



# SANTA MARGARITA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Accredited by the Western Catholic Education Association (WCEA) and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)

## #1

Catholic high school in Orange County  
– Niche.com

## TOP RANKED

Ranked among the top 40 most influential private high schools in the U.S.  
– Academic Influence

## 13

school and college counselors

## 1 OF 4

Catholic, IB World high schools in California

## 90%

student participation in extracurricular activities

## 14:1

student-teacher ratio; average class size of 22

## 65

performing and visual arts classes

## 39,399

hours of direct service to the vulnerable with an economic impact of \$972,757  
\*2020-2021 school year

## 73

CIF team championships and 228 league championships

## TEN-TIME RECIPIENT

of the CIF-SS Commissioners Cup

## MICROSOFT SHOWCASE SCHOOL

eight consecutive years

## 2021-2022 SCHOOL PROFILE

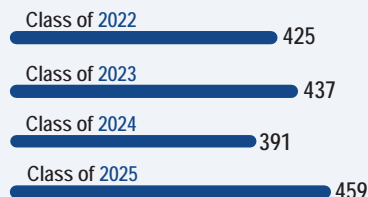
### OVERVIEW

Founded in 1987 under the leadership of the Diocese of Orange, Santa Margarita Catholic High School offers a coeducational, college-preparatory education developing students who are people of faith, skilled lifelong learners, healthy individuals and involved citizens of the world. Santa Margarita provides a well-rounded educational experience known for the breadth and quality of its academic programs, innovative technology, student-centered classrooms, emphasis on service and social justice, nationally recognized athletic program, award-winning arts programs and active student body. Centered in the school's charism of Caritas Christi, the love of Christ, students are called to live out the school's core principles of compassion, humility, justice and goodness.

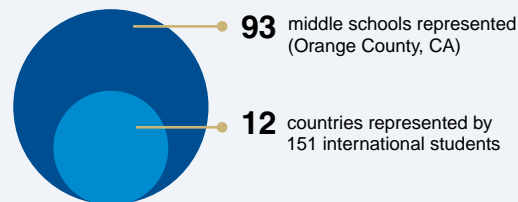
### 2021-2022 STUDENT BODY

- 56% Caucasian, 17% Asian/Pacific Islander, 10% Multiracial, 6% Hispanic/Latino, 1% Black/African American, 1% Native American/Alaskan Native, 9% Declined to state
- 50% male, 50% female
- 30% of Santa Margarita students receive tuition assistance/scholarships
- 91% U.S. citizen, 9% non-U.S. citizen

### ENROLLMENT: 1,712



### GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION



### CURRICULUM & GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

#### SCHEDULE

- School year includes: Two semesters comprised of approximately 18 weeks
- Modified Block Schedule: 75-minute periods four days a week and one all-periods day per week with 45-minute periods/classes meet three times per week
- All students must take seven courses per semester (9th-12th grade)

#### ACADEMIC GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

\* Each semester class is 5 credits

Religion	4 years	40 credits
English	4 years	40 credits
Social Studies	3 years	30 credits
Science	3 years	30 credits
Mathematics	3 years	30 credits
World Languages	2 years	20 credits
Fine Arts	1 year	10 credits
Health	½ year	5 credits
Physical Education	1 year	10 credits
Electives	4 years	55 credits
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>270 credits</b>

- Minimum GPA to graduate is 2.0
- First Honors: 4.0 and above (weighted)
- Second Honors: 3.5-3.99 (weighted)

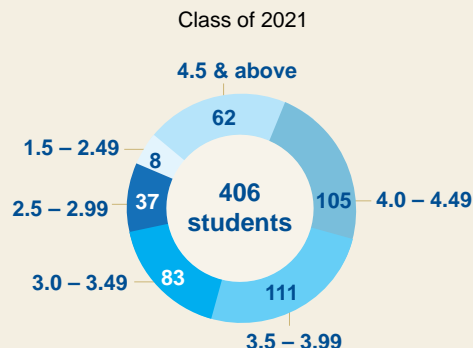
#### GRADING SYSTEM

SMCHS is a non-ranking school

**A** 90-100    **C** 70-79    **F** 59 & below  
**B** 80-89    **D** 60-69

- Pluses and minuses do not affect GPA
- Honors/AP/IB receive an extra point for Cs and above
- Maximum number of credits for GPA calculation is 280
- All academic courses are counted on the transcripts with no exceptions
- Remediation is recommended for all Ds and required for all Fs
- Maximum GPA possible is 4.92 (Only achieved as a full IB candidate (2 years honors philosophy and honors electives for 4 years) is 4.92)

#### CUMULATIVE ACADEMIC GPA DISTRIBUTION



# TESTING DATA & ADVANCED COURSES

Due to COVID-19 access and a decreased emphasis on collegiate standardized testing, many of our students applied to college without submitting a score.

## ACT scores – 126 students tested

CLASS OF 2021	SMCHS	STATE	NATIONAL	
COMPOSITE	27.7	22.6	20.7	<b>27.7</b> average SMCHS Class of 2021 ACT score

## SAT scores – 161 students tested

CLASS OF 2021	SMCHS	STATE	NATIONAL	
TOTAL	1262	1065	1058	<b>1262</b> average SMCHS Class of 2021 SAT score

## AP TESTING (2021)

Due to COVID-19, SM did not require all 10th-12th students to sit for the May 2021 AP exams.

- 560 SM Students sat for the May online AP exams (10th-12th grade)
- 1053 total exams were administered
- 162 exams received a score of 5
- 257 exams received a score of 4
- 267 exams received a score of 3
- 169 AP Scholars (2021)

**169** AP Scholars (2021)

## PASS RATE BY SUBJECT (2021)

SUBJECT	PASS RATE	STUDENTS
Art History	48%	23
Biology	69%	73
Calculus AB	58%	62
Calculus BC	96%	25
Computer Science A	78%	9
English Lang & Comp	87%	171
English Lit & Comp	59%	61
Environmental Science	70%	89
European History	95%	30
French Lang	100%	7
Human Geography	100%	1
Macroeconomics	43%	65
Microeconomics	39%	28
Music Theory	75%	8
Physics 1	53%	76
Physics C	87%	15
Psychology	54%	82
Spanish Language	67%	6
Statistics	48%	21
US Gov & Politics	72%	46
US History	82%	71
World History	73%	66

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT SCHOLARS

	2021	2020	2019	2018	TOTAL
w/Distinction	51	73	61	69	254
w/Honors	47	41	37	44	169
Scholars	71	54	84	90	299

## NATIONAL MERIT RECOGNITION

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Finalists	TBA	4	7	3	4
Semifinalists	3	4	7	3	4
Commended	17	16	22	15	22

**3**  
NATIONAL  
MERIT  
SEMIFINALISTS  
(CLASS OF 2022)

## ADVANCED COURSES

- 114 high-level courses offered – twice the number of any Catholic school in Orange County
- Enrollment contingent upon department approval, placement exams, grades and teacher recommendations
- All advanced courses are taught at a faster pace and go into greater depth

### AP COURSES (21)

- All students enrolled must take the AP exam in May 2022
  - 9th graders may not take any AP exams
  - 10th graders may only take AP World, AP Euro, AP Art History
- AP English Language and Composition  
AP Literature and Composition  
AP Calculus AB  
AP Calculus BC  
AP Statistics  
AP Biology  
AP Physics 1  
AP Physics C  
AP Environmental Science  
AP Government/US Politics  
AP Microeconomics\*  
AP US History  
AP European History  
AP World History  
AP Macroeconomics\*  
AP Spanish Language  
AP French  
AP Art History  
AP Computer Science A  
AP Psychology  
AP Music Theory

\* Each class is one semester. Students are required to take one AP exam but may choose to take both.

### HONORS COURSES (46)

- ENGLISH**  
English 1 & 2 H  
Advanced Debate/Argumentation H  
Journalism 1 H  
Advanced Journalism H
- MATHEMATICS**  
Algebra 1 & 2 H  
Geometry H  
Precalculus H  
Precalculus H AI
- SCIENCE**  
Biology H  
Chemistry H
- SOCIAL STUDIES**  
Economics MUN H  
Cultural Geography MUN H  
United States History MUN H  
United States Government MUN H  
World History MUN H  
Modern & Contemporary Art H
- WORLD LANGUAGES**  
Spanish 1, 2, & 3 H  
French 1, 2, 3, & 5 H  
Latin 1, 2, & 3 H  
Ancient Greek 1, 2, & 3 H  
Mandarin Chinese 1, 2, & 3 H
- ARTS**  
Advanced Women's Chorus H  
Chamber Singers H  
Advanced Dance H  
*New 2021-22*  
Steel Drum/Percussion Ensemble H  
String Orchestra H  
Wind Ensemble H  
Advanced Theatre H  
Dance Production H  
Screenwriting H  
Advanced Painting H  
Broadcast Journalism H  
Advanced Drawing H

### IB COURSES (47)

- Only juniors and seniors are permitted to take IB courses
  - All students enrolled in an IB course must sit for the IB exam
- English IB HL1 & HL2\*  
Spanish IB SL, HL1 & HL2\*  
French IB SL, HL1 & HL2\*  
Latin IB SL, HL1 & HL2  
Greek IB SL  
Mandarin Chinese IB SL  
History IB HL1 & HL2\*  
Economics IB SL  
Business Management IB HL1 & HL2  
Biology IB SL, HL1 & HL2\*  
Chemistry IB SL  
Design Tech IB SL  
*New 2021-2022*  
Physics IB HL1 & HL2\*  
Environmental Systems & Societies IB SL\*  
Math AI IB HL1 & HL2\*  
Mathematics IB AA SL, HL1 & HL2\*  
Dance IB HL1 & HL2  
Music Group Performance IB SL  
Film IB HL1 & HL2  
Music IB HL1 & HL2  
Theatre Arts IB SL, HL 1 & HL2  
Visual Arts IB HL 1 & HL2  
Philosophy IB HL1 & HL2\*  
Theory of Knowledge  
Global Politics IB SL

\* Co-enrolled with AP courses, IB students may sit for both exams.

# INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMME

SMCHS is one of four Catholic high schools in California to offer the International Baccalaureate Programme. SMCHS students must meet academic prerequisites to enter the full diploma programme or courses.

Full IB diploma candidates, in addition to their coursework, take:

- A Theory of Knowledge seminar course to apply thinking and inquiry across all subject areas
- Research and write an extended essay of over 4,000 words on a student-generated inquiry/research question
- Independently engage in creative projects, physical activity and service (CAS)



## UNIQUE FEATURES AT SMCHS INCLUDE:

From 2014 – 2021, 98.35% of SMCHS full diploma candidates have earned the diploma; 100% earned the diploma in 2021 versus the 88% global average

- IB students are often co-enrolled in AP courses and sit for both the IB and AP exams.
- Historically, SMCHS students earn an average of 33.45 full diploma points, qualifying them for advanced standing at many universities/colleges.
- Philosophy HL 1&2 replaces the SMCHS requirement for Religion 3 & 4. Since most SMCHS IB full diploma candidates also enroll in English HL, they develop the critical literacy skills necessary for high level contributions to their future university learning.
- Extracurricular CAS activities intentionally leverage technology for global collaboration and virtual participation in projects (Climate Action Project, Smithsonian and Boston Public Library, etc.)
- IB full diploma students take an advanced academic load of seven classes per semester, where many IB schools require five to six.

The IB Full Diploma Programme attracts a diverse group of learners committed to challenging themselves with a highly rigorous curriculum that expects in-depth critical thinking that balances perspectives, design thinking, global-mindedness, and effective multi-modal communication. IB full diploma learners transfer these skills to be mutually responsible for self, others, and the planet growing in compassion, reflection and resilience.

**55** full diploma students (class of 2022), 12.7% of the class,  
full diploma students (class of 2023), 18.4% of the class.

**29** full diploma students (class of 2021), 7.3% of the class with  
100% earning the diploma

**95%** pass rate with 505 total exams taken (class of 2021)

SUBJECT	STUDENTS	PASS RATE
English Literature HL	78	100%
French B HL	1	100%
French B SL	5	100%
Latin HL	3	100%
Latin SL	7	100%
Spanish HL	9	100%
Spanish SL	32	100%
Mandarin SL	19	100%
Business Management HL	74	90%
Economics SL	10	90%
History of the Americas HL	8	100%
Philosophy HL	28	100%
Biology HL	3	100%
Biology SL	12	100%
Chemistry SL	20	80%
Environmental Systems & Society SL	21	81%
Physics HL	5	100%
Math AA HL	12	100%
Math AA SL	15	100%
Math AI HL	8	100%
Math AI SL	10	90%
Dance HL	11	100%
Music HL	1	100%
Music Group Performance SL	4	100%
Theatre HL	5	100%
Film HL	14	100%
Visual Arts HL	7	100%
Visual Arts SL	4	75%

**505 Total Exams Taken 247 95.%**

## PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE



### SERVICE LEARNING IN THE SPIRIT OF THE GOSPEL

In the living out of our charism of Caritas Christi, the love of Christ, SMCHS Campus Ministry offers its students a robust service learning program throughout all four years. Freshmen and sophomores participate in class service projects, uniquely designed within the religion curriculum to serve an underserved or vulnerable population. Juniors and seniors are given the freedom to complete their projects by participating in direct service work with a number of approved nonprofits in areas and issues they are interested in. Christian service at Santa Margarita is integral in forming young women and men in our school's charism. Therefore, completion of the grade level service projects is a graduation requirement.



**LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES** Over 90% of SMCHS students participate in school related extracurricular activities giving ample opportunities to develop leadership and management skills.



**MODEL UNITED NATIONS** SMCHS's award-winning MUN program catapults students into the world of diplomacy and international relations with students participating in mock UN meetings worldwide. Student participation is an extracurricular commitment but also integrated into the honors social studies curriculum. Since 2000, our program has won over 9,606 individual awards and 98 delegation awards.



**ROBOTICS/ENGINEERING** The school's award-winning robotics team "SMbly Required" functions like a startup with students learning CAD modeling, welding, marketing and project management. Students design, build, program and test competition-ready robots.



**STREAM** Santa Margarita's STREAM program weaves together science, technology, religion, engineering, arts and math reaching beyond traditional disciplinary boundaries.



**ARTS** Visual and performing arts classes provide a diverse array of opportunities for students to learn and express their artistic talents. Through regional and national competitions, international performances, and award-winning productions, SMCHS students share their talents with the community.



**ESPORTS** Santa Margarita's world champion esports team plays various games each season and competes in several different arenas. Students learn how to shoutcast while streaming on a production crew and train and play like professionals.



**EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY** As one of 38 Microsoft Showcase Schools in the nation, SMCHS is a leader in utilizing technology to create collaborative student-centered classrooms and improve learning outcomes.



**ATHLETICS** Since the school opened over 34 years ago, SMCHS has earned more championships than any other school in Southern California with 8 state championships, 73 CIF championships, and 228 league championships. SMCHS offers 26 CIF and six club programs.



**AUXILIARY STUDIES PROGRAM** The school's ASP department offers a comprehensive support program giving students with diagnosed learning differences the tools to succeed alongside their non-learning disabled peers.



**EAGLES EDGE** SMCHS alumni and industry professionals provide real-world growth and networking opportunities through internships, jobs and hands-on workshops.



**NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY** NHS membership at SMCHS is highly selective. Students must demonstrate how their actions meet the four NHS pillars of scholarship, character, service, and leadership along with a GPA requirement of 3.5. Only 15% of each class earns this distinction.



**MEDIA** Students work together inside the classroom and after school hours to produce a daily news broadcast show (ETV 2.0), a news website (SMCHSEagleEye.com), and the award-winning Eagle Eye student newspaper. Using state-of-the-art production equipment, ETV 2.0 students edit, film, write and produce content.



**WELLNESS** SMCHS offers a comprehensive student support program comprised of mental health education, training, resources, and referrals to meet the challenges of adolescence. The wellness team offers on-campus resources for the school community.

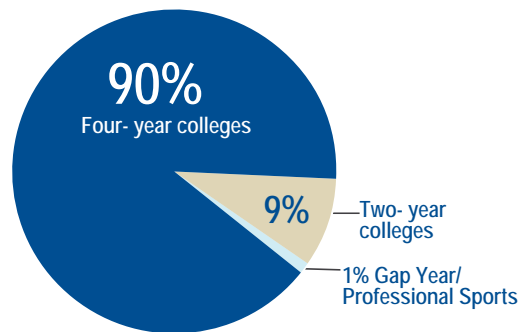
# COLLEGE MATRICULATION 2020-2021

Below is the complete list of all colleges attended for the past two years.

- |  |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|---|
| Abilene Christian University           | Duke University                                  | Purdue University                      | University of Cincinnati                    |
| Allegheny College                      | Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University             | Regis University                       | University of Colorado Boulder              |
| Arizona State University               | Emory University                                 | Rice University                        | University of Denver                        |
| Auburn University                      | FIDM-Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising | Riverside City College                 | University of Guelph                        |
| Augustana College                      | Fordham University                               | Rollins College                        | University of Hawaii                        |
| Babson College                         | Fullerton College                                | Rutgers University                     | University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  |
| Baylor University                      | Gannon University                                | Sacred Heart University                | University of Kansas                        |
| Belmont University                     | George Fox University                            | Saddleback College                     | University of Kentucky                      |
| Biola University                       | George Washington University                     | Saint Mary's College of California     | University of Maryland                      |
| Blinn College                          | Georgetown University                            | Salve Regina University                | University of Miami                         |
| Boise State University                 | Golden West College                              | San Diego State University             | University of Minnesota                     |
| Boston College                         | Gonzaga University                               | San Francisco State University         | University of Mississippi                   |
| Boston Conservatory at Berklee         | Grand Canyon University                          | San Jose State University              | University of Missouri                      |
| Boston University                      | Harvard University                               | Santa Barbara City College             | University of Nevada-Reno                   |
| Brandeis University                    | Harvey Mudd College                              | Santa Clara University                 | University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill |
| Brigham Young University               | Indiana University                               | Santiago Canyon College                | University of Notre Dame                    |
| Brown University                       | Iowa State University                            | Seattle University                     | University of Oklahoma                      |
| Butler University                      | Irvine Valley College                            | Southern Methodist University          | University of Oregon                        |
| Cal Poly Pomona                        | Johns Hopkins University                         | St. John's University                  | University of Pennsylvania                  |
| California Baptist University          | Kansas State University                          | Stanford University                    | University of Portland                      |
| California Lutheran University         | Lake Erie College                                | SUNY Maritime College                  | University of Rochester                     |
| Case Western Reserve University        | Lehigh University                                | Syracuse University                    | University of San Diego                     |
| Chapman University                     | Lewis & Clark College                            | Texas A & M University-College Station | University of South Francisco               |
| Christopher Newport University         | Louisiana State University                       | Texas Christian University             | University of South Carolina                |
| Citrus College                         | Loyola Marymount University                      | The New School                         | University of Southern California           |
| Claremont McKenna College              | Loyola University Chicago                        | The University of Alabama              | University of St Andrews                    |
| Clemson University                     | Marist College                                   | The University of Arizona              | University of Toronto                       |
| College of San Mateo                   | Massachusetts Institute of Technology            | The University of Tennessee            | University of Utah                          |
| College of the Holy Cross              | Miami University-Oxford                          | The University of Texas at Austin      | University of Virginia                      |
| Colorado Mesa University               | Michigan State University                        | Trinity College                        | University of Washington                    |
| Colorado School of Mines               | Montana State University                         | Tufts University                       | University of Wisconsin-Madison             |
| Colorado State University-Fort Collins | Mount St. Mary's University                      | Tulane University                      | Vanderbilt University                       |
| Columbia University                    | New York University                              | UC Berkeley                            | Vanguard University                         |
| Concordia University                   | Northeastern University                          | UC Davis                               | Villanova University                        |
| Cornell University                     | Northern Arizona University                      | UC Irvine                              | Washington State University                 |
| Creighton University                   | Northwestern University                          | UC Los Angeles                         | Washington University in St Louis           |
| CSU- Maritime Academy                  | Oakton Community College                         | UC Riverside                           | Wellesley College                           |
| CSU-Chico                              | Ohio State University                            | UC San Diego                           | Westmont College                            |
| CSU-Fullerton                          | Oklahoma State University                        | UC Santa Barbara                       | Wheaton College                             |
| CSU-Long Beach                         | Orange Coast College                             | UC Santa Cruz                          | Wofford College                             |
| CSU-Northridge                         | Oregon State University                          | United States Military Academy         | Xavier University                           |
| CSU-San Luis Obispo                    | Pennsylvania State University                    | United States Naval Academy            |   |
| CSU-San Marcos                         | Pepperdine University                            | University College London              |   |
| Dartmouth College                      | Point Loma Nazarene University                   | University of British Columbia         |   |
| Dixie State University                 | Princeton University                             | University of Chicago                  |   |

## COLLEGE ENROLLMENT STATISTICS: CLASS OF 2021

- 406** students in the class of 2021
- \$38** million in scholarship offers
- 133** colleges and universities attended by the class of 2021
- 99** percent attend college
- 363** colleges and universities applied to
- 3,754** college applications
- 2,104** college acceptances
- 56** percent total acceptance rate
- 100** percent acceptance rate at 200 schools
- 193** graduates were accepted at every college they applied (48% of class)



## COLLEGE GEOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN

35 U.S. states, 4 International countries



## PUBLIC vs PRIVATE



CEEB Code 052563 IB Code 000949  
22062 Antonio Parkway Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688 (949) 766-6000 • www.smhs.org

J. Andrew Sulick  
President

Cheri Wood  
Principal

John Hayek  
Assistant Principal,  
Academics

Monique Harrison  
Assistant Principal,  
Instruction and School  
Climate

**COUNSELING DEPARTMENT:** (949) 766-6010

### COLLEGE COUNSELING

Each student is assigned a college counselor during their junior year to guide and support each student through their college preparatory and application process.

### DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE COUNSELING

Mrs. Melissa Fosdick . . . . . fosdickm@smhs.org

### DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

Mrs. Christa Crafts . . . . . craftsc@smhs.org

### ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS OF COLLEGE COUNSELING:

Ms. Jordan Burner . . . . . burnerj@smhs.org

Ms. Megan Carlier . . . . . carlierm@smhs.org

Ms. Eva Hester . . . . . hestere@smhs.org

### ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS (Athletics)

Mr. Mike Hiserman . . . . . hisermanm@smhs.org

### REGISTRAR

Mrs. Cheryl Dopudja . . . . . dopudjac@smhs.org

### SCHOOL COUNSELING & WELLNESS:

Seven school counselors advise, support and encourage students academically and personally throughout their four years. The school's three wellness counselors provide additional support upon request and offer a robust educational program for families.