



# CAPISTRANO VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

## SCHOOL PROFILE

**COMMUNITY:** Capistrano Valley High School (CVHS) is a four-year comprehensive, public high school serving a large geographic area including parts of Mission Viejo, San Juan Capistrano and Ladera Ranch. The area is largely residential. Many parents are middle or upper-middle class, college educated and professional or semi-professional. Currently, over 25 different languages other than English are spoken at home, reflecting our diversity of ethnic backgrounds. The community values education and expects excellence in the academic, athletic, and co-curricular programs of the school. The school enjoys a high level of community support.

**SCHOOL:** CVHS is one of six comprehensive high schools in the Capistrano Unified School District. An additional opportunity in the district is available to 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students to earn a diploma through Cal Prep, an online school. CVHS enrollment is approximately 2100 students in grades 9-12. Capistrano Valley High School is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), which recognizes and validates the quality of curriculum and instruction. In the fall of 2016, CVHS completed all necessary components of the rigorous WASC self-study review. Subsequently, CVHS received notification of continued accreditation through June 2023, verifying the high caliber of all instructional programs. Currently CVHS has approximately 500+ computers including two photo/video labs, one engineering lab, and five general use computer labs. The ethnic background of the school consists of 55% White (not Hispanic), 29.2% Hispanic, 5.1% Asian, .24% Pacific Islander, .90% Black, .09% American Indian/Alaskan Native and 7.7% reporting multiple ethnicities.

**CALENDAR AND CREDITS:** The school year is 180 days long and consists of two semesters. Students earn 5 credits per class per semester. 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders must take a minimum of 6 classes. 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders must take a minimum of 5 classes. A total of 220 credits are required for graduation. The State of California recently removed passage of the California High School Exit Exam as a graduation requirement.

**GRADUATES:** Of the class of 2017, 85% continued in post-secondary education; 42% went directly to four-year colleges, 43% to two-year colleges, 1% are attending trade or technical schools and 3.1% joined the military. Approximately 2.4% reported planning to work full-time directly after high school. Average SAT scores for the Class of 2017 were: Critical Reading 590 and Math 594, for a total of 1184. ACT scores in each of the 4 subject areas surpassed statewide averages with the composite score of 25.9.

**CURRICULUM:** Curriculum offerings cover the range of college preparatory, technology, and fine and practical arts. There are 134 students designated as English Learners (ELs) with varying proficiency levels. ELs are accommodated by curriculum ranging from Designated Structured English Immersion (SEI) to English mainstream classes with integrated English Language development support and SDAIE strategies. Currently, there are over 376 students who have been redesignated as fluent English speakers.

**COLLEGE AND CAREER ADVANTAGE:** Previously known as South Coast Regional Occupational Program (ROP), the new College and Career Advantage offers relevant and engaging Career Technical Education (CTE) classes as high school electives that prepare students for career and academic success. CCA offers a wide variety of career pathways in 13 of the 15 CTE Industry Sectors. Courses include some that are UC A-G approved, articulated with local colleges, honors weighted, partnered with local businesses to provide internships, and lead to industry certifications. The goal of CCA is to train students to be career and college ready upon graduation.

**SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATH (STEM) CAREER ACADEMY:** The STEM Career Academy is a course of study that allows students to skillfully address relevant, real-world problems and issues from a framework of science, engineering, design and technology.

**THE ACADEMY OF TECHNOLOGY, MATH AND SCIENCE (ATMS):** Approximately 140 students participate in a challenging program intended to accelerate students who have demonstrated exceptional ability, interest, and aptitude in the areas of mathematics and science. Honors/Accelerated curriculum at the ninth and tenth grade level provides "pre-IB/AP" support.

In addition to the core curriculum, CVHS offers 20 Advanced Placement classes, 20 IB level classes and 8 Honors classes all with weighted grades. **In May of 2017, 1238 AP exams were taken with 76.5% scoring "3" or above.**

**HONORS CLASSES:** Beginning in the 2016-2017 school year CVHS added seven Honors Courses to our course offerings: Honors English I/ATMS, Honors English II/ATMS, Honors World History, Honors Biology/ATMS, Honors Chemistry/ATMS, Honors Algebra 2/Trigonometry/ATMS. The Capistrano Unified School District also retroactively awarded weighted credit for the courses for all enrolled students that had previously taken any of the courses in Mathematics or English. These courses have been approved by the University of California system as district level honors courses which mean that they are considered weighted honors courses for CUSD Grade Point Average calculations. Each of these courses are weighted by CUSD but this weighted grade is not recognized as a UC Honors weighted course. Even though the weighted grade is not counted by UCs there are many other universities that do recognize the weighting.



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### HONORS AND AP COURSES

AP Language/Comp	AP World History
AP Lit/Comp	AP European History
AP Calculus (AB) (BC)	AP American History
AP Statistics	AP American Government
AP Biology	AP German IV
AP Chemistry	AP Spanish IV
AP Environmental Science	AP Computer Science
AP Physics (C)	AP Computer Science Principles
AP Physics I	AP Psychology
AP Physics 2	
Honors English 1/ATMS	Honors Pre-Calculus
Honors English II/ATMS	Honors Algebra II/Trig/ATMS
Honors World History	Honors Biology/ATMS
Honors Pre-Calculus ATMS	
Honors Chemistry/ATMS	

### CLASS AND GRADING SCHEDULE:

Each class meets three times a week, following a modified block/bell schedule. Official grade reports are posted twice a year – late in December after first semester and in early-June after second semester. Unofficial progress reports are posted 2 times each semester after six and twelve weeks of instruction.

### Subject Requirements Credits

College and Career Planning (9)	5
English (grades 9, 10, 11, 12)	40
Fine Arts or Foreign Language	10
Health	5
Mathematics (must include Algebra)	20
Physical Education	20
Science (to include life and physical)	20
Social Science	30
<u>Electives</u>	<u>70</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>220</b>

### INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (IB):

In April, 2005 CVHS met the rigorous standards to become an IB school. Currently 180 students are taking IB courses of which 24 juniors and 21 seniors are working towards the IB Diploma. Starting with the first IB Diploma class of 2007, a total of 298 candidates have been awarded diplomas. The point average for diploma graduates is 31 and the pass rate has averaged 92%. In 14 of the 19 subject areas, CVHS students scored at or above the world average on subject exams.

### IB COURSES

IB English III HL	IB Math Studies SL
IB English IV HL	IB Math SL/HL
IB Visual Arts SL/HL	IB Biology HL
IB French SL/HL	IB Physics SL/HL
IB Spanish SL/HL	IB Psychology SL
IB History/Americas IV HL	IB German SL/HL
IB History of Americas III HL	Theory of Knowledge

### GRADE POINT AVERAGE AND CLASS RANK:

Semester grade point averages (GPA) are computed using the following numerical value: A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, F=0. For Honors, Advanced Placement, and IB courses, grade points are awarded according to the following values: A=5, B=4, C=3, D=1, F=0. Physical Education and school service classes are not counted in the computation of the academic GPA with the exception of determining eligibility for athletics. A repeated class, indicated by an "r" on the transcript does not receive additional credit. The higher grade, however, is used in computing the GPA. Starting with the class of 2012 a decile system has been used to report class rank.

### Mission Statement

At Capistrano Valley High School, our mission is to maintain a respectful, safe learning environment in which students are challenged and successful. We believe this goal is best achieved by a rigorous curriculum that emphasizes active learning, academic proficiency, and offers comprehensive opportunities to help all students reach their educational and personal potential.

### Vision Statement

We will ensure a student-centered education where all are supported and engaged in meaningful experiences to shape their futures.

