



Santa Maria Joint Union
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
NEWS * NEWS * NEWS
PRESS RELEASE

Friday,
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2025

The Santa Maria High School Counseling Department was recently recognized as an American School Counselor Association (ASCA) Model Program.

The Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP) highlights schools that are committed to delivering school counseling programs that are aligned with the ASCA National Model framework. The RAMP designation demonstrates to administrators, school boards, families, and the community at large that the schools are committed to supporting the mission of the school and district.

The Saint Counseling Department was selected by showing they successfully implemented the ASCA National Model framework. They submitted a detailed application that outlined their counseling program, including student outcome goals, data collection methods, lesson plans, collaboration with stakeholders and evidence of program effectiveness.

"Our team is honored to receive the RAMP national counseling program recognition," said head school counselor Victoria Lopez. "This achievement is a testament to the collaborative efforts of our dedicated staff, students, and families. The application process required tremendous effort and dedication and has taught us to be more intentional about our work and ensure we provide comprehensive counseling services that support the growth and well-being of our school community."

Assistant Principal Monica Pallan agreed adding, "I am incredibly proud of the work that this group of counselors does every day. Having had the privilege to work alongside them both as a former counselor and more recently as their supervisor, I've seen firsthand the dedication and passion they bring to their roles. This recognition truly honors their unwavering commitment to supporting students and helping them reach their academic potential while also caring for their overall well-being. The students at SMHS are fortunate to have such a dedicated team guiding them through their high school journey."

The department has ten school counselors including eight grade level counselors, one Wellness Center Counselor and one College and Career Counselor.

More than 1,300 schools have earned the designation nationwide.

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