



### MISSION STATEMENT

In a community that fosters academic excellence, ethical responsibility, and global engagement, Pacific Ridge School prepares students for college and a purposeful life.

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- 100% hold a passport
- 66 compete on at least 1 PRS team
- 52 visual or performing artists
- 30 speak languages beyond English at home\*
- 12 speak English as a second language
- 8 born outside the US
- 3 first in their family to attend college

\* English plus Farsi, French German, Gujarati, Hindi, Italian, Mandarin Chinese, Serbian, Spanish, Teluga, Vietnamese, Yoruba

**191 AP exams taken by 90 Juniors**  
88% scored 3+  
63% scored 4-5

**12** RECOGNIZED by  
NATIONAL MERIT  
SCHOLARSHIP  
CORPORATION



**3** NATIONAL MERIT  
SEMI-FINALISTS

### STANDARDIZED TESTING, mid-50%\*

SAT		ACT	
Composite	1250 -1430	Composite	28 - 34
EBRW	610 - 710	English	27 - 34
Math	620 - 740	Reading	28 - 36
		Math	27 - 34
		Science	26 - 32

\*Testing data for current seniors is based on the small percentage taking the SAT (46) and/or the ACT (20). Many test centers in San Diego County remain closed or have rescheduled due to the COVID pandemic. Pacific Ridge School is not a testing center.

### THE SCHOOL

Founded in 2007, Pacific Ridge School is an independent, coeducational, college preparatory day school in Carlsbad, California, serving 635 students in grades 7-12. Accredited by WASC, Pacific Ridge School is a member of NAIS, CAIS, the College Board, the ERB, NACAC, WACAC and ACCIS.

### GRADUATION & DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

Pacific Ridge School's curriculum and graduation requirements exceed those of the State of California diploma and UC/CSU eligibility. All courses required for graduation must be completed on the Pacific Ridge campus.

- English: 4 years
- Math: 3 years (Geometry through Algebra 2/Trigonometry)
- History: 3 years (Ancient & Modern World History, US History)
- Science: 3 years (Integrated Biology & Chemistry I & II)
- Language: 3 years of same language in Upper School
- Arts: 2 years
- Health: 1 trimester, PE/Athletics: 5 trimesters
- Service Learning: 2 years
- Sophomore and Junior Project and Senior Signature

### NEW INNOVATION CENTER & LIBRARY

- Advanced Biotech Lab
- Technology & Electronics Lab
- Robotics & Maker Space



8

Science  
Labs  
throughout  
campus

### STUDENTS & FACULTY

Pacific Ridge School draws students from over 20 San Diego County communities. Committed to a diverse student body, the school awards more than \$3.5 million in tuition assistance to 30% of students, including full coverage for tuition and expenses earmarked for 11 students who will be the first in their families to attend college. Students identifying as non-white in ethnicity comprise 37% of the student body. Pacific Ridge maintains a 7:1 student-to-teacher ratio (15:1 in the classroom), allowing talented and experienced teachers (87% with advanced degrees) to engage in working partnerships with students and extend the educational experience beyond the classroom.



## ACADEMIC PROGRAM & REPORTING

Deliberate curricular integration in instruction teaches students to draw connections across disciplines, which builds a broader understanding of themes, ideas, questions and topics. Small classes taught around the Harkness table allow teachers to combine the best of one-on-one instruction with the dynamics of group discussion. Pacific Ridge operates on a final mastery grade system, whereby grades-in-progress are reported to students at 11-week, trimester intervals and only the final, transcript grade in each course is calculated in the cumulative GPA. Our Midyear Report to colleges in late January provides grades-in-progress as an average of Trimester 1 and Interim 2.

## RANK IN CLASS AND GPA

Pacific Ridge School does not rank students numerically due to the small size of each graduating class and the nature of an academic culture concentrated on fostering a life-long love of learning characterized in measures beyond grades. Each Senior's weighted grade point average is reported by College Guidance in the Secondary School Report, submitted with the official transcript. Our GPA is based on all graded courses taken at Pacific Ridge grades 9-12, and each honors, AP and post-AP honors course with a grade of C or higher is weighted one point.

## COURSE OFFERINGS

Honors and AP coursework is available to students who have completed the appropriate prerequisites and have the recommendation of the faculty. Seniors enrolled in more than **our cap of 3 AP courses** have petitioned for and been granted an exception.

### ENGLISH

English 9  
English 10  
American Literature  
Honors American Literature  
African American Literature  
Genre Studies  
Rhetoric  
AP English Language & Composition  
AP English Literature & Composition  
Women in Literature  
World Literature

### SOCIAL SCIENCE & HISTORY

Ancient World History  
Modern World History  
US History  
AP US History  
Ethics, Law, and Philosophy  
Middle East History & Diplomacy  
US Government & Politics  
Theories of Social Change\*  
Theory of Knowledge

### SHTeam

Architectural Foundations  
Building for the Future  
Engineering Design  
Hands-on Aerodynamics  
Industrial Design  
Social Entrepreneurship  
Sociology of Food  
Surfing, Sustainability & the Sea  
Zombiology

\* course not offered 2021-22

### MATH

Introduction to Algebra  
Algebra 1, 1B  
Algebra 1 Advanced  
Data Science  
Geometry  
Honors Geometry  
Algebra 2/Trig  
Honors Algebra 2/Trig  
Precalculus  
Honors Pre-Calculus  
Statistics  
Honors Statistics  
Essentials of Calculus  
AP Calculus AB  
AP Calculus BC  
Multi-Variable Calculus  
(post-AP honors)

### WORLD LANGUAGES

Chinese 1, 2, 3, 4  
Chinese 2 Advanced  
Honors Chinese 3, 4, 5  
AP Chinese Language & Culture  
French 1, 1B, 2, 3, 4,  
French 2 Advanced  
Honors French 3, 4  
AP French Language & Culture  
Spanish 1, 1B, 2, 3, 4, 5  
Spanish 2 Advanced  
Honors Spanish 3, 4, 5  
AP Spanish Language & Culture

### ARTS

Visual Arts  
2D Design  
3D Design  
Honors Visual Arts  
AP 2D Art & Design: Photography  
Graphic Design 1, 2  
Advanced Topics in Design  
Honors Graphic Design  
AP 2D Art & Design: Graphic Design  
Digital Photography  
Advanced Digital Photography  
AP Art History  
Digital Filmmaking 1, 2  
Dance 1, 2, 3, 4  
Honors Dance Ensemble  
Digital Music Production  
Vocal Ensemble  
Honors Vocal Ensemble

### SCIENCE

Bio/Chem 1: Biology  
Bio/Chem 2: Chemistry  
AP Biology  
AP Chemistry  
Honors Physics  
AP Physics C  
Anatomy & Physiology  
Honors Environmental Science  
AP Environmental Science  
Marine Biology  
Conceptual Physics  
(our 8th grade science)

### GENERAL ELECTIVES

AP Psychology  
Economics  
Film Studies  
Financial Literacy  
Journalism & Media Studies  
Programming 1, 2  
Robotics

Jazz Rock Ensemble  
Honors Jazz Rock Ensemble  
Classical Music Ensemble  
Honors Classical Music Ensemble  
AP Music Theory  
Theater Arts  
Advanced Theater Arts: Acting & Directing  
Honors Theater Ensemble  
Yearbook



### SERVICE LEARNING

Service Learning is a student-led commitment to identify and address challenges faced by local and global communities. In a weekly class, students collaborate in their service groups to advance solutions promoting equity, peace and social justice, and to lead change in health and education, science, innovation and the environment. 78% of Seniors continue with the program two years beyond our 10th grade requirement.



### GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

Global issues are woven into the curriculum with 2 weeks each spring devoted to travel. As 9th graders, these Seniors journeyed to China for an immersive cultural experience (a homestay for many). As Juniors, they further developed leadership skills by opting into wilderness courses and now work with faculty, connecting their curricula, service, and curiosity about key global issues to build global field courses planned for spring.

### GLOBAL TRAVEL PROGRAM



### GRADE-LEVEL EXPERIENCES

GRADE **9**

9th graders choose a topic of importance to them, research, craft, and deliver an oration to their entire grade. Finalists present to the upper school student body, faculty, administration and Board of Trustees. The Class of 2022 presented orations on human trafficking in San Diego, the “glass box” of gender roles, compulsive apologizing, excessive police brutality against minorities, the importance of voting in local elections, and the power of positive thinking, to name a few.

GRADE **10**

Sophomores research a historically significant topic they think should be memorialized and are encouraged to explore how the dominant historical narrative may have relegated important, lesser-known persons or historical events to footnotes. The project culminates in a public art gallery created to stoke curiosity about the intersectionality of art, history and social movements. These Seniors’ memorial projects ran the gamut, from a maze of Jewish history in the Dominican Republic, to structures questioning the separation of children from their immigrant parents, the history of police brutality, and gerrymandering.

GRADE **11**

Each junior identifies a field of interest, sets a career-oriented interview with an expert, conducts the interview, then transcribes it into a presentation or a podcast designed to inform the school community. Current Seniors’ interviews explored careers in STEAM, writing, arts management, policy-making, digital media, philanthropy, innovation, environmental sustainability, medicine, bioengineering, activism for social justice, law, and leadership.

GRADE **12**

Seniors develop an individual or team project tailored to their interests and emerging identities, which they share with the community as presentations, exhibits or performances. The “signatures” reflect the purposeful lives of our graduates as supported by their Pacific Ridge experience and celebrate the various arcs of their development as young adults. Examples of past signatures include a First Gen to College discussion group, the Firebirds’ first varsity jacket, campus art installations, World Religions and Ethnic Studies courses, and a regional student diversity summit. Signatures are designed to inspire students to reflect on what their own legacy to Pacific Ridge might be.



**400** GRADUATES FROM **CLASSES 2018-2021**  
**134** COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES | **32** States **6** Countries

**CALIFORNIA**

California Institute of Technology \*  
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo \*  
CSU Long Beach\*  
Chapman University \*  
Claremont McKenna College  
Harvey Mudd College  
Loyola Marymount University \*  
Mira Costa College \*  
Pepperdine University \*  
Pitzer College \*  
Pomona College \*  
San Jose State University  
Santa Clara University \*  
Santa Monica College \*  
Scripps College \*  
Sonoma State University  
St. Mary's College of California  
Stanford University \*  
UC Berkeley \*  
UC Davis \*  
UC Irvine \*  
UC Los Angeles \*  
UC San Diego \*  
UC Santa Barbara \*  
UC Santa Cruz \*  
University of Redlands \*  
University of San Diego \*  
University of San Francisco \*  
University of Southern California \*  
Whittier College

**PACIFIC NORTHWEST**

Gonzaga University  
Lewis and Clark College \*  
Seattle University \*  
University of Oregon \*  
University of Washington \*

**WEST/MOUNTAIN**

Arizona State University \*  
Brigham Young University, Idaho  
Brigham Young University, Provo  
Colorado State University  
Northern Arizona University  
Regis University  
United States Air Force Academy  
The University of Arizona \*  
University of Colorado, Boulder \*  
University of Denver \*  
University of Utah \*  
Utah Valley University

**MIDWEST**

Augustana College  
Bradley University \*  
Carleton College \*  
Indiana University, Bloomington \*  
Kenyon College \*  
Marquette University  
Miami University of Ohio \*  
Northwestern University \*  
The University of Oklahoma  
Purdue University \*  
St. Olaf College  
The Ohio State University  
University of Chicago  
Illinois Urbana-Champaign\*  
University of Michigan \*  
University of Notre Dame \*  
Washington University in St. Louis \*

**MID-ATLANTIC**

American University  
Bryn Mawr College  
Carnegie Mellon University \*  
College of William and Mary  
Drexel University \*  
Duquesne University  
George Washington University \*  
Georgetown University  
Lafayette College  
Stevens Institute of Technology  
Swarthmore College  
University of Pennsylvania  
Ursinus College  
Villanova University  
Washington & Lee University \*

**SOUTH/SOUTHEAST**

Auburn University \*  
Belmont University  
Duke University  
Elon University  
Emory University  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
High Point University  
Rice University  
Savannah College of Art & Design  
Southern Methodist University \*  
Texas Christian University \*  
Tulane University  
University of Georgia  
University of Miami \*  
University of Mississippi

University of Texas  
Vanderbilt University  
Wake Forest University

**NORTHEAST**

Bard College  
Barnard College  
Bentley University \*  
Berklee College of Music  
Boston College\*  
Boston University \*  
Brown University \*  
Colby College  
Columbia University  
Cornell University \*  
Dartmouth College  
Emerson College\*  
Fordham University \*  
Harvard College \*  
Middlebury College  
The New School \*  
Mannes School of Music  
New York University \*  
Northeastern University \*  
Pace University  
Parsons School of Design\*  
Rochester Institute of Technology \*  
Southern Connecticut State University  
Springfield College  
Syracuse University \*  
Tufts University \*  
University of Rhode Island  
Vassar College  
Wesleyan University  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute \*  
Yale University \*

**INTERNATIONAL**

The American University of Paris  
Cardiff University, Wales  
Franklin University, Switzerland  
Regent's University London  
Sciences Po - Columbia University  
University of British Columbia,  
Okanagan  
University of British Columbia,  
Vancouver \*  
University of Toronto

*\* Indicates more than one matriculation to that institution.*