Canyon Crest Academy — School Profile 2020-2021

General Information

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Accreditation:
Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)

SDUHSD prohibits discrimination or harassment on the basis of disability, race, gender, color, national origin, religious creed, age, marital status, or sexual orientation in its educational programs and activities which it operates.

Vision Statement

We are
Creative
Confident
Accepting

Values

Integrity, authenticity, and creative risk-taking
Collaboration, diversity, and curiosity
Perseverance, resilience, and determination
Weirdness

Mission Statement

CCA promotes a culture of empathy and cultivates gratitude.
We sustain a balanced approach to education in an innovative learning environment.
We champion a confident, compassionate student body that is ready to thrive in tomorrow's world.

The School and Community

Canyon Crest Academy (CCA) is an outstanding learning community of approximately 2515 students in grades 9-12 who live throughout the San Dieguito Union High School District. CCA is a public "school of choice" that any student in the district can select to attend. Students are attracted to CCA to pursue specialized education in the arts, sciences, and technology and to participate in real-world application of skills through established partnerships with local businesses and universities. Student achievement is strongly supported by parents and community members, who partner with school staff to enrich the academic experience for each child on our campus.

Since 2004, CCA has been a leader in achievement and performance for the district, with accomplishments extending beyond the classroom as well. Students have earned accolades in diverse extra-curricular activities, such as our nationally-ranked math team; San Diego County Science Fair, Science Olympiad, Siemens Science Competition and Intel Science Competition; our award-winning school publications; visual and performing arts, including a Grammy Signature School Enterprise Award and National Youth Theater Awards; and athletic teams that have competed in statewide championships. Dedicated and talented staff members collaborate across curriculum and embrace technology in support of student learning that responds to evolving student interests and includes specialized and in-depth studies. Students are supported in taking intellectual and creative risks as they engage in their studies, enabling them to be confident, life-long learners. Our students' creativity, commitment and exposure to rigorous academics have uniquely prepared them for success beyond CCA.

Curriculum and Academic Program

Students follow a 4 x 4 block schedule where they take up to four 90-minute classes per day, five days per week, in each 18 week Fall and Spring term. On this accelerated system, every term-long class is the equivalent of a traditional year-long class and students earn two final grades per class each term. Students who take eight classes can earn up to 80 credits in a year. The 4 x 4 schedule also gives students the chance to take additional electives and explore various disciplines. For students who have a specific area of interest, taking sequential elective or academic classes "back-to-back" in both terms in order to advance their skills and knowledge is a popular option.

Envision/Conservatory

For students who desire to expand their exposure to the arts, CCA offers Envision, a program designed to inspire and train future artists. It is an extensive curriculum with a structured sequence of progressively challenging courses in the following disciplines: Dance, Visual Arts, Humanities, Instrumental Music, Theater, Cinema and Vocal Music. For students who demonstrate exceptional potential and talent, CCA offers Envision Conservatory. Conservatory is a rigorous, audition-only extracurricular program that provides advanced instruction and training supplemented by professional teaching artists.

Honors & Advanced Coursework

SDUHSD has an open access policy allowing all students the opportunity to take honors or advanced courses. 2020-2021 offerings include:

Advanced Drama Honors
Calculus III*
English 9 Honors
English 10 Honors
Integrated Math I Honors
Integrated Math II Honors
Integrated Math III Honors
Linear Algebra*

may be taken as a dual-enrolled college course

AP Art History
AP Biology
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC
AP Chemistry
AP Chinese Language
AP Computer Science A
AP Computer Science Principles
AP English Language

AP English Literature
AP Environmental Science
AP European History
AP French Language
AP Macroeconomics
AP Physics 1
AP Physics 2
AP Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism
AP Physics C: Mechanics
AP Psychology
AP Spanish Language
AP Statistics
AP 2D Art & Design
AP 3D Art & Design
AP Studio Art Drawing
AP United States History
AP US Government & Politics
AP World History

Graduation Requirements

Students must earn 230 credits in the following subject areas:

- English — 40 credits
- Mathematics (including Alg 1 or IM 1) — 30 credits
- Science (Life/Physical) — 20 credits
- Social Science — 30 credits
- Physical Education — 20 credits
- Practical Arts/Career Technical — 10 credits
- Visual/Performing Arts — 10 credits
- Electives — 70 credits

Standardized Testing Information

SAT Reasoning Test (2019 data*)
- Mean Evidence-Based Reading and Writing — 687
- Mean Math — 708

ACT (2019 data*)
- Mean English — 31
- Mean Math — 30
- Mean Reading — 30
- Mean Science — 29

AP Exams	2019	2020
Number of exams taken	3936	3592
Number of students tested	1396	1358
Percent of qualifying scores	90.9	90.5

2020-2021 National Merit Semi-Finalists — 62
2019-2020 National Merit Finalists — 73

Due to 2020 COVID-19 testing limitations, 2019 is the most recent comprehensive college entrance testing data.

Grading & GPA Calculation

	General/College Prep/Honors Courses	AP Courses
A = 90 - 100%	4 pts.	5 pts.
B = 80 - 89%	3 pts.	4 pts.
C = 70 - 79%	2 pts.	3 pts.
D = 60 - 69%	1 pt.	1 pt.
F = 0 - 59%	0 pts.	0 pts.

W= Withdraw (not calculated in GPA)

Grades for Advanced Placement (AP) courses are computed on a five-point scale and are designated on the transcript with a plus symbol (+). Honors classes are not weighted, with the exception of Integrated Math III Honors. Other than these weighted courses, CCA does not participate in or recognize any form of academic distinction, including Valedictorian, Salutatorian, National Honor Society or California Scholarship Federation. **CCA does not rank students**.

GPA Distribution

The following data reflects the total non-weighted GPA distribution of the current 12th grade, class of 650 students, as calculated based on GPA at the end of the 11th grade year:

GPA	Percent
4.0	8%
3.75 - 3.99	41%
3.50 - 3.74	29%
3.0 - 3.49	18%
2.5 - 2.99	2%
Below 2.5	1%

2020 Distance Learning

2019-2020: Pursuant to San Diego County Public Health Orders, all SDUHSD schools physically closed 3/13/2020 and remained closed for spring term. Beginning 3/23/2020, SDUHSD schools transitioned to a distance learning plan with a focus on following the curricular sequence and course essential learning outcomes, priority knowledge and skills, and a reduced student workload to approximately 50-60% due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The district issued Credit/No Credit marks as the recommended grading platform. To accommodate later requests for student choice, a second option was added to request distance learning letter grades based on quarter 3 grades as the benchmark. In order to hold all students "harmless," final term grades were based on the 3rd quarter grade which could only be improved by 4th quarter work. Distance learning letter grades are counted toward the cumulative GPA; grades of Credit or No Credit are not counted toward the cumulative GPA. This was a temporary change in grading policy that only applied to Spring 2020 final term grades.

2020-2021: Pursuant to a 7/2020 Governor's order and continuing county monitoring, all SDUHSD schools remained physically closed at the start of the Fall 2020 term and a distance learning model with a return to letter grades and full curriculum was implemented through the second quarter. More information at SDUHSD.net.

College Eligibility & Selection

- 93% of the Class of 2020 met or exceeded UC/CSU requirements
- 87% of students planned to attend a 4-year college
- 5% of students planned to attend a 2-year college

Sources: Aeries, 2020; CCA Senior Exit Survey, 2019