



ACALANES HIGH SCHOOL

A California Distinguished School

SCHOOL PROFILE 2026-2027

www.acalanes.k12.ca.us/acalanes

CEEB Code: 051315

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SCHOOL & COMMUNITY CHARACTERISTICS

Acalanes High School is located in Lafayette, California, a suburban community east of the Berkeley hills and approximately 25 miles from San Francisco. The Lafayette community values high-quality education and has a long history of strong community support offering financial resources through the Parents Club, Education Foundation and Booster Groups to enrich our school's academic and co-curricular programs.

Acalanes High School is one of four comprehensive high schools in the Acalanes Union High School District (AUHSD), which is known for its strong tradition of academic excellence and outstanding student performance. Acalanes enrolls approximately 1,250 students grades 9 through 12. Our students are motivated and well prepared with over 90% of seniors attending post-secondary institutions after graduation. Acalanes ranks in the top tier of all California high schools, is fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), and recognized as a California Distinguished School.

STUDENT PROGRAMS AND HIGHLIGHTS

Competitive Academic Teams: Mock Trial • Model UN • Science Quiz Bowl

Award-Winning Programs: choral & instrumental music • *Blueprint* school newspaper • jazz ensemble • art & digital design

State-of-the-Art Facilities: Performing Arts Center • design and fab lab • auto tech lab • digital video and photo lab, 2D & 3D art

Student Clubs & Programs: California Scholarship Federation (CSF) Honor Society • Acalanes Volunteer Service Award • 60+ special interest clubs

Athletic Program: Includes 25 competitive teams with over 65% of students participating • 98% of teams earn scholastic recognition

ACADEMIC CURRICULUM

Acalanes High School offers a strong college preparatory program. The school year consists of two 18-week semesters. Students can take up to 7 classes with the majority of upperclassmen enrolled in 6 periods per school day. Classes meet for 230 minutes per week in a modified block schedule. In addition to academically rigorous core courses, we offer a variety arts, science, and technical skills electives.

Graduation requirements: 220 Credits • Graduation requirements reduced from 240 to 220 in 2022-23 school year • 1 semester class = 5 credits

Required Classes: English 40 credits • Math 30 credits • Science 20 credits • Social Studies 30 credits • Arts 10 credits • World Language or Tech Ed. 20 credits • Physical Ed. 20 credits • Human Social Development 5 credits • intro to ethnic studies 5 credits • Electives 40 credits

Academic Policies

Transcript Notations: (p) in course code indicates College Prep courses; (*) in course code indicates non-academic class, not included in Academic GPA; (r) indicates a repeated course.

Transcripts include weighted and non-weighted GPA. Advanced Placement courses (AP) and Honors (H) courses are both weighted in weighted GPA.

Our district policy does not allow students to take graduation requirement coursework through dual enrollment programs. Students may take courses from community colleges or other institutions for enrichment, but those courses are **not included** on the Acalanes transcript for credit or GPA purposes. Students are advised to disclose all institutions attended and provide official transcripts from each institution when applying to college.

AP classes: Students are required to take Living Earth and Chemistry of the Earth before taking AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Environmental Science or AP Physics 1. AP classes are generally not available to 9th grade students. There is no limit to the number of AP classes a student may take at one time, but sometimes there are schedule conflicts where students are not able to take all the classes they requested. We encourage them to mention those situations in their college applications where appropriate.

Grading Scale

Grade	Percentage	GPA
A+	98%-100%	4.0
A	93%-97%	4.0
A-	90%-92%	4.0
B+	87%-89%	3.0
B	83%-86%	3.0
B-	80%-82%	3.0
C+	77%-79%	2.0
C	73%-76%	2.0
C-	70%-72%	2.0
D+	67%-69%	1.0
D	63%-66%	1.0
D-	60%-62%	1.0
F	0%-59%	0.0

SAT MEAN SCORES

	Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
ERW	642	646	638
Math	649	626	637

ACT MEAN SCORES

	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
English	29.1	30.3	29.3
Math	28.4	29.7	30.2
Reading	29.8	30.3	30.6
Science	28.3	29.1	31.2
Composite	28.8	29.9	30.0

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

YEAR	2024	2025	2026
Total # of Tests Taken:	1155	1371	1578
Total # Students Taking Tests:	520	614	663
% scoring 3 or higher:	90.96%	94.14%	94%

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLAR PROGRAM

Class of:	2025	2026	2027
Number of Semi-Finalists	5	4	4

Class of 2027 CUMULATIVE GPA DISTRIBUTION includes 9th, 10th, 11th Grade based on 307 students

	Total weighted	Total unweighted
Highest GPA	4.48	4.0 (23 students)
90% ile	4.25	3.98
75% ile	4.11	3.86
Median GPA	3.80	3.64

RANKING

The Acalanes Union High School District **does not rank** students by order of the Acalanes Union High School Governing Board. Please contact us if you need any help interpreting our statistics.

22 AP Courses, 7 Honors courses

English AP Language AP Literature Social Studies AP European History AP U.S. History AP Comparative Gov't (Semester) AP Psychology AP African American Studies Mathematics Algebra2/precalculus(H) AP Precalculus AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC AP Statistics AP Computer Science Principles AP Computer Science A	Science AP Chemistry AP Physics 1 AP Physics 2 AP Biology AP Environmental Science Engineering & Applied Physics (H) World Language French 4 (H) AP French 5 Language & Culture (not offered 26-27) Spanish 4 (H) AP Spanish 5 Language & Culture Mandarin 4 (H) AP Mandarin 5 Arts Advanced Art (H) Adv Drama (H) Wind Ensemble. (H) AP Drawing AP 3D Art Design AP Music Theory (not offered 26-27)
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COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ATTENDANCE

CLASS of 2026 – 295 Graduates

Percentage going to college **93%**
Percentage at four-year college **78%**
Percentage at two -year college **15%**

Attending UCs	15%	Attending CA private	9%
Attending CSU	17%	Attending Out-of-State	34%
Attending 2yrs	15%	Other (Gap, work, military)	7%

Recent Graduates chose to attend:

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

BERKELEY
DAVIS
IRVINE
LOS ANGELES
SAN DIEGO
SANTA BARBARA
SANTA CRUZ
RIVERSIDE
MERCED
CA STATE UNIVERSITY
CAL POLY, SAN LUIS OBISPO
CAL POLY, POMONA
CHICO STATE
FRESNO STATE
LONG BEACH STATE
SACRAMENTO STATE
SAN DIEGO STATE
SAN FRANCISCO STATE
SAN JOSE STATE
SONOMA STATE

CA PRIVATE SCHOOLS

ACADEMY OF THE ARTS
CALIFORNIA LUTHERAN
CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
LOYOLA MARYMOUNT
OCCIDENTAL
PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY
REDLANDS
ST. MARY'S COLLEGE OF CA
SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY
STANFORD UNIVERSITY
UNIV OF SAN FRANCISCO
UNIV OF THE PACIFIC
UNIV OF SOUTHERN CA
OUT OF STATE SCHOOLS
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY, DC:
ARIZONA STATE UNIV
AUBURN UNIV, AL
BABSON COLLEGE, MA
BERKLEE COLLEGE OF MUSIC
BOSTON UNIV, MA
BRIGHAM YOUNG, UT
BROWN UNIV, RI
BUCKNELL, PA
CARNEGIE MELLON U, PA
COLORADO COLLEGE, CO
COLORADO STATE, CO
CORNELL UNIV, NY
DARTMOUTH, NH
DEPAUL UNIV, IL
DUKE UNIV, NC
EMERSON COLLEGE, MA
GONZAGA UNIV, WA
HARVARD COLLEGE, MA
HOBART & WILLIAM SMITH, NY
INDIANA UNIV, IN
LEHIGH UNIV, PA
LEWIS & CLARK COLLEGE
MARQUETTE UNIV, WI
MIT, MA

OUT OF STATE (CONT.):

MONTANA STATE, MT
MOUNT HOLYOKE, MA
NEW YORK UNIV, NY
NORTHEASTERN UNIV, MA
NORTHERN ARIZONA, AZ
NORTHWESTERN, IL
OBERLIN COLLEGE, OH
OHIO STATE, OH
OREGON STATE, OR
OTTERBEIN COLLEGE, PA
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, NJ
PURDUE UNIV, IN
REED COLLEGE, OR
ROCHESTER INST OF TECH, NY
SIMMONS COLLEGE, MA
SOUTHERN METHODIST, TX
SOUTHERN OREGON, OR
STEVENS INS. OF TECH, NJ
SYRACUSE, NY
TEXAS CHRISTIAN, TX
TULANE UNIV, LA
UMASS, AMHERST, MA
UNIV OF ARLABAMA
UNIV OF ARIZONA,
UNIV OF CHICAGO, IL
UNIV OF CO., BOULDER
UNIV OF DENVER, CO
UNIV OF HAWAII
UNIV OF KANSAS
UNIV OF KENTUCKY, KY
UNIV OF MICHIGAN
UNIV OF MINNESOTA
UNIV OF NEVADA, RENO
UNIV OF OREGON
UNIV OF PENNSYLVANIA
UNIV OF PORTLAND, OR
UNIV OF PUGET SOUND, WA
UNIV OF TEXAS, AUSTIN, TX
UNIV OF UTAH, UT
UNIV OF WASHINGTON, WA
UTAH VALLEY UNIV,
VASSAR, NY
VILANOVA UNIV, PA
WASHINGTON STATE, WA
WEBSTER COLLEGE, MO
WESTERN WASHINGTON
WILLAMETTE, OR
YALE, CT
INTERNATIONAL COLLEGES
AMERICAN UNIV IN ROME
HURON UNIVERSITY, CANADA
KINGS COLLEGE, LONDON
QUEENS UNIVERSITY CANADA
COMMUNITY COLLEGES
DIABLO VALLEY COLLEGE
LOS MEDANOS
NAPA VALLEY COLLEGE
SANTA BARBARA CITY
SANTA MONICA CITY
WEST VALLEY COLLEGE
CUESTA COLLEGE