



## SANTA SUSANA HIGH SCHOOL

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Simi Valley CA 93063  
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www.santasusana.org

CEEB: 053372

## 2010-2011 SCHOOL PROFILE



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

### COUNSELING STAFF

Marilyn Erickson A-K Grades 10th-12th  
Paula McCormack L- Z Grades 10th-12th  
Jillian Bischoff A-Z 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

### 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. 19.1% of the student body is eligible for free and reduced lunch.

Enrollment: 1,243 students, grades 9-12

Faculty: 50

Student/Counselor Ratio: 415:1

### 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 or Musical Theatre

*Academy of Fine Arts:* Emphasis in Visual Arts & Animation

*Academy of Technical Arts:* Emphasis in Stagecraft, Media Arts/Video Production & Digital Graphics & Publication

#### The School of Academics

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

*Academy of Law and Society*

#### The School of Information Technology

*Academy of Internet Development*

*Academy of Computer Programming*

*Academy of e-businessEd.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 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 from year to year.

### 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, AP Computer Science A,

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

Total number of AP courses: 15

### 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

#### 2010 Summary

Total number of tests taken	339
Total number of subject areas tested	14
Percent receiving passing scores	79%

### SAT MEAN SCORES 2010

	<u>Critical Reading</u>	<u>Math</u>	<u>Writing</u>
Santa Susana	592	567	565
State	501	516	500
National	501	516	492

### API SCORE

Santa Susana High School's API score is **838**

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

94% in 2010

### COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ADMISSIONS

Based on graduating class of 2010:

Attending 2 or 4 year schools	94 %
Attending 2 year schools	65 %
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
Botball/Robotics	Environmental Club
Hip Hop Team	PC Gamers Club
Choir Club	Instrumental Music
Musical Production	CSF
Key Club	Sports Club
Hip Hop Club	Harry Potter 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.