

SCHOOL PROFILE 2025-2026

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 404 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: 404, grades 9-12

45% Female, grades 9-12

55% Male, grades 9-12

70% Students of Color (Class of '26)

40% Pell Eligible (Class of '26)

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, 27 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),

HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCE: World Cultures and Geography, Modern World History, U.S. History, U.S. History (H), Civics/Gov’t

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

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, 5 HTH students are selected each semester to take one class for free at USD during their junior or 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

BLOCK SCHEDULE

| 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 |

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.

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

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:

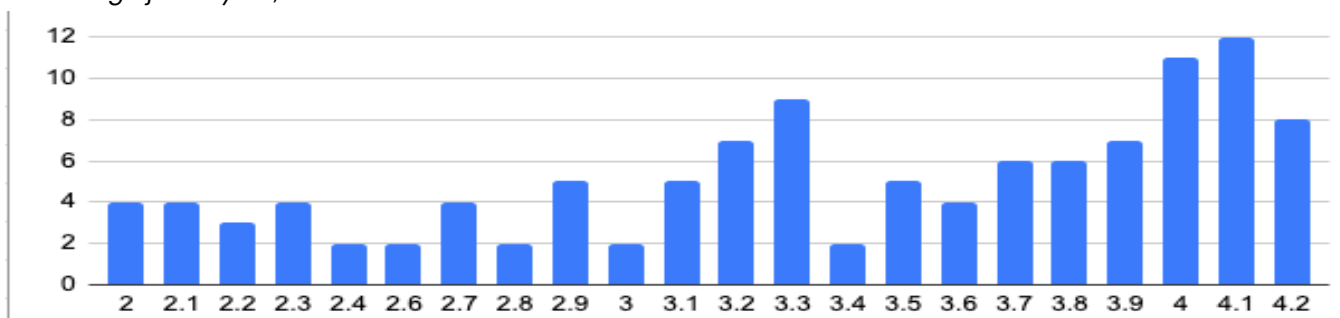
American Money Management
Cabrillo National Monument
The Corky McMillin Companies
County of San Diego Office of
Public Defender
Dark Gravity Productions
Fox 5 News
Kensington Veterinary Hospital

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 2026

Through junior year, class size = 113



CLASS OF 2025

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE LIST

Of the 98 graduates in the HTH Class of 2025, 92 (94%) will be entering college in the fall. 60 (61%) will be attending a 4-year college and 32 (33%) will be attending a 2-year college. Two students elected to take a gap year. Seventeen students (17%) will be entering the UC system, while eighteen (18%) will be attending the CSU system. Twelve students (12%) will attend out-of-state institutions in 8 different states (Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania and Utah).

Arizona State University
Art Center College of Design
Bucknell University (PA)
California College of the Arts
California Lutheran University
Cal Poly Humboldt
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
Cal Poly Pomona
California State University (Bakersfield)
California State University (Chico)
California State University (East Bay)
California State University (Fresno)
California State University (Fullerton)
California State University (Long Beach)
California State University (Monterey Bay)
California State University (Northridge)
California State University (Sacramento)
California State University (San Bernardino)
California State University (San Marcos)
California State University (Stanislaus)
Chapman University
Colorado School of Mines
Colorado State University
Cuyamaca College
Dartmouth College (NH)
Drexel University (PA)
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical U (Prescott)
Fordham University (NY)
Gonzaga University (WA)
Grand Canyon University (AZ)
Grinnell College (IA)
Grossmont College
Hawaii Pacific University
Illinois Institute of Technology
Ithaca College (NY)
Lehigh University (PA)
Lewis & Clark College (OR)
Long Island University (NY)
Loyola Marymount University
Marymount Manhattan College (NY)
Menlo College
Miami University (Oxford)
Montana State University-Bozeman
Mt. St. Mary's University (CA)
New York Institute of Technology
New York University

Northeastern University (MA)
Northern Arizona University
Oberlin College (OH)
Occidental College
Oregon Institute of Technology
Oregon State University
Otis College of Art and Design
Pace University (NY)
Plymouth State University (NH)
Point Loma Nazarene University
Portland State University
Pratt Institute (NY)
Reed College (OR)
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (NY)
Robert Morris University (PA)
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rose-Hulman Institute of Tech'Igy (IN)
Rutgers University (NJ)
Saint Mary's College of California
San Diego City College
San Diego Mesa College
San Diego Miramar College
San Diego State University
San Francisco State University
San Jose State University
Santa Clara University
Savannah College of Art & Design
Scripps College
Seattle University
Seton Hall University (NJ)
Smith College (MA)
Sonoma State University
Southwestern College
St. John's University (NY)
Stanford University
Stephens College (MO)
Syracuse University (NY)
Temple University (PA)
The American U of Rome (Italy)
The New School (NY)
The University of Edinburgh (Scotland)
University of Alaska-Fairbanks
University of Arizona
University of California (Berkeley)
University of California (Davis)
University of California (Irvine)

University of California (Los Angeles)
University of California (Merced)
University of California (Riverside)
University of California (San Diego)
University of California (Santa Barbara)
University of California (Santa Cruz)
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Hawaii at Manoa
University of LaVerne
University of Maryland (Eastern Shore)
University of Massachusetts (Boston)
University of Nevada Las Vegas
University of Nevada Reno
University of Notre Dame
University of Oregon
University of Portland
University of Puget Sound (WA)
University of Redlands
University of San Diego
University of San Francisco
University of Southern California
University of the Pacific
University of Utah
University of Virginia
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin-Madison
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Utah Tech University
Vassar College (NY)
Washington College (MD)
Washington State University
Wentworth Institute of Tech'Igy (MA)
Western Carolina University (NC)
Western Washington University
Whittier College
Willamette University (OR)
Worcester Poly Institute (MA)