



## SANTA SUSANA HIGH SCHOOL

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Simi Valley CA 93063  
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### 2007-2008 SCHOOL PROFILE

Principal: Pam Carter  
Assistant Principal: Thomas Buckle  
Assistant Principal: Leonidas Tarca  
Registrar: Gloria Banks  
College & Career Advisor: Sharon DeMartino

COUNSELING STAFF  
Emily Coleman A-Gi  
Suzie Berry GI-Ne  
Paula McCormack Ng-Z

#### THE SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

Santa Susana High School is a magnet school of choice located in Ventura County in the city of Simi Valley. The community is comprised of a diversified labor pool with one-third of the city's population designated as professional, technical, or managerial. Others in the community are chiefly classified in skilled services, sales, crafts and clerical categories. 11.7% of the student body is eligible for free and reduced lunch.

Enrollment: 1250 students, grades 9-12  
Faculty: 54  
Student/Counselor Ratio: 417:1

#### SCHOOL STRUCTURE

A fundamental component of attending Santa Susana is that students have a focus area for their studies. The school is formally structured into three schools, Academics, The Arts, and Information Technology. Within the three Schools students choose an Academy or Emphasis Area in which they focus on a specially designed four-year course of study.

##### The School of the Arts

- Academy of Performing Arts: Emphasis in Vocal Music, Instrumental Music, Theater, & Dance.
- Academy of Fine Arts: Emphasis in Visual Arts & Animation
- Academy of Technical Arts: Emphasis in Set & Sound Design & Media Arts/Video Production

##### The School of Academics

- Academy of Accelerated Academics: Emphasis in Humanities, Science, & Math

##### The School of Information Technology

- Academy of Digital Graphics & Publication
- Academy of Service & Support
- Academy of Internet Development
- Academy of Computer Programming
- Academy of e-business Ed.com

Students are challenged by the opportunity to earn "Certificates of Achievement" in the Academies based on their record of performance and involvement in those fields.

#### MODIFIED BLOCK AND TAP PERIOD

Santa Susana High School has a flexible nine period day modified block schedule.

TAP Advisement meets twice a week. TAP involves a support system of teacher advocates providing personalized academic guidance related to graduation requirements, preparation for careers, and postsecondary education. Students stay with the same TAP teachers from year to year.

#### GPA

A four-point scale is used: A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, F=0, except for all Advanced Placement courses taken in grades 10-12 and certain identified Honors courses (indicated with \*\*) taken which receive A=5, B=4, C=3.

#### ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

- ENGLISH: English 11 AP, English 12 AP
- SOCIAL SCIENCE: World History AP, U.S. History AP, U.S. Government AP, Macroeconomics AP
- SCIENCE: Biology AP, Chemistry AP, Physics B AP, Environmental Science AP
- MATHEMATICS: Calculus AB AP, Calculus BC AP, Statistics AP
- FOREIGN LANGUAGE: Spanish IV AP
- OTHER: Studio Art AP, Computer Science A AP, Computer Science AB AP

AP courses weighted: A=5, B=4, C=3

TOTAL NUMBER OF AP COURSES: 17

#### HONORS COURSES

- ENGLISH: English 9, English 10
- SCIENCE: Environmental Science, Anatomy/ Physiology\*\*
- MATHEMATICS: Algebra II/Trigonometry, Math Analysis\*\*
- FOREIGN LANGUAGE: Spanish III\*\*

\*\* Weighted: A=5, B=4, C=3

## TESTING

### ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMINATIONS

#### 2007 Summary

Total number of tests taken	341
Total number of subject areas tested	16
Percent receiving passing scores	66%

### SAT MEAN SCORES 2007

	Critical Reading	Math	Writing
Santa Susana	550	537	528
State	499	516	498
National	502	515	494

### API SCORE

In 2007, the API score was 821. The school met and exceeded the target score.

### COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ADMISSIONS

Based on graduating class of 2007:

Attending 2 or 4 year schools	90 %
Attending 2 year schools	65 %
Attending 4 year schools	25 %

### STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Our activities revolve mostly around the Performing Arts. Santa Susana does not offer a competitive athletic program.

Student Government / Leadership (ASB)  
Yearbook  
Film Festival  
Theatrical/Musical Productions

Over 40 clubs that include:

Big Brother/ Big Sister	Film Club
Botball/Robotics	Hip Hop Team
Choir Club	Musical Production
Dance Team	Table Tennis
Drama Fashion	Writers Club
Environmental Club	

## ACCREDITATION AND AWARDS

Santa Susana High School is recognized as a California Distinguished School and is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). It received a six-year accreditation in 2006.

U.S News & World Report awarded Santa Susana High school with the Silver Medal in the first annual list of America's Best High Schools.

Santa Susana High School was awarded the Golden Bell award by the California School Board Association under the category of Invigorating High Schools.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

English	40	Computer Education	5
Math	30	Practical Art	5
Science	30	Foreign Language/Fine Art	10
Social Science	30	Electives	55
Physical Ed.	20	Health	5

**Total Credits Required 230**

- \*All students must pass Algebra 1 or its equivalent to graduate.
- \*All students must pass the California High School Exit Exam to obtain a high school diploma.
- \*Community Service is not required in order to graduate.

## SENIOR PROJECT

To assist with the transition from high school to the adult postsecondary world, students complete a senior project in which they blend real-world application with traditional learning. Each senior student completes a research paper, a product related to the paper, a portfolio documenting the process, and a 7-10 minute presentation on their findings before a community review panel. Each student selects a mentor to assist with their project and must complete 20 hours of independent fieldwork. From the senior project students gain important research and writing skills, valuable communication skill, self confidence, and a portfolio to present to colleges or employers.

## THE REGIONAL OCCUPATIONAL PROGRAM (ROP)

ROP offers students in grades 11 and 12 the opportunity to explore a career field before making a commitment to a college major. These students learn job skills at a job site or in a simulated work environment. Careers such as journalism/broadcasting, computer repair, film/video, stagecraft, webmaster, and digital/public advertising are explored in ROP classes. All ROP classes' award high school credits that count towards graduation requirements.