

# School Profile 2022-2023

## History & Philosophy

Established in 1957, Dunn School is a grade 6-12, co-educational, independent school for boarding and day students, located in Santa Barbara County on California's Central Coast. The school is characterized by seminar-style classes that encourage curiosity and open inquiry, responsiveness to a range of learning styles, and a close community of educators who value both intellectual and personal growth.

## Mission & Values

The Dunn community educates the whole student to his or her fullest potential in preparation for a life of learning and responsible leadership in society.

We strive toward the balanced education of the whole person. Our curriculum, both in the classroom and beyond, is designed around five core values: Emotional Wellness, Physical Readiness, Intellectual Growth, Social Responsibility, and Moral Courage.

### ADDRESS

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### CONTACTS

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#### GENE VACHON

Associate Head of School

#### SIMON SWEENEY

Associate Head of School for  
Curriculum and Learning

#### KALYAN BALAVAN

Head of School

Memberships:

NACAC, WACAC, ACCIS,  
NAIS, CAIS, TABS

### ACCREDITATION



## Students & Setting

<b>43</b> Class of 2023	<b>26%</b> Domestic Students of Color	<b>52%</b> Upper School Students Receiving Financial Aid	<b>5:1</b> Student-to- Faculty Ratio
<b>154</b> Upper School Enrollment	<b>15%</b> International Students	<b>100%</b> Class of 2020 4-year College Admission	<b>9</b> Average Class Size
<b>47/53%</b> Boarding/Day	<b>13</b> Nations of Origin		<b>55</b> Acre Rural Campus

## Covid-19

Dunn School transitioned to online learning in the Spring of 2020. Students faced unforeseen challenges including quarantining in their home countries, time zone differences, and limited/inconsistent internet access. The Fall of 2020 began with online instruction and in late October the School moved to an in-person learning option. Due to smaller class cohorts students enrolled in only 5 classes instead of the typical 6. Clubs, athletics, and extra-curricular programs were significantly impacted during this time.

# Academics & Grading System

## Academics

Dunn's academic curriculum privileges intellectual growth and skill mastery. Our highly supportive and accessible faculty promote creativity, intellectual courage, curiosity, and ethics in the learning process. This balanced approach allows us to engage a broad range of learners across disciplines in an authentic and purpose-driven approach to their academic life.

## Advanced Curriculum

Dunn's advanced curriculum is responsive to the interests, abilities and aspirations of our students and the unique strengths of our faculty. In addition to high intellectual standards, advanced courses place a greater emphasis on creative thought, evidence-based arguments, and intellectual risk - emphasizing skill mastery through multiple modes of assessment. Students in these courses engage with more sophisticated materials across all disciplines and are held to a higher standard of participation. The course selection process, including placement in advanced courses, includes oversight by the Academic Dean, Director of College Counseling, and faculty advisors, to ensure appropriate rigor and balance.

## Experiential & Enrichment Curriculum

Central to our whole student philosophy, we dedicate over 100 hours each year to experiential-based learning. Our week-long wilderness trips focus on character development and community mindedness. Our Wednesday enrichment classes and week-long Mini Term encourage students to connect with their passions. Here students are given the opportunity to share their personal interests as well as interact with faculty outside of the academic setting. This further promotes the concept of faculty as mentor and students' personal discovery and students take no more than 2-3 advanced courses per year in their areas of greatest interest.

## Learning Strategies

Dunn School offers a unique Learning Strategies program that provides highly personalized academic support designed to meet the needs of students with mild learning differences.

## Discipline Policy

Dunn reports discipline in accordance with application requirements. Students are counseled to truthfully answer all questions regarding disciplinary actions rendered through their Dunn tenure.

## Grading System

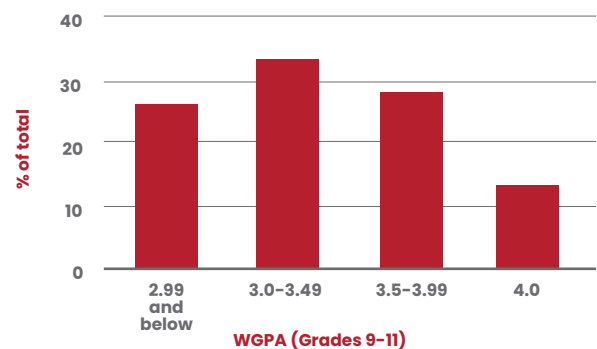
- 34 instructional weeks
- A trimester system began in the 2022-23 school year. Grades are issued three times per year. Previously a semester system was in place.
- 4.0 grading scale
- Advanced classes receive 1.0 bonus point
- Honors classes received 0.5 bonus point
- Both weighted and unweighted GPAs are reported
- Remediated classes taken at Dunn School replace previous grades earned in like classes
- Class rank is not computed nor reported

## Grading Scale

A	93-100%	4.0
A-	90-92.99%	3.7
B+	87-89.99%	3.3
B	83-86.99%	3.0
B-	80-82.99%	2.7
C+	77-79.99%	2.3
C	73-76.99%	2.0
C-	70-72.99%	1.7*
D+	67-69.99%	1.3
D	63-66.99%	1.0
D-	60-62.99%	0.7
F	0-59.99%	0.0

\*minimum passing grade

## Class of 2023 GPA Distribution



## Standardized Testing

The vast majority of Dunn School students changed their plans for standardized testing due to Covid-19. Our data is insufficient and could be misleading, therefore in fairness to all students we will not be sharing Class of 2023 averages.

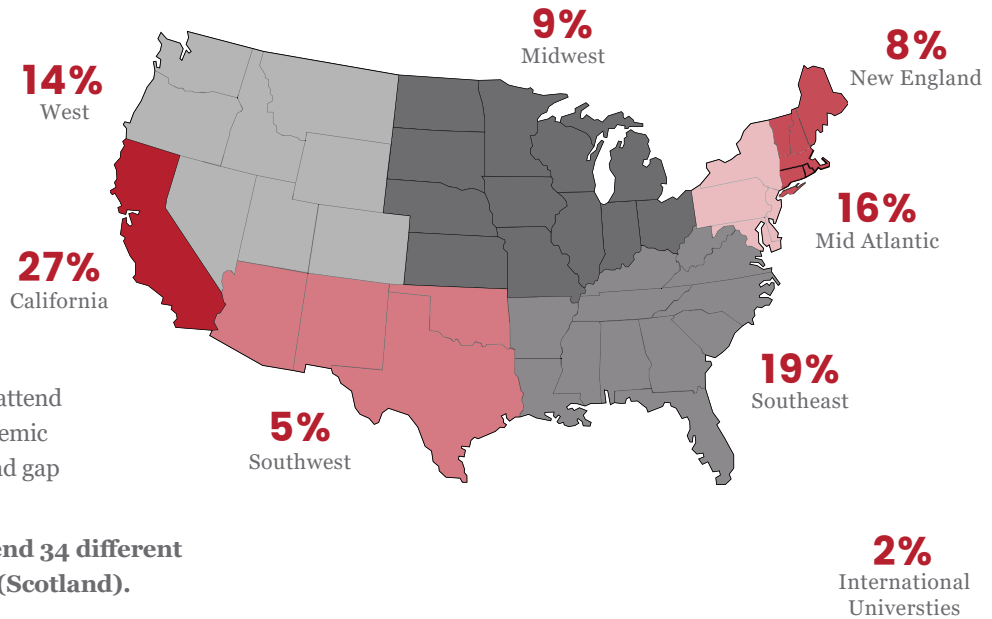
# Courses Offered \*indicates most challenging course

Discipline (Required Courses)	Grade 9 (2017-2018)	Grade 10 (2018-2019)	Grade 11 (2019-2020)	Grade 12 (2020-2021)	
<b>English (4 years)</b>	English 9	English 10 English 10 Honors*	English 11 Advanced English 11*	English 12 Advanced English 12*	
<b>History (3 years)</b> (World & U.S.)	History 9	History 10 (World History)  Advanced World History*	U.S. History Advanced U.S. History*	American Studies Advanced American Studies*	
<b>Mathematics (3 years)</b> (Int Math 1-3)	Integrated Math 1 Integrated Math 1 Honors*	Integrated Math 2 Integrated Math 2 Honors*	Integrated Math 3 Advanced Integrated Math 3* Advanced Statistics*	Integrated Math 4 Advanced Calculus AB*	
<b>Science (3 years)</b> (Chemistry and Biology)	STEM	Chemistry	Biology Physics Chemistry		
			Advanced Biology 1* Advanced Chemistry II*	Advanced Biology II* Anatomy & Physiology  Advanced Environmental Studies*	
			Introduction to Engineering Design		
			Makerspace Engineering		
<b>World Language (2 years)</b>	Spanish 1, Spanish 2, Spanish 3, Spanish 4, Multi-Lingual Support (ESL)				
	Spanish 2 Honors* Spanish 3 Honors* Spanish 4 Honors*	Spanish 2 Honors* Spanish 3 Honors* AP Spanish*	Advanced Spanish 2* Advanced Spanish 3*	Advanced Spanish 3* Advanced Spanish*	
	French 1	French 1 French 2	French 2 (online) French 3 (online)	French 3 (online) French 4 (online)	
<b>Visual and Performing Arts (1 year)</b>	Ceramics 1 Photography 1 Studio Art 1  Acting Applied Music: Guitar/ Instrumental Vocal Ensemble	Ceramics 1/2, Studio Art 1/2, Acting, Jazz Ensemble 1/2/3, Vocal Ensemble, Applied Music: Guitar/Instrumental			
		Photography 1/2 Classical/Instrumental Ensemble			
		Ceramics 3: Portfolio Development Studio Art 3: Portfolio Development			
		Photography 3: Portfolio Development	Ceramics 3: Portfolio Completion Photography 3: Portfolio Completion Studio Art 3: Portfolio Completion		
<b>Electives</b>	Earwig Inc. (Business Entrepreneurship Class)				
	AP Computer Science Principles*	Advanced Computer Science*			
<b>Physical Readiness</b>	Year round participation in sports activity is required with 1 mandatory season of competitive sport				
<b>Community Service</b>	10 hours each academic year				

# Educational Outcomes

All members of the Class of 2022 were admitted to 4-year colleges. Ninety-nine percent are attending four-year colleges and 1% chose to attend a two-year college or to pursue a gap year. For the Classes of 2018-2022, 90% chose to attend four-year colleges and 10% chose to attend a two year college or to pursue a gap year. The pandemic years, 2020 and 2021 saw an increase of two-year and gap year options at 11% each.

**The 37 members of the Class of 2022 will attend 34 different colleges in 15 states and one foreign country (Scotland).**



## College Matriculation 2018-2022

- Arizona State University - Tempe
- Azusa Pacific University
- Babson College (2)
- Bard College (2)
- Barnard College
- Belmont University
- Boston University (2)
- California Polytechnic State University - San Luis Obispo (3)
- California State University - Northridge
- California State University - Dominguez Hills
- California State University - Monterey Bay
- California State University - San Marcos
- Chapman University (5)
- Clemson University
- College of Charleston
- Columbia College Chicago
- Columbia University in the City of New York
- CUNY Bernard M Baruch College
- DePaul University
- DePauw University
- Drew University
- Eckerd College
- Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University-Prescott
- Fordham University
- Fort Lewis College
- George Washington University
- Hollins University
- Indiana University - Bloomington (2)
- Johnson & Wales University - Providence

- Kansas State University
- Lawrence University
- Les Roches International School of Hotel Management - Marbella
- Lewis & Clark College
- Linfield University
- Loyola Marymount University (3)
- Macalester College
- Marist College
- Montana State University
- Mount Holyoke College (2)
- Muhlenberg College
- New York University
- Northeastern University (6)
- Oberlin College
- Occidental College
- Oklahoma State University - Main Campus (3)
- Otis College of Art and Design
- Pepperdine University (3)
- Point Loma Nazarene University
- Pomona College (2)
- Pratt Institute - Main (2)
- Purdue University - Main Campus
- Regis University
- Rice University
- Rochester Institute of Technology (4)
- Saint Mary's College of California
- Savannah College of Art & Design - SCAD
- School of the Art Institute of Chicago
- School of Visual Arts
- Scripps College
- Smith College
- St. John's College
- Syracuse University (2)

- The College of Wooster
- The New School (4)
- The University of Arizona
- The University of the South (2)
- Trinity College
- University at Buffalo
- University of California - Berkeley (2)
- University of California - Irvine (3)
- University of California - Los Angeles (5)
- University of California - Riverside (2)
- University of California - San Diego
- University of California - Santa Barbara
- University of Colorado Boulder (3)
- University of Denver
- University of Hawaii at Manoa
- University of Idaho
- University of Miami (2)
- University of Michigan - Ann Arbor (2)
- University of Oregon (3)
- University of Redlands
- University of Richmond
- University of San Diego
- University of San Francisco
- University of Southern California (3)
- University of St Andrews
- University of Toronto
- University of Washington - Seattle Campus (2)
- University of Wisconsin - Madison
- University of Wyoming
- Wellesley College
- Wesleyan University
- Whitman College
- Whitworth University
- Willamette University