



SAN MATEO HIGH SCHOOL SCHOOL PROFILE 2023-2024

506 North Delaware Street
San Mateo, CA 94401

Phone: 650-558-2399

Fax: 650-558-2352

<http://smhs.smuhsd.org>

CEEB Code: 053175

Yvonne Shiu
Principal

Michael Holtz
Assistant Principal

Gary Hong
Assistant Principal

Lauren Ponti
Assistant Principal

Michelle Torres
Dean of Students

Evestella Hanson
College and Financial
Aid Advisor
(650) 558-2318
ehanson@smuhsd.org

Nancy Kane
Career Coordinator
nkane@smuhsd.org

**School Counselors &
Grade Level:**

Crystal Beltran – 11th
cbeltran@smuhsd.org

Alex Chavez – ELD
gchavezandrade@smuhsd.org

Nicole Ellis – 9th
nellis@smuhsd.org

Veronica Gasco – 12th
vgasco@smuhsd.org

Jane Zimmerman – 10th
zimmerman@smuhsd.org

San Mateo is a city of approximately 104,000 located 20 miles south of San Francisco. It is an extremely diverse community, crossing all socioeconomic and ethnic lines. San Mateo High School is one of seven secondary schools in the San Mateo Union High School District. Current enrollment in grades 9-12 is approximately 1,582, with the class of 2024 at approximately 472. SMHS is one of six comprehensive high schools in San Mateo Union High School District (SMUHSD), and the most ethnically and socio-economically diverse of the SMUHSD schools. SMHS's ethnic distribution in 2023-2024 is as follows:

Hispanic/Latinx	784	48.6%	Filipino	48	3.0%	Native American / Alaska Native	6	0.4%
Asian-American	412	25.6%	Pacific Islander	35	2.2%			
Caucasian	301	18.7%	African American	26	1.6%			

San Mateo High School is dedicated to combining academic excellence, community service and hands-on learning to provide a comprehensive and well-rounded college and career preparatory program for all its students. School and community pride are an integral part of the school environment, where families and alumni spend countless volunteer hours on campus. In addition the SMHS SPED program contains 189 students.

Curriculum

SMHS students participate in a rigorous, standards-based curriculum as part of an academically challenging, college preparatory program. SMHS recommends students enroll in a 6-period day; however, students have the opportunity to take advantage of a 7- period day for support and enrichment courses. The class of 2024 graduation requirements are:

English	40 credits	Physical Education	20 credits	Health	5 credits
Social Science	35 credits	Career Tech. Ed.	10 credits	Electives	40 credits
Mathematics	30 credits	World Language	10 credits		
Science	20 credits	VAPA	10 credits	Total	220 credits

The academic calendar is two semesters, 18 weeks each. SMUHSD does not rank its students. The **Academic GPA** covers Grades 9-12 and is cumulative of all courses taken. This GPA is **weighted** according to the California Public University system (an additional point is added for University-certified AP and Honors courses; e.g. A=5.0, B=4.0, C=3.0). Mid-year reports include the 7th semester. The **Total GPA** is **unweighted** for Grades 9-12 and covers the same coursework.

Advanced Placement, Honors & Advanced Standing Courses

AP Biology	English 1 & 2 AS	AP Spanish Lang. & Culture
AP Calculus AB	AP Eng. Lang. & Composition	AP Spanish Lit (Not offered 23-24)
AP Calculus BC	AP Eng. Lit. & Composition	AP Statistics
AP Chemistry	AP Environmental Science	AP Studio Art-Drawing, 2D & 3D
AP Chinese Language & Culture	AP Macroeconomics	AP U.S. Gov. & Politics
Chinese 4H, French 4H, Spanish 4H	AP Physics	AP U.S. History
AP Computer Science A	AP Psychology	AP World History: Modern

AP/Honors Progression

In a typical course progression SMHS students will be limited in the number of AP/Honors/AS courses one can take in 9th & 10th grades, before working with their counselor to increase course rigor in 11th & 12th grades upon past preparation, personal interests, and goals:

- Freshman year – Maximum one AS class recommended in most situations
- Sophomore year – Maximum of 2 AS/Honors/AP classes recommended in most situations
- Junior year – Recommendation is up to 3 AS/Honors/AP classes
- Senior year – Recommendation is up to 3 AS/Honors/AP classes

AP Policy: In the 2020-21 school year, SMHS students were given a strict limit of 3 AP courses per year. Though the policy was rescinded in 2021-22, the decision to do so was made after students had already submitted their class requests for that school year.

School Year 2020/2021

The 2020-21 school year was primarily offered synchronous virtual with an optional hybrid learning model adopted mid-spring in which students received direct instruction in accordance with state mandates regarding instructional minutes. All students were to receive letter grades (A-F) for all courses. However, in June 2021, California Legislation (AB 104) passed, enabling students to request to have any '20/21 school year letter grades changed to Pass/No Pass grading without impacting their high school GPA or ability to fulfill the minimum subject-area eligibility requirements for all California public colleges and some private colleges. Students were also offered broader course opportunities for the 2020-2021 school year such as concurrent enrollment at either WASC accredited institutions or Community Colleges. Learn more about these opportunities by visiting the District's [coursework outside of the District](#) webpage.

The District placed a high priority on providing technology (Chromebooks and WiFi hotspots) to all students who requested them.

Summer 2021/AB 104

California legislation (AB 104), enabled students to request any 20/21 school year letter grades changed to Pass/No Pass grading without impacting their high school GPA or ability to fulfill the minimum subject area eligibility requirements for all California public colleges and some private colleges.

CLASS OF 2023 ATTENDING COLLEGES

Private & Out of State

Arizona State University
Belmont University
Biola University
Boston University
Brown University
BYU
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve U.
Chapman University
Claremont McKenna U.
Colorado State University
Creighton University
DePaul University
Dominican U. of CA
Duke University
Embry-Riddle Aero U.
George Washington U.
Hong Kong U of Sci. & Tech.
Indiana University
Iowa State University
Johns Hopkins University
Kenyon College
Lewis & Clark College
Loyola Marymount University
Loyola University NO
Macalester College
MIT
New York University
Northeastern University

Oberlin College
Oregon State University
Otis Coll. of Art & Design
Pepperdine University
Purdue University
Rice University
Royal Welsh College
Santa Clara University
SCAD
St. Joseph's University
Stanford University
SUNY ESF
Syracuse University
U. of Colorado Boulder
U. of Hawai'i Manoa
U. of Ill. Urbana-Champaign
U. of Maryland
U. of Miami (FL)
U. of Michigan
U. of Minnesota
U. of Nevada, Reno
U. of North Texas
U. of Oregon
U. of the Pacific
U. of Pittsburgh
U. of Puget Sound
U. of San Francisco
USC
Wheaton College

UC Schools

Berkeley
Davis
Irvine
Los Angeles
Merced
Riverside
San Diego
Santa Barbara
Santa Cruz

CSU Schools

Chico
East Bay
Fresno
Fullerton
Long Beach
Northridge
Pomona
Sacramento
San Diego
San Francisco
San Jose
San Luis Obispo
Stanislaus

Special Programs

Leadership: An award-winning student-run program

Renaissance Leadership: Teaching students the philosophies and strategies of the Renaissance system

Biotechnology: Nationally recognized two-year pathway program, including an industry internship

Performing Arts: Full offerings include a vocal program, dance program, musical theater, marching band, symphonic band, jazz band, and orchestra

AVID: Advancement Via Individual Determination

ELD: English Language Development program

GATE: Gifted and Talented Education

Recognitions

Niche: 2023 Best Public High Schools in America - #56 in California

Niche: 2023 Best Public High Schools in America – Top 1.6 Percentile

Advanced Placement Exams

	2021	2022	2023
AP Scholars	64	68	66
AP Scholars with Honor	54	34	30
AP Scholars with Distinction	104	118	121
National AP Scholars	N/A	N/A	N/A
AP International Diploma	N/A	N/A	N/A

In 2023, SMHS students took 1,212 AP exams. 85% of students who took an AP exam earned at least one three or higher on their exams, with a school average score of 3.59.

National Merit Recognition

National Merit Finalists	5
National Merit Commended Scholars	23

College Placement: From the Class of 2023 51% of graduates will be attending a four year college, with 39% of graduates set to attend a community college.

California Assessment of Student Performance & Progress Results

ELA – 55% of Class of 2024 students met or exceeded state standards.

Math – 37% of Class of 2024 students met or exceeded state standards.

Additional Student Data

Free & Reduced Lunch – 47%

First Gen – 42%