Photo Imaging, Digital Photography, and Computer Graphic Design help students hone those skills. The business program expanded with the addition of Business Management and Ownership, a real world experience in which students run their own business on campus, the Mosaic Café.

MANUFACTURING, TRANSPORTATION, ENGINEERING and DESIGN

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

PUBLIC SERVICE

Students interested in a career in public service can take advantage of sociology and psychology courses, Social Justice, Government and Economics, or leadership and peer assistance courses. These classes give students insight into many important careers that benefit society.

HEALTH SCIENCE and MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY

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.





San Dieguito High School Academy

A California Distinguished School



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SAN DIEGUITO ACADEMY FOUNDATION

Building a foundation for excellence

As a school of choice, SDA is able to provide a unique learning environment providing our students with:

- Innovative programs and opportunities of academic excellence
- A culture of acceptance and social responsibility
- Career-oriented pathways through Mosaic, Studio SDA, and the Performing Arts Center
- Competitive academics and athletics teams and clubs available to all students

The Foundation, a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation, is the parent-volunteer driven organization that provides the resources to support these programs and activities. When your student becomes a part of SDA, you, as a parent, are also a part of SDA. We welcome you to join us and our other parents and families in actively supporting our learning community.

You can learn more about us at www.sdafoundation.com or send an email to sdafoundation@sduhsd.net. Or, better yet, stop by the Foundation Office next time you are on campus.