PACIFIC RIDGE SCHOOL

PROFILE: 2025-2026
CEEB: 050449

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.

Head of School

Dr. Bob Ogle

College Guidance

Rachel Petrella, Executive Director
760.448.9842
rpetrella@pacificridge.org

Emily T. Moscol, Director
760.448.9898
emoscol@pacificridge.org

Danny Irving, Director
760.448.9881
dirving@pacificridge.org

Priyanka Singh, Associate Director
760.448.9838
psingh@pacificridge.org

Class of 2026 By the Numbers

108 Seniors

70 compete on a PRS team

57 visual or performing artists

36 multilingual households*

13 born outside the U.S.

8 first in their family to attend college

100% hold a passport

212 AP exams taken

90 Seniors

86 scored 3+

75 scored 4-5

Middle 50%

SAT
1150-1450

ACT
29-34

*Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, French, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Swedish, Telugu

1 NATIONAL MERIT SEMI-FINALIST

15 RECOGNIZED BY National Merit

STUDENTS & FACULTY

Pacific Ridge School draws students from over 30 San Diego County communities. 39% of students identify as a student of color.

$5m awarded in Tuition Assistance

32% receive tuition assistance

14 Average Class Size

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 650 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 (through Alg/Geo 3 w/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
- **Service Learning:** 2 years
- **Health:** 1 trimester, PE/Athletics: 5 trimesters
- Sophomore & Junior Project & Senior Seminar

ACADEMIC PROGRAM & REPORTING, AP CAP

Deliberate curricular integration 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 year-end grade on the transcript for each course is calculated in the cumulative GPA. Our Midyear Report to colleges in LATE January provides a snapshot of grades through interim 2.

Our long-standing cap of 3 AP courses remains for Juniors, 4 for Seniors as recommended by faculty.

RANK IN CLASS & GPA

Pacific Ridge School does not rank students 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.

	9th GRADE	10th GRADE	GRADES 11 & 12
ENGLISH	English 9	English 10	American Literature, Honors American Literature, Rhetoric & Composition, Genre Studies, Women in Literature, World Literature, AP English Language and Composition, AP English Literature and Composition
MATH	Algebra/Geometry 1-2*, Alg/Geo 3 w/Trigonometry*, Precalculus*, Data Science, Essentials of Calculus, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, Statistics, Honors Statistics, AP Statistics. Post-AP Honors: Multi-Variable Calculus, Differential Equations Math course placement aligns with each student's ability, regardless of grade level. *College Prep and Honors (by faculty recommendation) sections offered		
HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCE	Ancient World History	Modern World History	US History, AP US History, Asian American and Pacific Islander Studies, Economics, Ethnic Studies, Latin American History, Middle East History and Diplomacy, Theories of Social Change, US Government and Politics, AP US Government, Economics, Theory of Knowledge
SCIENCE	Science 9	Science 10	Anatomy and Physiology, Biotechnology, Engineering Design, Honors Environmental Science, Marine Biology, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Environmental Science, Honors Physics, AP Physics C
WORLD LANGUAGE	Chinese, French, Spanish levels 1-5, Honors level by faculty recommendation in each language levels 3-5, AP in each language. (Students are placed in the year-long language classes that best match their ability, regardless of grade level). For each language, we offer multiple levels [1 to 5], plus Honors for level 3+ and one AP section of each language.		
ARTS	Dance 1-4, Digital Photography, Advanced Digital Photography, Digital Filmmaking 1-3, Graphic Design 1-2, Advanced Graphic Design, Yearbook, Jazz/Rock Ensemble, Vocal Ensemble, Intro to Visual Arts, 2D Design, 3D Design, Theater Arts, Advanced Theater Arts. Students can advance to Honors level in any Arts discipline, Vocal, Jazz or Dance ensemble, to AP 2D or 3D Portfolio upon completion of Honors with faculty approval.		
ELECTIVES		**Year-long courses:** AP Art History, Financial Literacy, Programming, AP Psychology, Film Studies, Journalism & Media Studies **Trimester STEAM Electives:** Animation, Artificial Intelligence, Forensics, Industrial Design, Entrepreneurship, Nanotechnology, Product Design, Modern Markets	

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Service Learning Groups

SERVICE LEARNING & LEADERSHIP

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 curriculum is framed by Model UN Sustainable Development goals, teaching students the impact and opportunity of policies that guide resources in: education, environment / climate change, health & human services, gender equality, science & innovation, peace & justice, and social justice.

Every 9th grader collaborates weekly to advance a mission under one of these umbrellas, and 77 current Seniors lead or remain in their Service Learning groups after satisfying their 9th-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. Through partnerships with six exchange programs across four continents, Pacific Ridge extends these opportunities even further, enabling students to deepen their understanding of diverse cultures and languages.

65 COUNTRIES VISITED

400+ Homestays over 10 years

SIGNATURE CO-CURRICULARS & GRADE-LEVEL PROJECTS

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 2026 presented on topics ranging from faith and politics to the power of creative thinking.

10th GRADE

Grade 10 students connect with the purpose of memorials by researching a historically significant topic of personal interest and exploring how the existing narrative may relegate important, lesser-known persons or events to footnotes. Their creative expressions are showcased in a gallery walk to stoke curiosity for the intersectionality of art, history, and social movements.

11th GRADE

11th graders engage in the future-focused interview by identifying a subject working in a field of interest and posing 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 expertise, then share these with the community in a day-long Senior Seminar filled with Senior-led sessions for faculty and classmates in grades 9-11, each a reflection of the various arcs of development supported by the Pacific Ridge experience and the personal growth achieved throughout Seniors' Upper School life.

COLLEGE MATRICULATION FOR CLASSES 2022-2025

446 GRADUATES
144 COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

33 STATES
4 COUNTRIES

CALIFORNIA

Art Center College of Design
Cal Poly Pomona
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo *
CSU Fullerton
CSU Long Beach *
CSU San Marcos *
Chapman University *
Claremont McKenna College
College of the Redwoods*
DeAnza College
Grossmont 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 Barbara City College
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 *
Carnegie Mellon University *
The College of William and Mary *
Drexel University
George Washington University *
Georgetown University *
Johns Hopkins University *
Penn State University *
University of Richmond
University of Maryland
University of Pennsylvania *
University of Pittsburgh *
Villanova University

MID-WEST

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

NORTHEAST

Babson 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
Hamilton College
Harvard University
Ithaca College
Marist College
Massachusetts College of Art and Design
The New School
New York University *
Northeastern University *
Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts
Pace University
Parsons School of Design
Princeton University
Rhode Island School of Design *
Sarah Lawrence College
Seton Hall
Skidmore College
Smith College *
St. John's University
Syracuse University *
United States Military Academy West Point
University of Connecticut *
University of Massachusetts *
University of Vermont
Utica University
Wellesley College *
Worcester Polytechnic Institute *
Yale University *

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Gonzaga University
Reed College
Seattle University
University of Oregon *
University of Washington *
Williamette University

SOUTHEAST

Auburn University *
Belmont University
Clemson University *
College of Charleston
Emory University
Louisiana State University
Rice University
Savannah College of Art and Design
Southern Methodist University *
Spelman College
Rhodes College
Texas Christian University *
Tulane University of Louisiana *
The University of Alabama
University of Florida
University of Miami *
Vanderbilt University *

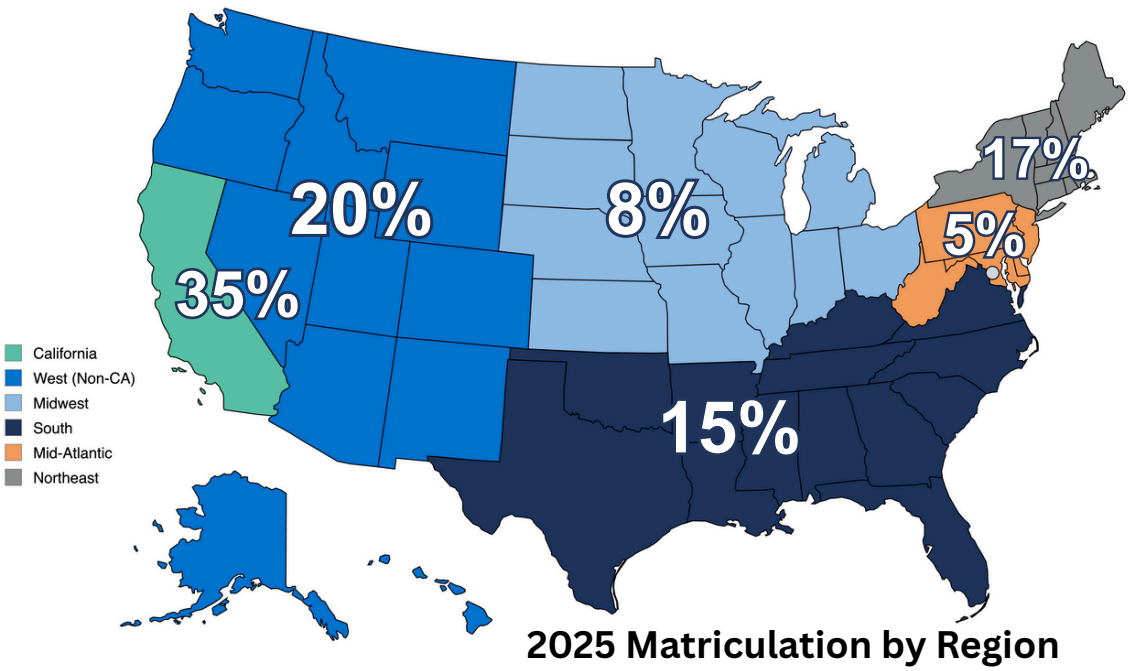
WEST/MOUNTAIN

Arizona Christian University
Arizona State University *
Boise State University
Chaminade University of Honolulu
Colorado College *
Colorado School of Mines *
Montana State University
Northern Arizona University *
University of Arizona *
University of Colorado, Boulder *
University of Denver *
University of Hawaii at Manoa
University of Utah *

INTERNATIONAL

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

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



2025 Matriculation by Region