

SCHOOL PROFILE 2026-2027

High Tech High North County (HTHNC) opened in September 2007, building on the success of its sister school, High Tech High. Founded through a collaboration between educators and industry leaders, HTHNC is an independent public charter school currently serving 413 students in grades 9–12. The school's mission is to prepare a diverse student body for postsecondary education, engaged citizenship, and leadership in an increasingly advancing and interconnected world.

Key innovations at HTHNC include performance-based assessment, a collaborative teaching model, state-of-the-art facilities designed to support project-based learning, required internships for all students, and strong partnerships with local organizations and the workforce. Fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), HTHNC graduated its first senior class in June 2011.

CEEB Code: 054219 | Total enrollment: 419, grades 9–12

STUDENTS & FACULTY

Established in 2007, High Tech High North County (HTHNC) is a public charter school serving students in grades 9–12. HTHNC reflects the full socioeconomic and cultural diversity of the greater San Marcos area. Admission requirements are simple: applicants must be California residents, have completed 8th grade, and express an interest in attending. Enrollment is determined through a zip code-based lottery system designed to promote equitable access and maintain a diverse student body.

HTHNC employs 35 faculty members, a dynamic mix of experienced master teachers, early-career educators, and professionals from various industries. Each teacher also serves as an advisor to approximately 20 students, providing academic guidance throughout high school. The school emphasizes project-based learning and real-world application, allowing students to engage deeply with core academic content while pursuing their interests. Students frequently participate in exhibitions and "Presentations of Learning," showcasing their work, reflecting on growth, and developing skills in communication, collaboration, and critical thinking.

PROGRAM

High Tech High North County is not a technology-focused school, but technology is integrated across all areas of study, allowing students to engage in scientific, mathematical, literary, historical and artistic pursuits. Students use various tools to research, create, collaborate, and present their work in real-world contexts.

Teachers collaborate in interdisciplinary teams designing curriculum that connects subject areas and encourages student-driven projects, emphasizing inquiry, creativity, and application. Frequent exhibitions and "Presentations of Learning" allow students to showcase their work and practice critical skills in analysis and communication. The HTHNC curriculum aligns with California standards and the six Deeper Learning Competencies of High Tech High, preparing students to: master core academic content, think critically, solve complex problems, work collaboratively, communicate effectively, and learn how to develop academic mindsets. All core academic courses are University of California A–G approved. Additionally, students engage in internships, service learning, and community partnerships, connecting classroom learning with meaningful real-world experiences.

COURSE OFFERINGS

Rigorous Curriculum without Advanced Placement Courses

The HTHNC curriculum emphasizes courses that invite students to explore important concepts and issues in depth. Junior and senior students may choose to take most core academic courses for honors credit. Advanced Placement (AP) courses are not offered at HTHNC; rather, HTHNC prioritizes meaningful engagement and deeper learning experiences over standardized survey approaches.

Core 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), Government & Economics
- MATHEMATICS:** Math I, Math II, Math III, Pre-Calculus (H), Math IV, Calculus (H)
- LAB SCIENCES:** Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Biology (H), Physics 3/4, Physics 3/4 (H)
- FOREIGN LANGUAGE:** Spanish II, Spanish III, Spanish III (H)
- VISUAL ARTS:** Multimedia 1/2, Multimedia 3/4

ACADEMIC SEMINAR: All students participate in an Academic Seminar course that’s either (1) a UC A-G Approved Elective or (2) an HTHNC Elective. Academic seminars may be repeated as course content changes yearly, allowing students to engage deeper with subject matter.

DUAL ENROLLMENT: Students have the opportunity to earn college credit through dual enrollment with Palomar College. These courses are taught by Palomar College faculty and may be offered online or on the High Tech High North County campus. When a student enrolls in an in-person college course, the course will appear on the high school transcript with a Pass/No Pass (P/NP) grade in place of Academic Seminar. Dual

enrollment courses do not confer high school credit. Participation in dual enrollment is generally limited to students in grade 10 and above.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

High Tech High North County (HTHNC) exceeds the University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) admissions standards. Our curriculum and graduation requirements go beyond California’s A–G requirements, providing students with a rigorous, well-rounded academic experience that prepares them for success in college and beyond.

COURSE	HTHNC 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 North County students must complete at least one workplace internship of 100 hours.

Senior Core Defense

In addition to meeting the graduation requirements established by the State of California and HTHNC, students are required to complete a Senior Core Defense. This capstone assessment serves as a formal demonstration of academic achievement and personal growth. Seniors are expected to present evidence of mastery in the school’s deeper learning competencies, articulate the significance of their educational experiences, and substantiate their readiness to graduate from HTHNC and pursue postsecondary opportunities.

ACADEMIC INTERNSHIPS HTHNC

Through Academic Internships, HTHNC students engage in work-based learning at businesses, schools, nonprofit organizations, and professional associations across San Diego County. Each junior is placed with an individual mentor and undertakes a project that meaningfully contributes to both the host organization and connects to the student’s academic studies. Internships are full-time for five weeks during the junior year and are designed as unpaid,

educational experiences. To date, HTHNC has established partnerships with more than 100 local businesses and organizations, including but not limited to:

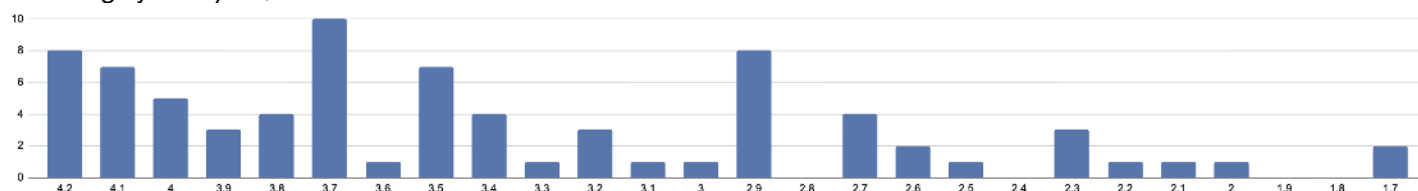
Acal Engineering & Land Surveying
 Alphatec Spine
 Bent Motorsports
 Boys & Girls Club of San Marcos
 Bressi Ranch Pet Hospital
 Cidara Therapeutics
 E-Rehab LLC
 Elevation Family Chiropractic
 Florence Architects
 Girl Scouts San Diego
 Helen Woodward Animal Center

KOCT - The Voice of North County
 Lake Medical Group
 Las Palmas Medical Group
 Manji Autowerks
 Mission San Luis Rey
 NV5 - Technical Engineering
 and Consulting Solutions
 Oceanside Public Library
 San Diego Children's Discovery
 County
 San Dieguito River Park

San Marcos Veterinary Clinic
 San Marcos City Hall
 Sea Life Aquarium, LEGOLAND
 Solana Beach Family Dentist
 STEM Aviation Academy
 TERI Campus of Life
 UCSD - ARNO Group, CAICE, La Jolla Institute
 of Immunology Neurological Surgery
 ViaSat
 Wasatch Property Management
 Wild Wonders Inc.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION HTHNC CLASS OF 2027

Through junior year, class size = 83



A COLLEGE-GOING CULTURE

Of the 92 graduates in the class of 2026, 87% will enter college in the fall. 60 (65%) will be attending a 4-year college and 19 (31%) to a 2-year college. Within this, 52 (56%) students will attend a school within the CSU or UC systems.

HIGH TECH HIGH GRADUATES COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE

Brigham Young University
 California College of the Arts
 California Institute of the Arts
 California Institute of Technology
 Cal Poly - Humboldt
 Cal Poly - Pomona
 Cal Poly - San Luis Obispo
 Claremont McKenna College
 CSU - Bakersfield
 CSU - Channel Islands
 CSU - Chico
 CSU - Dominguez Hills
 CSU - East Bay
 CSU - Fresno
 CSU - Fullerton
 CSU - Long Beach
 CSU - Los Angeles
 CSU - Maritime Academy
 CSU - Monterey Bay
 CSU - Northridge
 CSU - Sacramento
 CSU - San Bernardino
 CSU - San Marcos
 Chapman University
 Connecticut College
 Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
 Emerson College
 Grand Canyon University
 Harvey Mudd College
 Hofstra University

Loyola Marymount University
 MiraCosta College
 Moorpark College
 New York University
 Northern Arizona University
 Oregon State University
 Palomar College
 Parsons School of Design at The New School
 Pepperdine University
 Reed College
 Rochester Institute of Technology
 San Diego Miramar College
 San Diego State University
 San Jose State University
 Sonoma State University
 San Francisco State University
 Santa Clara University
 School of Visual Arts
 Southwestern College
 Syracuse University
 Texas Christian University
 Texas State University
 The Evergreen State College
 The Ohio State University
 University of Alabama
 University of Arizona
 University of British Columbia
 University of California- Berkeley
 University of California- Davis
 University of California- Irvine

University of California- Los Angeles
 University of California- Merced
 University of California- Santa Barbara
 University of California- Santa Cruz
 University of California- San Diego
 University of California- Riverside
 University of Hawaii (Manoa)
 University of La Verne
 University of Maine
 University of Massachusetts (Amherst)
 University of Massachusetts (Boston)
 University of Michigan
 University of Oregon
 University of Puget Sound
 University of Redlands
 University of Richmond
 University of San Diego
 University of San Francisco
 University of Southern California
 University of Utah
 University of Vermont
 Wake Forest University
 William & Mary
 Washington State University
 Washington University in St. Louis
 Worcester Polytechnic Institute