



SANTA SUSANA HIGH SCHOOL

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 Simi Valley, CA 93063
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 CEEB: 053372



2011-2012 SCHOOL PROFILE

Principal: Jason Peplinski
 Assistant Principal: Thomas Buckle
 Assistant Principal: Wendy Mayea
 Registrar: Gloria Banks
 Career & College Advisor: Sharon DeMartino

COUNSELING STAFF
 Jillian Bischoff A - GL
 Marilyn Erickson GO - N
 Stacie Davis O - 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. Nineteen percent (19.1%) of the student body is eligible for free and reduced lunch.

Enrollment: 1,250 students, grades 9-12
 Faculty: 50
 Student/Counselor Ratio: 420:1

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 Academics

Academy of Accelerated Academics: Emphasis in Humanities, Social Science, Science, & Math
Academy of Law and Society
Academy of Core Academics

The School of Technical Arts

Academy of Digital Graphics & Publication
Academy of TV & the Art of Film
Academy of Stagecraft
Academy of Internet Development
Academy of Computer Programming

The School of the Visual and Performing Arts

Academy of Fine Arts: Emphasis in Visual Arts & Animation
Academy of Performing Arts: Emphasis in Vocal and/or Instrumental Music, Theater, Dance or Musical Theatre

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

MODIFIED BLOCK AND ADVISORY PERIOD

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

The Troubadour Advisory class (TAP) meets twice weekly. TAP provides a support system of teacher advocates who offer personalized guidance and support related to academic success, graduation requirements, preparation for postsecondary education and careers. Students remain with the same TAP teacher until 12th grade. The focus then shifts to completion of graduation requirements, and "Life after High School" plans.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE

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

ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

English: AP English 11, AP English 12
Social Science: AP World History, AP U.S. History, AP U.S. Government, AP Macroeconomics
Science: AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Physics B, AP Environmental Science
Mathematics: AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, AP Statistics
Electives: AP Studio Art: Drawing, AP Studio Art: 2-D Design, AP Computer Science A

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

Total number of AP courses: 16

HONORS COURSES

English: English 9, English 10
Science: Anatomy/ Physiology**
Mathematics: Algebra II/ Trigonometry
Foreign Language: Spanish III**, French III**

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

TESTING

ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMINATIONS

2011 Summary

Total number of tests taken	278
Total number of subject areas tested	15
Percent receiving passing scores	74

SAT MEAN SCORES 2011

	<u>Critical Reading</u>	<u>Math</u>	<u>Writing</u>
Santa Susana	569	539	544
State	499	515	499
National	497	514	489

API SCORE

Santa Susana High School's API score is **866**

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

90% in 2011

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ADMISSIONS

Based on graduating class of 2011:

Attending 2 or 4 year schools	90%
Attending 2 year schools	61%
Attending 4 year schools	29%

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

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

Student Government / Leadership (ASB)

Yearbook/ Annual

Film Festival

Theatrical/Musical Productions

Mock Trial

SSHS hosts over forty clubs that include:

Big Brother/ Big Sister	Thespian Club
Film Club	Writers Club
Harry Potter Club	Animation Club
Breakfast Club	Environmental Club
Hip Hop Team	PC Gamers Club
Choir Club	Instrumental Music
Leadership Club	CSF
Key Club	Sports Club

ACCREDITATION AND AWARDS

Santa Susana High School has been awarded approximately \$800,000.00 in state and federal grants to support its programs.

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

U.S News & World Report named Santa Susana High School a Silver Medalist in the annual list of America's Best High Schools (2008 & 2009).

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

The California Business for Education Excellence has named Santa Susana High School as a California Business for Education/Just for Kids-California *Honor Roll School*.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

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

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 a minimum of 20 hours of independent fieldwork. From the senior project students gain important research and writing skills, valuable communication skills, 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, film/video, stagecraft, web design, and digital graphics and publication are explored in ROP classes. All ROP classes award high school credits that count towards graduation requirements.