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## SCHOOL PROFILE 2023-2024

Launched in September 2000 by an industry and educator coalition, the Gary and Jerri-Ann Jacobs High Tech High is an independent public charter school serving 508 students in grades 9-12. The school's mission is to prepare a diverse range of students for postsecondary education, citizenship, and leadership in the high technology industry.

Innovative features include performance-based assessment, daily shared planning time for staff, state-of-the-art technical facilities for project based learning, internships for all students, and close links to the high tech workplace. Fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, High Tech High (HTH) graduated its first class in June 2003.

HTH ranks near the top in raw scores on California standardized tests (94th percentile statewide). Since opening, HTH has been one of the highest scoring schools in San Diego County on the California Academic Performance Index.



At HTH, learning is connected to the world beyond school. To graduate, each student must complete a substantial Academic Internship in a local business or social service agency. There is no test to get into HTH; students are accepted by lottery, resulting in an ethnically and economically diverse student body. There are about five applicants for every available place.

**CEEB Code: 052951**  
**Total Enrollment: 508, grades 9-12**  
**54% Students of Color**  
**45% Female**  
**55% Male**  
**33% Pell Eligible**

## STUDENTS & FACULTY

HTH students reflect the full socio-economic and cultural diversity of the San Diego Unified School District. The criteria for admission are simple: California residence, graduation from the 8th grade, and an expressed interest in attending the school. Students are chosen for admission via zip code based lottery system, ensuring a diverse student body. Over 1,000 students applied for the initial cohort of 200 places. The HTH faculty, 28 in all, consists of a diverse mix of master teachers, newly trained teachers, and individuals from industry. Each HTH faculty member serves as an advisor to about 15 students. Teachers work in teams, responsible for the academic achievement of the 50-60 students in their group.

## PROGRAM

HTH is not a technology high school. Some students may specialize in computer programming, but all students use technology to engage in a wide range of pursuits: scientific, mathematical, literary, historical, artistic, and aesthetic.

HTH teachers work in teams to integrate the curriculum across subject areas. Students master critical content while pursuing their interests through individual and small-group projects. Frequent exhibitions and “Presentations of Learning” help students develop valuable skills of analysis and communication. As teachers develop curriculum, they consider the California academic content standards and the six core Deeper Learning Competencies, which call on students to master core academic content, think critically and solve complex problems, work collaboratively, communicate effectively, learn how to learn, and develop academic mindsets. All HTH academic core courses have been approved by the University of California.

## SENIOR PROJECTS

The senior project is the culmination of students’ personalized academic endeavors at HTH. Seniors are encouraged to pursue a project that reflects their personal interests, college and career goals, and curiosities. Spanning an entire academic year, the project requires students to set large goals, demonstrate independent learning, manage complex and challenging tasks, and present substantive work to a panel of experts.

## COURSE OFFERINGS

*Rigorous Curriculum without Advanced Placement Courses*

HTH courses encourage students to focus in depth on important concepts and issues. Only juniors and seniors have the option to enroll in honors coursework. Advanced Placement and IB courses are not offered, because HTH focuses on covering topics utilizing an interdisciplinary approach, rather than offering shallow survey courses.

**ENGLISH:** English 1, English 2, English 3, English 3 (H), English 4, English 4 (H), World Literature 1/2, World Lit 1/2 (H)

**HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCE:** World Cultures and Geography, Government, Modern World History, U.S. History, U.S. History (H)

**MATHEMATICS:** Math 1, Math 2, Math 3, Math 3 (H), Calculus, Calculus (H)

**LAB SCIENCES:** Physics, Biology, Biology (H), Biology 3/4, Chemistry, Applied Physics & Engineering

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE:** Spanish 1, Spanish 2, Spanish 3

**VISUAL ARTS:** Art 1/2, Multimedia Production 1/2, Digital Art and Mixed Media 1/2

**COLLEGE PREP ELECTIVES:** Environmental Science, Environmental Science (H), Biotechnology

**INTERSESSION ELECTIVES:** On the transcript these courses are labeled with an I. They do not count toward graduation and the grades are not calculated into the GPA.

## COLLEGE COURSES

The 2007–2008 academic year was the inaugural year of the concurrent enrollment program between HTH and the University of San Diego (USD). Through a selective application process, 14 HTH students are selected each semester to take one class for free at USD during their senior year. HTH students also often take community college courses via the San Diego Community College District, but those are strictly for enrichment and do not earn graduation credit.

## DIGITAL PORTFOLIOS

In addition to the measures of achievement required of all California high school students, HTH students develop a digital portfolio that reflects each student’s work, learning, and personal growth. When building their digital portfolios, students can choose to use tools like GoogleSites, ZeeMee, Weebly, or similar platforms. The digital portfolio contains work samples, personal statements, and a list of their extra-curricular activities. Additionally, students capture their internship and job shadow experiences in these digital portfolios that ultimately have the authentic audience of college admission committees.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

COURSE	REQUIRED YEARS
A: History/Social Science	3
B: English	4
C: Mathematics	4
D: Lab Sciences	4
E: Language other than English	2
F: College Prep Electives	1
G: Visual / Performing Arts	1

To graduate, High Tech High students must also complete at least one workplace internship during junior year, plus a substantial Senior Project.

## BLOCK SCHEDULE

High Tech High students take most of their courses on a "block schedule." The math courses are taught on a traditional semester (1.5 credits) year-long schedule. However, other core classes are taught in two-hour blocks and students receive a year's worth of credit (3.0 credits) in one semester. Courses in English, social sciences, Spanish, and lab sciences are all taught on a block schedule.

## ACADEMIC INTERNSHIPS AT HTH

One of the most important elements of a High Tech High education is a connection to the real world of adult work and productivity. At HTH schools, we facilitate this connection by hiring teachers who have experience outside the classroom; encouraging projects that have real applications; inviting professionals into the school throughout the year; and creating an internship experience for students.

HTH students work and learn at businesses, schools, nonprofit organizations and professional associations around San Diego County. Each student is matched with an individual mentor. Each student develops a project that contributes to the organization and is linked to the student's academic work. Internships take place for 35-40 hours per week for a three week period during the spring semester in their junior year. HTH has developed academic internships with over 100 local businesses and organizations including:

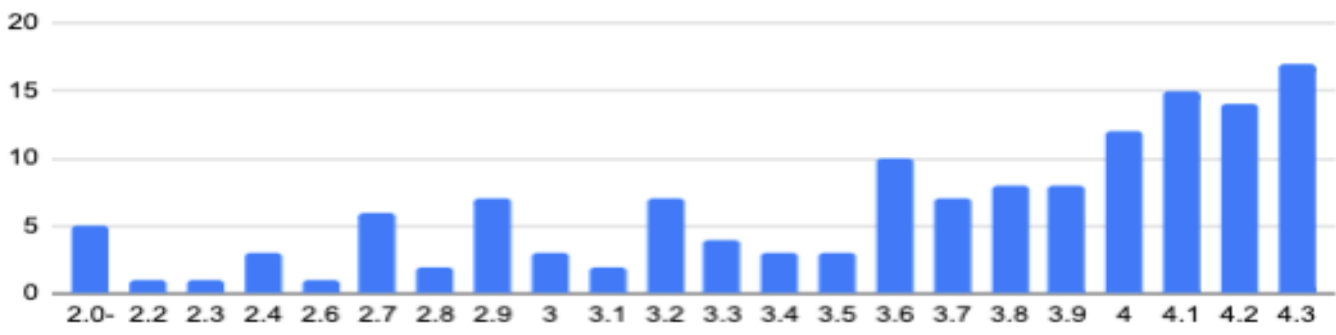
American Money Management  
Cabrillo National Monument  
The Corky McMillin Companies  
County of San Diego Office of Public Defender  
Dark Gravity Productions  
Fox 5 News  
Kensington Veterinary Hospital

Legal Aid Society of San Diego.  
Living Coast Discovery Center  
Metropolitan Transit System  
Paws for Thought Animal Rescue  
Qualcomm Incorporated  
San Diego Gulls  
Professional Hockey  
San Diego Diplomacy Center

San Diego Youth Symphony  
Scripps Research Institute  
Sharp Memorial Hospital  
SPAWAR - Systems Center  
US Bank  
University of San Diego  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
VA San Diego Medical Center

## GRADE DISTRIBUTION HTH CLASS OF 2024

Through junior year, class size = 145



# CLASS OF 2023

## COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE LIST

Of the 115 graduates in the HTH Class of 2023, 109 (95%) will be entering college in the fall. 70 (61%) will be attending a 4-year college and 39 (34%) will be attending a 2-year college. Three students elected to take a gap year. 16 students (14%) will be entering the University of California system, while 35 (30%) will be attending the California State University system. Nine students (8%) will attend out-of-state institutions in 6 different states (Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, Massachusetts, New York, and Washington), as well as The Netherlands and Italy.

Arizona State University	Occidental College	University of Nevada Las Vegas
Assumption University	Oregon State University	University of Oregon
Augustana University	Otis College of Art and Design	University of Puget Sound
California College of the Arts	Pace University	University of Saint Katherine (CA)
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo	Palomar College	University of San Diego
Cal Poly Pomona	Penn State University (University Park)	University of San Francisco
California State University (Bakersfield)	Pepperdine University	University of Southern California
California State University (Channel Islands)	Point Loma Nazarene University	University of Washington
California State University (Chico)	Portland State University	Washington State University
California State University (Dominguez Hills)	Reed College	Wellesley College
California State University (East Bay)	Saint Mary's College of California	
California State University (Fresno)	San Diego Christian College	
California State University (Fullerton)	San Diego City College	
California State University (Long Beach)	San Diego Mesa College	
California State University (Los Angeles)	San Diego Miramar College	
California State University (Monterey Bay)	San Diego State University	
California State University (Northridge)	San Francisco State University	
California State University (Sacramento)	San Jose State University	
California State University (San Bernardino)	Santa Clara University	
California State University (San Marcos)	Seattle University	
Chapman University	Sonoma State University	
Clark University	Southern California Institute of Architecture	
Colorado State University	Southwestern College	
DePaul University (Chicago)	The University of Montana - Billings	
DigiPen Institute of Technology	The University of Montana - Bozeman	
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical U (Prescott)	The University of Tampa	
Emerson College	University of Arizona	
Fashion Institute of Technology	University of California (Berkeley)	
Fort Lewis College	University of California (Davis)	
Grossmont College	University of California (Irvine)	
Harvey Mudd College	University of California (Los Angeles)	
Hawaii Pacific University	University of California (Merced)	
Howard University	University of California (Riverside)	
Istituto Marangoni Milan (Italy)	University of California (San Diego)	
Ithaca College	University of California (Santa Barbara)	
Humboldt State University	University of California (Santa Cruz)	
Lewis & Clark College	University of Colorado Boulder	
Loyola Marymount University	Univ. of Groningen (The Netherlands)	
Marymount Manhattan College	University of Hawaii at Manoa	
Montana State University (Bozeman)	University of Louisville	
Morgan State University	University of Massachusetts (Amherst)	
New York University	University of Massachusetts (Boston)	
Northern Arizona University	University of Miami	