



Pacific Collegiate School

A California Charter School

P.O. Box 1701
Santa Cruz, California 95061-1701
CEEB Code 053270

(831) 479-7785 ext. 3106

(831) 427-5254 (fax)

www.pacificcollegiate.com

Archie Douglas, Principal
Simon Fletcher, Assistant Principal

Mike Lysaght, College Counselor
Tara Firenzi, Faculty Dean

School Profile 2011-2012

MISSION: Pacific Collegiate School's mission is to provide exemplary, standards-based college preparatory and fine arts education for public middle and high school students. Our vision is to offer any student the same quality of education offered by the most academically distinguished schools in California. Our graduates will be prepared to enter and thrive at the world's finest colleges and universities.

VISION: In addition to a core college preparatory curriculum, Pacific Collegiate School will emphasize international, cross-cultural, and technological education in order to prepare graduates for life in the 21st Century. Pacific Collegiate students will be introduced to the rich variety of world cultures and become fluent in at least one foreign language. They will become proficient in the basic information technologies essential for cultural literacy in the 21st Century. Our program is rooted in the belief that most students, not just a few, are capable of a demanding, rigorous and relevant high school education.

SCHOOL

Founded in 1999 and accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Pacific Collegiate School is a college preparatory, public charter school for grades 7-12. Our target population is middle and high school-age students who seek an exemplary, standards-based college preparatory and fine arts education. We attract highly motivated students who flourish in a supportive and academically challenging environment.

PCS has an **open admissions policy**: admission in all grades is non-selective, and is determined through public implementation of a once-a-year lottery. Current enrollment is 510 in grades 7-12; there are 75 seniors in the Class of 2012. 35 full and part-time professionals make up the teaching faculty, 60% with advanced degrees. The student/teacher ratio is 21/1.

RECOGNITION

- Recognized by *Newsweek*, *US News & World Report* and *The Washington Post* as one of the nation's top public high schools (2006-2011)
- Ranked in the Top Ten Public High Schools and as the nation's #1 Charter High School by *U.S. News and World Report* (2008 and 2009)
- Designated a National Blue Ribbon School (2008)
- Selected a California Distinguished School (2007 and 2011)
- Named "Charter School of the Year" by the California Charter School Association (2006)
- Honored by the College Board for top AP World History program in the nation (2006)

COMMUNITY

Santa Cruz is located on California's central coast, about 65 miles south of San Francisco and 30 miles southwest of Silicon Valley. The population of Santa Cruz County is 255,000. Local colleges and universities include University of California Santa Cruz, California State University Monterey Bay, and Cabrillo Community College.

GRADUATION & AP COURSE REQUIREMENTS

220 credits, including 5 AP courses and 80 hours of community service, must be completed during grades 9-12 to meet the school's requirements for graduation.

English.....4 years (40 credits)	Foreign Language.....3 years (30 credits)
Math.....3 years (30 credits)	Fine Arts.....3 years (30 credits)
Laboratory Science.....3 years (30 credits)	College Prep Electives.....3 years (30 credits)
History.....3 years (30 credits)	Community Service.....20 hours/year

SENIOR FOCUS PROJECT

A Senior Project may be developed as a one-year (10-credit) project in an area in which a student has particular interest and ability. The project involves advanced level work outside regular class curricula overseen by a PCS faculty advisor. Students are expected to schedule regular meetings with their Faculty Advisor at least every two weeks for discussion and/ or review. The Advisor will assign a pass/fail grade on progress towards stated goals. Students will be required to present the completed project for a first review to the Faculty Advisor and another faculty member by the end of the third quarter. The final project will also be presented to the PCS community in the spring.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Student activities include but are not limited to ASB Leadership (student government), Where Everyone Belongs (WEB) Peer Leaders, Junior Statesmen of America, language and culture Clubs, Thespian Club, and Academic Decathlon. Physical Education is not required for graduation, but students may participate in 11 Interscholastic Sports and several club sports.

STUDENT TESTING

PCS is a public school; students in AP courses cannot be required to take the AP exam. Nonetheless, 88.2% of PCS students enrolled in AP courses in 2010-2011 took the corresponding exam.

Advanced Placement Examinations (School-wide: 10th, 11th & 12th grades)

Year	5	4	3	2	1	3+
2011	28%	34%	23%	9%	6%	85%
2010	35%	33%	21%	9%	2%	89%
2009	31%	34%	21%	10%	4%	85%

2011 Advanced Placement Scholars (School-wide: 10th, 11th & 12th grades)

- 29 Scholars
- 22 Scholars with Honor
- 36 Scholars with Distinction
- 1 National Scholar

2011 AP Exams	# Exams Taken	Average Score
AP Biology	61	3
AP Calculus BC	20	4
AP Chinese	1	4
AP Computer Science A	10	2
AP English Language	63	4
AP English Literature	23	4
AP French Language	6	4
AP Human Geography	1	5
AP Latin: Vergil	2	3
AP Physics B	21	4
AP Spanish Language	20	4
AP Statistics	24	4
AP US History	71	4
AP World History	78	4
AP Studio Art	5	4
Total	429	4

National Merit Scholarship Results

Class of 2012 (75 students)	4 Semifinalists*	10 Commended Students
Class of 2011 (55 Seniors)	2 Scholars, 1 Finalist	5 Commended Students
Class of 2010 (62 Seniors)	2 Scholars, 5 Finalists	15 Commended, 1 Hispanic Scholar

* 2012 Finalists and Merit Scholars have not yet been named

SAT & ACT Results

	Critical Reading	Math	Writing	Combined
Class of 2012 (as of June 2011)	628	615	612	1855
Class of 2011 (final)	638	625	624	1928

SAT Subject Tests

Class of 2012 (as of June 2011)	Biology	Literature	Math II	Chemistry	US History	World History
	658	634	668	598	674	669
Class of 2011	660	621	669	613	697	678

GRADING, CLASS RANK & WEIGHTING

Grades at PCS are reported out as letter grades, with '+' and '-' distinctions used. Grade point average is calculated using a four-point scale for grades 9-12. Because of the rigor of its required AP curriculum and the small size of the senior class, Pacific Collegiate School does not rank students or weight grades, though student transcripts include both weighted and unweighted GPA for reference. Weighted GPA credits one full point for AP course grades (thus an AP grade of B+, unweighted as 3.4, would be calculated as 4.4 in the weighted GPA).

2011 Grade Distribution (10th and 11th grades): 70% receives pass with credit

Department	A	B	C	D	F	Grading Scale	GPA Calculation
English	49%	37%	13%	1%	0%	A 93-100	A 4.00
History	52%	28%	17%	2%	2%	A- 90-92	A- 3.70
Language	53%	30%	15%	2%	0%	B+ 87-89	B+ 3.40
Math	36%	41%	20%	3%	0%	B 83-86	B 3.00
Science	48%	33%	18%	0%	0%	B- 80-82	B- 2.70
Visual & Performing Arts	82%	16%	1%	0%	0%	C+ 77-80	C+ 2.40
						C 73-76	C 2.00
						C- 70-72	C- 1.70
Overall	53%	31%	14%	1%	1%		

High School Course Offerings (* not offered every year)

English

English 9, Medieval World
 English 10, Modern World
 AP English Language
 AP English Literature
 Introduction to Poetry
 The Short Story

History

History 9, Medieval World
 AP World History
 AP U. S. History
 Rhetoric and Oratory
 History and Cinema

Mathematics

Algebra I
 Algebra II
 Geometry
 Pre-Calculus & Trigonometry
 AP Calculus BC
 AP Statistics

Science

Conceptual Physics
 Chemistry
 AP Biology
 AP Chemistry*
 AP Environmental*
 AP Physics*

World Languages

French 1, 2, 3, AP
 Latin 1, 2, 3, AP
 Spanish 1, 2, 3, AP
 Chinese 1, 2, 3

Visual and Performing Arts

Music 1 – Beginning
 Music 2 – Intermediate
 Music 3 – Symphonic
 Music 3 – Jazz
 Chorus
 Advanced Chorus
 AP Music Theory*
 Drama 1 – Beginning

Drama 2 – Intermediate
 Drama 3 – Advanced
 Video Production
 Dance Studies

Art 1, 2, 3
 Studio Art
 Graphic and Digital Arts
 Video Production
 AP Art History *

Special Programs

ROP – Horticulture
 Focus Project
 ASB Leadership
 Journalism
 Introduction to Engineering
 Yearbook

College Matriculation (2008-2011)

American University	Harvard University	Sonoma State University
Belmont University	Harvey Mudd College	Saint John's College
Boston University	Hendrix College	Stanford University
Brandeis University	Ithaca College	Swarthmore College
Brown University	Johns Hopkins University	Tufts University
Brigham Young University	Lewis and Clark College	UC Berkeley
University of British Columbia	Loyola University New Orleans	UC Davis
Cabrillo College	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	UC Irvine
California Polytechnic State University	Marlboro College	UC Los Angeles
CSU Fullerton	Michigan State University	UC San Diego
CSU Long Beach	Middlebury College	UC Santa Barbara
CSU Monterey Bay	New York University	UC Santa Cruz
Chapman University	Northeastern University	University of Montana
City College of San Francisco	Oberlin College	University of Oregon
Clarkson University	Occidental College	University of Puget Sound
Columbia University	Pacific University	University of Redlands
Connecticut College	Portland State University	University of Southern California
Cornell University	Princeton University	University of Washington
Dartmouth College	Reed College	Vassar College
Earlham College	San Francisco State University	Wesleyan University
Embry-Riddle University	San Jose State University	Westminster Choir College (Rider)
Evergreen State College	Santa Clara University	Whitman College
George Washington University	Sarah Lawrence College	Willamette University
Hampshire College	Scripps College	Yale University

255 Swift Street Santa Cruz, CA 95061

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