

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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Class of 2025

By the Numbers

120 Seniors

68 visual or performing artists

28 multilingual households*

*Chinese, Dutch, German, Hebrew/Yiddish, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Moroccan, Spanish, Swiss German, Tamil, Turkish, Urdu

80 compete on at least 1 PRS team

15 born outside the U.S.

7 first in their family to attend college

100% hold a passport

Advanced Placement

100 Seniors

192 exams taken

92 scored 3+

72 scored 4-5

87

PSAT/NMSQT Testers

2 NATIONAL MERIT SEMI-FINALISTS

10 Recognized by NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION

SAT — Middle 50%
56 Testers

1270-1430 Composite

630 - 730 EBRW

620 - 720 MATH

With only 11 seniors taking the ACT, those averages are not informative.

STUDENTS & FACULTY

Pacific Ridge School draws students from over 20 San Diego County communities. 39% of students identify as a student of color.

4.5 million

awarded in tuition assistance

29%

students receive tuition assistance

7:1 student-to-teacher ratio

Pacific Ridge School maintains an average class size of 15, allowing talented and experienced teachers (70% with advanced degrees) to engage in working partnerships with students and extend the educational experience beyond the classroom.

THE SCHOOL

Founded in 2007, Pacific Ridge School is an independent, coeducational, college preparatory day school in Carlsbad, California, serving 662 students in grades 6-12. 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, U.S. History)
- Science: 3 years (Science 9 and Science 10)
- Language: 3 years of same language in Upper School
- Arts: 2 years
- Health: 1 trimester, PE/Athletics: 5 trimesters
- Service Learning: 2 years
- Sophomore & Junior Project & Senior Signature

ACADEMIC PROGRAM & REPORTING

Deliberate curricular integration in instruction teaches students to draw connections across disciplines, building 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 grade-in-progress as an average of Trimester 1 and Interim 2.

RANK IN CLASS & GPA

Pacific Ridge School does not rank students numerically due to the small size of each graduating class and the nature of a culture concentrated on fostering a life-long love of learning beyond the classroom. 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
Genre Studies
Rhetoric and Composition
African American Literature
American Literature
Honors American Literature
AP Language & Composition
AP Literature & Composition
Women in Literature
World Literature

SOCIAL SCIENCE & HISTORY

Ancient World History
Modern World History
Asian American and Pacific
Islander Studies
US History
AP US History
Latin American History
Ethnic Studies
Middle East History & Diplomacy
Economics
AP Psychology
US Government & Politics
Theories of Social Change
Theory of Knowledge
(not offered in 2024-25)

MATH

Introduction to Algebra
Algebra/Geometry 1, 2
Honors Algebra/Geometry 1, 2
Algebra/Geometry 3 w/Trig
Honors Algebra/Geometry 3 w/Trig
Data Science
Precalculus
Honors Precalculus
Honors Statistics
Essentials of Calculus
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC
Differential Equations
(post-AP honors)
Multi-Variable Calculus
(post-AP honors)

SHTEAM

Architectural Foundations
Entrepreneurship
& Venture Capital
Forensics
Hands-on Aerodynamics
Industrial Design
Modern Markets
Nanotechnology
The Politics of Business
Product Design
Programming 1, 2
Social Entrepreneurship
Sociology of Food
Surf & Sk8: Design/Build

SCIENCE

Science 9, Science 10 *
Anatomy and Physiology
AP Biology
Biotechnology
AP Chemistry
Engineering Design
Honors Environmental Science
AP Environmental Science
Marine Biology
Honors Physics
AP Physics C: Mechanics
** Phenomena-based inquiry and PBL
sequence roots life, physical, earth,
space & computer sciences in design &
engineering practices*

ARTS

Introduction to Visual Arts **
AP Art History
2D, 3D Design
Graphic Design ** 1, 2
Advanced Topics in Design
AP 2D Art: Graphic Design
Digital Photography
Advanced Digital Photography
AP 2D Art & Design: Photography
Digital Filmmaking 1, 2
Film Studies
Journalism & Media Studies
Yearbook
Digital Music Production
AP Music Theory

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

Jazz Rock Ensemble **
Classical Music Ensemble **
Vocal Ensemble **
Theater Arts **
Advanced Theater Arts:
Acting & Directing
Dance * 1, 2, 3, 4

*** indicates additional
honors section offered*

GRADE-LEVEL PROJECTS & CO-CURRICULAR

9th GRADE

Grade 9 students choose a topic of importance to them, research, craft and deliver an **oration** to their entire grade. Finalists are chosen by each advisory to present to the Upper School, faculty, administration, and the Board of Trustees. The Class of 2025 presented on topics ranging from gardening for a better world to how fencing can spark creation. Current Seniors also created a MUSEum their 9th grade year to showcase the breadth of interests that drive them.

10th GRADE

Grade 10 students connect their understanding with memorials by researching a historically significant topic and exploring how the dominant narrative may have relegated important, lesser-known persons or events to footnotes. The **Memorial Project** culminates in a public art gallery created to stoke curiosity about the intersectionality of art, history, and social movements as expressed in displays introducing everything from seed theories to unsung innovators.

11th GRADE

Junior Project encourages 11th graders to look to the future. Each junior is encouraged to identify an interview subject based on a field of interest, set a career-focused interview, ask questions to learn more about their subject's path and insights, then transcribe the experience into a presentation to educate the school community. Current seniors interviewed activists, local leaders in biotech, music & theater production, politics, and environmental conservation.

12th GRADE

Seniors develop a solo or team project to reflect their emerging identities and share these with the community in presentations, installations, or performances. **Senior Projects** are designed to reflect and celebrate the various arcs of their development supported by the Pacific Ridge experience and include everything from garden design and spirit events to programs supporting students' health and well-being.

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 Service Learning
Groups

SERVICE LEARNING

Training in outreach, investigation, and reflection prepares students to understand the difference between volunteering and serving issues of local and global concern. Our grade 9 Service Learning incubator curriculum is framed by Model UN Sustainable Development goals, teaching students the impact and opportunity of policies that guide resources in: education, environmental sustainability, health & human services, gender equality, science & innovation, peace & social justice. Every 9th grader collaborates weekly to advance a mission under one of these umbrellas, and 81 current Seniors lead or remain in their Service Learning groups, after satisfying their 9-10th grade requirement.

GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

Global issues are woven into the curriculum with two weeks each spring devoted to field courses connecting curricula, service, and curiosity about key issues in travels with classmates and faculty.

**COUNTRIES
VISITED 65**
**29 DOMESTIC
DESTINATIONS**

430 GRADUATES FROM CLASSES 2021 - 2024
149 COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES | 34 STATES 4 COUNTRIES

**An asterisk signifies a school lucky enough to enroll more than one Firebird.*

CALIFORNIA

Art Center College of Design
 Cal Poly Pomona
 Cal Poly San Luis Obispo *
 CSU Fullerton
 CSU Long Beach *
 Chapman University *
 Claremont McKenna College
 College of the Redwoods
 Grossmont College
 Harvey Mudd College
 Loyola Marymount University *
 MiraCosta College *
 Occidental College
 Palomar College *
 Pepperdine University *
 Pitzer College
 Pomona College
 Saint Mary's College of California
 San Diego State University *
 Santa Clara University *
 Scripps College *
 Stanford University *
 UC Berkeley *
 UC Davis *
 UC Irvine *
 UC Los Angeles *
 UC Riverside
 UC San Diego *
 UC Santa Barbara *
 UC Santa Cruz *
 University of San Diego *
 University of San Francisco
 University of Southern California *
 Westmont College

MID-ATLANTIC

American University *
 Bryn Mawr College
 Carnegie Mellon University *
 The College of William and Mary
 Drexel University *
 George Washington University *
 Georgetown University *
 Johns Hopkins University *
 Penn State University *
 Richmond
 University of Maryland
 University of Pennsylvania *
 University of Pittsburgh *
 Villanova University

MID-WEST

Bradley University
 Carleton College
 Holy Cross College
 Indiana University
 Kenyon
 Lake Forest College
 Loyola University Chicago *
 Miami University of Ohio *
 Michigan State
 Northwestern University
 The Ohio State University
 Purdue University *
 St. Olaf College
 University of Chicago
 University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
 University of Michigan *
 University of Wisconsin; Madison
 Washington University in St. Louis *

NORTHEAST

Babson College *
 Bard College
 Barnard College
 Bentley University *
 Berklee College of Music *
 Boston College *
 Boston University *
 Brown University *
 Colgate University
 College of the Holy Cross
 Columbia University
 Cooper Union for the Advancement of
 Science and Art
 Cornell University
 Fordham University
 Harvard University
 Ithaca College
 Mannes School of Music
 Marist College
 Massachusetts College of Art and Design
 The New School *
 New York University *
 Northeastern University *
 Pace University
 Parsons School of Design *
 Princeton University
 Rhode Island School of Design
 Sarah Lawrence College
 Seton Hall
 Skidmore College
 Smith College
 Springfield College
 St. John's University
 Syracuse University *

Tufts University
 University of Connecticut
 University of Massachusetts *
 University of Rhode Island
 Utica University
 Wellesley College *
 Worcester Polytechnic Institute *
 Yale University *

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Gonzaga University
 Lewis & Clark College
 Reed College
 Seattle University
 University of Oregon *
 University of Washington *

SOUTH/SOUTHEAST

Auburn University
 Belmont University
 Clemson University
 College of Charleston
 Elon University
 Emory University
 Georgia Institute of Technology
 Louisiana State University
 Rice University
 Savannah College of Art and Design
 Southern Methodist University *
 Texas Christian University *
 Tulane University of Louisiana *
 The University of Alabama
 University of Miami *
 Vanderbilt University *

WEST / MOUNTAIN

Arizona Christian University
 Arizona State University *
 Boise State University
 Brigham Young University, Provo
 Chaminade University of Honolulu
 Colorado College *
 Colorado School of Mines *
 Montana State University
 University of Arizona *
 University of Colorado, Boulder *
 University of Denver *
 University of Nevada Reno
 University of Hawaii at Manoa
 University of Utah *

INTERNATIONAL

NYU Shanghai
 Guildhall School of Music and Drama
 University of British Columbia *
 The University of Edinburgh
 University of Westminster