High Tech High North County opened its door in September 2007 and is based on the growth and success of its sister school High Tech High. Founded by an industry and educator coalition, HTH North County is an independent public charter school serving 400 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 increasingly technological and interconnected world.

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 North County (HTHNC) graduated its first class in June 2011.

CEEB Code: 054219
Total enrollment: 400, grades 9-12

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Students and Faculty

High Tech High North County students reflect the full socio-economic and cultural diversity of the San Marcos Unified School District. The criteria for admission are simple: California resident, graduation from the 8th grade, and an expressed interest in attending the school. Students are chosen for admission via a zip code based lottery system, ensuring a diverse student body. The HTHNC faculty, 25 in all, consists of a diverse mix of master teachers, newly trained teachers, and individuals from industry. Each HTHNC faculty member serves an advisor to about 15 students. Teachers work in teams, responsible for the academic achievement of the 50-70 students in their group.

Program

High Tech High North County is not a technology high school, but all students use technology to engage in a wide range of pursuits: scientific, mathematical, literary, historical, artistic, and aesthetic.

HTHNC 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 High Tech High North County teachers develop curriculum, they consider the California academic content standards and the six core Deeper Learning Competencies, which call for students to: master core academic content, think critically & solve complex problems, work collaboratively, communicate effectively, and learn how to develop academic mindsets. All HTHNC academic core courses have been approved by the University of California.

Course Offerings

Rigorous Curriculum without Advanced Placement Courses

The HTHNC curriculum is characterized by courses that encourage students to focus in depth on important concepts and issues. Junior and senior students have the option to take any core-academic course for honors credit. Advanced Placement courses are not offered, because HTHNC focuses on covering topics in depth rather than offering shallow survey courses.

English: English I, English II, English III, English III (H), English IV, English IV (H)
History/Social Science: World Cultures and Geography, World History, U.S. History, U.S. History (H)
Mathematics: Math I, (Algebra 1), Math II (Geometry), Math III (Algebra II), Math III (H), Math IV, Calculus (H)
Lab Sciences: Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Biology (H), Physics 3,4 and Physics 3,4 (H)
Foreign Language: Spanish I, Spanish II, Spanish III, Spanish III (H)
Visual Arts: Art 1, Video Production, Multimedia I, Multimedia II
Electives: Senior Design, Fundamentals of Research and Civil Discourse

Senior Field Research Experience

A major focus of Senior Year is preparing students for their next steps after High School, and the structure of the Senior Field Research Experience program is designed to support students in taking that step. Beyond the connections to the real world and on-site work experience outside of the classroom, the Senior Field Research Experience helps students learn the skills required to successfully complete a college-level expository writing assignment. Students engage in authentic research with their mentors, and, combined with background readings from academic sources, construct a comprehensive examination of something they are passionate about. Best of all, because these research projects are designed with their Internship Mentors, the results of the study can provide insight and guidance to mentors on questions that they are curious about, but maybe have not had the time to investigate themselves.
Graduation Requirements

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>HTH Required Years</th>
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<td>A: History/Social Science</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>B: English</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>C: Mathematics</td>
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<td>D: Lab Sciences</td>
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<td>E: Language other than English</td>
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<tr>
<td>F: College Prep Electives</td>
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<tr>
<td>G: Visual / Performing Arts</td>
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</table>

To graduate, High Tech High North County students must also complete at least one workplace internship of one hundred hours, plus a substantial Senior Thesis Project.

Digital Portfolios

In addition to the measures of achievement required of all California high school students, HTHNC students develop a digital portfolio that provides a comprehensive look at each student’s work and learning. Each digital portfolio includes a personal statement, resume, and work samples. The work samples include information about the students’ learning goals, projects and internships. Students update their DP each semester, documenting their learning over time.

Academic Internships at High Tech High North County

Through the Academic Internships supported by Manpower, Inc., HTHNC students work and learn at businesses, schools, nonprofit organizations and professional associations around San Diego County. Internships are unpaid and every 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 are full-time for three weeks during the junior year. HTHNC has developed academic internships with over 100 local businesses and organizations including:

- Advanced Veterinary Care of San Elijo
- Ajnee Inc
- Alyss Charles Honey Photography
- American Red Cross
- Bressi Ranch Pet Hospital
- Bright Now Dental
- Brown Safe Manufacturing Inc
- Compass Dermatopathology
- Daniel & Davis Optometry
- Del Rio Studio
- Fine Finish Factory
- North County Interfaith
- Lael’s International Auto Service
- Law Offices of Laura J. Farris
- Lucra Cars
- Media Arts Center San Diego
- Melrose Vet Hospital
- Miramar Restoration Hanger (Flying Leathernecks Aviation Museum)
- North County Health Services
- North County Sports Medicine and Physical Therapy
- North County Smog and Repair
- Oceanside Museum of Art
- Paloma Elementary
- Palomar Pomerado Health
- Pomerado Elementary
- Prima Materia Art Institute
- Rancho Physical Therapy
- Realty Income Corporation
- Salk Institute
- San Diego Naval Base
- San Marcos Elementary School
- San Marcos Library
- Scripps Research Institute
- Tri-City Hospital
A College Going Culture

The High Tech High network of schools has attracted significant local and national attention. Spurred by community interest, the original High Tech High school spawned an elementary school, two middle schools and two other high schools on the same campus. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has funded HTH to create a statewide network of similar schools. In 2004, HTH became the first public school in California authorized to operate its own teacher-credentialing program.

Of the 114 graduates in the class of 2018, 92% will enter college in the fall. Seventy-three (64%) will be attending a 4-year college and 32 (28%) to a 2-year college. Twenty-three students (20%) will enter the University of California system, while 28 students (24%) will study in the California State University system.

Class of 2018 College Acceptance List

American University
Arizona State University
Boston University
Butler University
California College of the Arts (SF)
Cal Poly Pomona
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
California State University
- Bakersfield
- Channel Islands
- Chico
- Dominguez Hills
- Eastbay
- Fullerton
- Los Angeles
- Long Beach
- Monterey Bay
- Sacramento
- San Marcos
Carleton College
Chapman University
Cogswell College
College of Charleston
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University- Prescott
Embry-Riddle Daytona Beach
Evergreen State College
Franciscan University of Steubenville
George Washington University
Goucher College
Grand Canyon University
Green Mountain College
Harvard University
Hawaii Pacific University
Humboldt State University
Indiana University Bloomington
Iowa State University
Kenyon College
Laguna College of Art & Design
Linfield College
Loyola Marymount University
Michigan Tech University
Miracosta College
Milwaukee School of Engineering
Montana State University in Bozeman
New York Film Academy
New York Institute of Technology
Northern Arizona University
Occidental College
Oregon Institute of Technology
Oregon State University
Oregon State University Cascades
Pacific Northwest College of Art
Palomar College
Reed College
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Saint Louis University
Saint Mary’s College of California
San Jose State University
San Diego State University
San Francisco Art Institute
San Francisco Conservatory of Music
San Francisco State University
San Jose State University
Sonoma State
South Dakota School of Mines & Technology
Southern Methodist University
Stanford University
The New School - All Divisions
Tulane University
University of Arizona
University of California
- Berkeley
- Davis
- Irvine
- Los Angeles
- Merced
- Riverside
- Santa Cruz
- San Diego
- San Francisco
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Colorado Colorado Springs
University of Hawaii Manoa
University of Minnesota Twin Cities
University of Missouri Columbia
University of Nevada Reno
University of Oregon
University of the Pacific
University of Redlands
University of San Francisco
University of Santa Barbara
University of Southern California
University of the West of England
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin Madison
University of Wyoming
Wentworth Institute of Tech
Western Washington University
Whittier College
Yale University
York St. John University

Grade Distribution
HTHNC Class of 2019
through junior year, class size = 96

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High Tech High North County does not discriminate on the basis of actual or perceived sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender expression, gender identity, ethnic group identification, immigration status or citizenship, race, ancestry, national origin, color, religion, religious affiliation, creed, mental or physical disability, age, parental, family, marital status, ation status or citizenship, race, ancestry, national origin, color, religion, religious affiliation, creed, mental or physical disability, age, parental, family, marital status, and any other or any other basis protected by applicable law in employment, admission, or educational program or activities.