

Scheduling

■ **What are the features of a block schedule (LCC and TP)?** Students may take up to 6 classes per year and rotate between periods 1-3-5 and 2-4-6 alternating days. The 120-minute periods allow for in-depth teaching and learning. Students are required to take a minimum of 2 classes per day on campus.

■ **What are the features of a 4x4 schedule (SDA and CCA)?** Students may take up to 4 classes per term or 8 per year. Classes are 90 minutes long. Students are required to take a minimum of 3 classes per day on campus.

■ **If a student completes 230 credits in three years, can he or she graduate from high school early?** Yes.

■ **How well do students perform when they take math or world language for only one semester per year in a 4x4 schedule? Is there a learning gap?** Research has shown that the so-called *gap* in performance (caused by either summer vacation or a semester off) disappears for students after a few weeks back in class.

■ **Does the district offer online course work?** Students who are enrolled at either LCC or TP may elect to take online courses. Independent study online courses can be taken for full credit and will be offered for acceleration at LCC and TP only. In order to be eligible for independent study online courses, students must be enrolled in 4 on-campus classes.

Athletics

■ **How do the athletics programs at the district high schools differ?** CCA, LCC, SDA and TP offer a variety of CIF sports. Football and Cheerleading are only available at LCC and TP.

■ **If one of the four comprehensive high schools does not offer a particular CIF-approved sport, can a student participate on other school's team?** No, CIF does not allow a student at one school to compete on another's team.

Special Considerations

■ **Do all four comprehensive high schools offer special education?** There are special education programs at all 4 high schools. Programs vary by site so please check with your case manager for specifics.

■ **Which school will give my student the best chance of getting into an excellent college?** All of our high schools offer a strong college-prep academic program. SDA, CCA, LCC, TP, and SS have all sent students to top-ranked colleges and universities. For more information about colleges, please contact your high school's Counseling Office.

■ **What if students are in the process of learning English as a second language?** The academic and language needs of all students are addressed at the 4 comprehensive high schools. Students may attend any school regardless of language proficiency.

The San Dieguito Union High School District is committed to equity and excellence.

District Office

710 Encinitas Blvd., Encinitas, CA 92024
Phone: 760-753-6491 Fax: 760-943-3505
Website: www.sduhsd.net

Superintendent

Ken Noah

Board of Trustees

Mrs. Joyce Dalessandro
Mrs. Barbara Groth
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Mrs. Amy Herman
Mr. John Salazar



San Dieguito

Union High School District



*Canyon Crest Academy
La Costa Canyon High School
San Dieguito High School Academy
Sunset/North Coast Alternative High School
Torrey Pines High School*

Four comprehensive high schools.

Two with boundaries.

Two with open enrollment.

Which one is right for you?

Questions
and answers
to help *you* decide.

Deadline to apply: March 5, 2012, 4 p.m.

Abbreviations Used

CCA=Canyon Crest Academy
LCC=La Costa Canyon High School
NCA=North Coast Alternative High School
SDA=San Dieguito [High School] Academy
SS=Sunset High School
TP=Torrey Pines High School

Introduction

One of the top-ranked school districts in California, San Dieguito Union High School District boasts 6 outstanding high schools: Canyon Crest Academy, La Costa Canyon High School, San Dieguito Academy, Sunset High School/North Coast Alternative High School, and Torrey Pines High School.

■ **Canyon Crest Academy and San Dieguito Academy** are comprehensive “non-boundary” schools with open enrollment. Students from any area within the San Dieguito District may apply to either of the 2 academies.

■ **La Costa Canyon and Torrey Pines High Schools** are considered comprehensive “boundary” schools in which attendance is restricted to students living within prescribed school boundaries. However, students in the LCC attendance area may apply for an intra-district transfer to attend TP and students in the TP attendance area may apply for an intra-district transfer to attend LCC.

■ **Sunset High School and North Coast Alternative High School** are continuation (SS and NC) and alternative educational programs. Enrollment at Sunset or North Coast is determined by referral or by application through your comprehensive high school. SS students attend school daily. NCA students work through an independent study program and attend classes 1-5 hours per week.

Eligibility

■ **How is eligibility determined for each of the 4 high schools?** SDA and CCA are “non-boundary” schools with open enrollment. Students from any area within the district may apply either to SDA or CCA. If the number of requests exceed the available space, enrollment is determined by a lottery. LCC and TP are considered “boundary” schools in which attendance is restricted to students living within the school boundaries. However, students may apply for an intra-district transfer to attend LCC or TP.

No student may attend CCA or SDA for any reason if they do not participate in the (HS Selection Process) and declare an academy school by the 3/5/12 deadline. In order to be eligible for the lottery, a student must have their primary residence within the district boundaries **prior** to 3/5/12.

■ **If a student is not selected in the lottery for SDA or CCA, is the student automatically assigned to another school, or can he or she try again?** In this case, the student would automatically be assigned to his or her “boundary” school. If so desired, he or she may apply again to SDA or CCA the following year.

■ **If a student is accepted into SDA or CCA, can he or she change plans and attend LCC or TP instead?** All students and parents must make thoughtful and informed choices on or prior to 3/5/12. At CCA and SDA, students must enroll at and select classes on or before April 27, 2012, in order to hold their Academy position.

■ **If the student has a sibling at SDA or CCA, is he or she automatically accepted?** Everyone must fill out an application by the deadline. If that is done, and the enrolling student will have a sibling at the school during the 2012-2013 year, the incoming student is admitted.

This brochure is designed to answer some of the most often asked questions, but for more thorough information, we invite you to visit the schools’ websites at www.sduhsd.net.

Curriculum and Environment

■ **Are the graduation requirements the same at all high schools?** Yes, the course requirements and the number of units required for graduation (230) are the same at all the high schools. The curriculum is district aligned, and textbooks are district approved. For example, a Biology class at TP is the same as a Biology class taught at CCA, SDA, or LCC.

■ **What are the major differences in the curriculum?** The graduation requirements, the curriculum, and the textbooks are the same at all high schools. LCC and TP offer online learning enrichment classes.

■ **Does the University of California view the coursework differently?** No, each of the high schools has UC approved courses. To see course lists, go to <http://www.ucop.edu/doorways/>.

■ **Is the student:teacher ratio the same at the four comprehensive high schools?** Yes.

■ **Will the curriculum at all 4 high schools accommodate all of a student’s subject needs, or will it be necessary to take classes elsewhere?** A comprehensive choice of classes will be offered, including all those courses necessary to meet district graduation requirements and UC/CSU entrance requirements.

■ **Are Honors and Advanced Placement classes offered at all 4 comprehensive high schools?** Yes, students have the same opportunities for advanced studies at all 4 schools. Courses may be cancelled due to lack of enrollment.

■ **If my student is in Honors classes now, can he or she continue in Honors classes at any of the 4 high schools?** Yes, your student can continue in Honors classes, which are available at all 4 comprehensive high schools, each of which offers “expanded access” to Honors and AP courses.

■ **Where can we get a list of electives for the high schools?** Course profiles will be updated and will be online at all school websites.

■ **Can students take world language courses at colleges or private schools and receive credit?** Yes, but students must first meet with their counselor to complete a permission form. All off-campus course work must be from an accredited program.

■ **Can 2 years of world language and math studies be fulfilled in 1 year at SDA or CCA?** Yes, on a 4x4 schedule it is possible for a student to complete 2 years of a world language and math in one year.

■ **What P.E./Health classes are offered?** Integrated Year One P.E. is recommended for all ninth-graders. In subsequent years, each school also offers a wide variety of elective P.E. courses in such areas as dance, skateboarding, weight training, tennis and surfing.

■ **Other than Year One PE and Elective PE, what PE options are available?** ISPE, ISMPE and PE Credit/Athletics course offerings are available at all 4 high schools. Team Sports are available at LCC and TP.

■ **What music programs are offered?** Each school has an excellent music program, including concert band, jazz ensembles and other specialty courses. TP and CCA also have orchestras.

■ **What are the 4 comprehensive high schools’ API Scores for the Spring, 2010?** CCA-910, LCC-818; SDA-854; TP-880.