



# Palos Verdes High School

## Profile 2011-2012

600 Cloyden Road  
Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274-1869



www.pvhigh.com

CEEB Code: 052358

*Experience the Challenge...*

### ADMINISTRATION

**Nick Stephany, Ed.D.**  
Principal

**Trista Ramirez**  
Associate Principal

**Brent Kuykendall**  
Associate Principal

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### PALOS VERDES HIGH SCHOOL

Originally opened in 1961, the school district closed Palos Verdes High School in June 1991 due to declining enrollment. The high school reopened in 2002 and celebrated its first graduating class in 2005. PVHS is accredited through 2012 by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and was named a California Distinguished School in 2005.

#### Mission Statement:

PVHS places a very high emphasis on the academic success and emotional well-being of all students. Various programs, for all levels of student, challenge each PVHS student to reach his or her maximum potential. PVHS ensures students are well equipped with the academic skills which allow them to follow their own unique academic pursuits and extracurricular endeavors in high school and beyond.

### SCHOOL DISTRICT AND COMMUNITY

The Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District serves the communities of Palos Verdes Estates, Rancho Palos Verdes, Palos Verdes Peninsula, Rolling Hills and Rolling Hills Estates. The area is located 21 miles southwest of metropolitan Los Angeles and draws predominantly middle to high-income business and professional residents. The school district's reputation for having a superior educational system attracts many families to this suburban community and its schools. Two early childhood centers, ten elementary schools, three intermediate schools, one continuation high school and two comprehensive high schools accommodate the district's enrollment of approximately 11,900 students. Since there are no attendance boundaries at the high school level, students can choose to attend Palos Verdes High School with a block schedule or Palos Verdes Peninsula High School with a traditional schedule.

#### STUDENT ENROLLMENT 2011-12

9th Grade: 386  
10th Grade: 485  
11th Grade: 457  
12th Grade: 368

Total: 1696

#### COLLEGE DATA

84% accepted to 4 year  
79% matriculated to 4 year  
19% matriculated to 2 year

**API SCORE**  
898

#### STAFF

87 Teachers  
5 Counselors  
3 Administrators  
1 Athletic Director  
1 Activity Director  
1 Psychologist  
1 Librarian  
1 Nurse

#### REQUIRED # OF COURSES BY GRADE LEVEL

9th Grade: 6  
10th Grade: 6  
11th Grade: 5  
12th Grade: 4

#### COURSE SCHEDULE

Traditional semester schedule

**BLOCK SCHEDULE**  
with three block periods  
per day for 113 minutes each

A - Days  
Periods 1,2,3

B - Days  
Periods 4,5,6

Zero period  
(optional, non-block class)  
meets every day  
for 55 minutes

## HONORS AND ADVANCED PLACEMENT CLASSES

<b>ENGLISH</b>	English 1 Honors English 2 Honors English 3 Honors English AP Language English AP Literature
<b>VISUAL/PERFORMING ARTS</b>	Advanced Orchestra Drama 3 Advanced Drama 4 Advanced Jazz Band 2 Studio Art AP (3D, 2D or Drawing) Art History AP Music Theory AP
<b>FOREIGN LANGUAGE</b>	Chinese 3 Honors Chinese AP Language French 3 Honors French AP Language Spanish 3 Honors Spanish AP Language Spanish AP Literature
<b>MATHEMATICS</b>	Geometry Honors Algebra 2 Honors Pre-Calculus Honors Calculus AB AP Calculus BC AP Statistics AP Advanced Calculus
<b>SCIENCE</b>	Biology 1 Honors Marine Biology Honors Biology 2 AP Chemistry 1 Honors Chemistry 2 AP Physics B AP Physics C AP Environmental Science AP
<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b>	World History Honors World History AP European History AP U.S. History AP American Government AP Comparative Government AP Economics AP Psychology AP Human Geography AP

**Total AP Offerings: 27**  
**Total Honors Offerings: 14**

## TRANSCRIPT DESIGNATIONS

<b>A</b>	First semester of year-long course
<b>B</b>	Second semester of a year-long course
<b>H</b>	Honors courses
<b>AP</b>	Advanced Placement course
<b>r</b>	Repeated Course
<b>MCR</b>	Meets College Requirements Geometry MCR, Algebra 2 MCR, Spanish 2 MCR, Spanish 3 MCR
<b>ELD</b>	English Language Development Sheltered or cooperative learning classes in English, social studies and science for limited English proficient students
<b>SCROC</b>	Southern California Regional Occupational Center

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

### Class of 2012

Unit requirements: 220 credits for graduation  
5 credits earned for each semester course

<u>Subject Requirement</u>	<u># of semester(s)</u>	<u># of credit(s)</u>
English	8	40
World History, Culture and Geography	2	10
United States History	2	10
Government	1	5
Economics	1	5
Mathematics	4	20
Biological Science	2	10
Physical Science	2	10
Physical Education	4	20
Visual Art, Performing Art Or Foreign Language	4	20
Health	1	5
Electives	13	65

## Palos Verdes High School

### CLASS RANK AND GRADE POINT AVERAGE

Student Class Rank is not computed per school district policy.

All credit courses taken in grades 9-12, including courses taken during the summer through community college or at high schools outside the district, are included in determining the cumulative GPA. The course numbering system on the transcript indicates where each course was completed.

10000	1st semester Palos Verdes High School
20000	2nd semester Palos Verdes High School
40000	High school level summer school course
50000	Other Off-campus course
60000	Out of country high school course
90000	College course

The first semester of a year-long course is designated with an "A" and the second semester with a "B".

Grades of A,B,C,D,P = Pass, C = Credit are all passing marks.  
Grade of F = Failure, NC = No Credit  
AU = Audit, W = Withdraw and I = Incomplete are also available.

The transcript lists both the weighted and un-weighted GPA.  
The GPA is averaged in three ways:

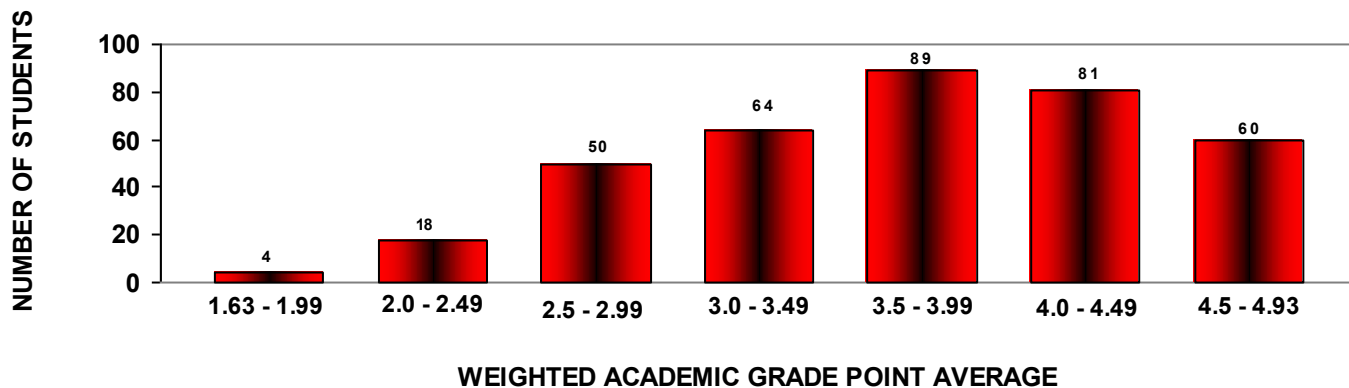
Cumulative GPA for all classes (including PE/Athletics) grades 9-12  
Academic GPA (no PE/Athletics) grades 9-12  
Academic GPA (no PE/Athletics) grades 10-12

Advanced Placement and Honors courses qualify for weighted grades and are designated with a "+" on the transcript.

A weighted GPA is determined by calculating the un-weighted GPA then adding 0.2 grade points for each weighted course in a semester.

PVHS does not release student disciplinary records per school policy

### CLASS OF 2012 GRADE DISTRIBUTION



### Palos Verdes High School

#### 2011 Testing Profile

##### SAT Test Results

(Mean scores)

SAT Critical Reading	563
SAT Mathematics	585
SAT Writing	582

##### SAT Subject Tests

(Mean scores)

Biology E	608	US History	601
Biology M	665	World History	517
Chemistry	641	Chinese	767
Math (Level I)	549	French	670
Math (Level II)	632	Korean	781
Physics	688	Spanish	552
Literature	569		

##### ACT Test Results

(Average scores)

	PVHS	State (CA)
English	26.8	21.6
Mathematics	26.6	22.7
Reading	26.1	22.0
Science	24.9	21.4
Composite	26.2	22.1

##### Advanced Placement (AP) Tests

599 PVHS students took a total of 1275 AP tests in 28 different subjects.

76% of the exams taken were passed with a score of three or higher.

Of those students that took an AP Exam, 83% of them passed at least one of their exams with a score of three or higher.

60% of graduating seniors (Class of 2011) scored three or higher on at least one AP Exam during high school.

AP Score	# students receiving this score	% of total
5	222	17%
4	366	29%
3	384	30%
2	209	16%
1	94	7%

### NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Class of 2012

(September 2011)

4	National Merit Semifinalists
3	National Hispanic Scholars
23	Commended Students

### COLLEGES OFFERING 2011 ADMISSION TO PVHS STUDENTS

(PARTIAL LIST)

American University	Indiana University	Tufts University
Amherst College	Johns Hopkins University	Tulane University
Arizona State University	Kent State University	US Air Force Academy
Auburn University	Kenyon College	University of Arizona
Azusa Pacific University	Lehigh University	University of California (all)
Barnard College	Lewis & Clark College	University of Colorado (all)
Bates College	Linfield College	University of Denver
Baylor University	Loyola Marymount U.	University of Georgia
Biola University	Loyola Univ. Chicago	University of Hawaii Manoa
Boise State University	Loyola Univ. Maryland	University of Idaho
Boston College	Loyola Univ. New Orleans	University of Illinois
Boston University	Marquette University	University of Kansas
Brandeis University	Menlo College	University of La Verne
Brigham Young University	Middlebury College	University of Mass. Amherst
Brown University	Mills College	University of Miami, Florida
Bucknell University	New York University	University of Miami, Ohio
Butler University	Northeastern University	University of Michigan
California College of the Arts	Northern Arizona Univ.	University of Missouri
California Lutheran University	Northwestern University	University of Nebraska
California Maritime Academy	Occidental College	University of New Hampshire
California State Universities (all)	Ohio Wesleyan University	University of New Mexico
Carleton College	Ohio State University	University of North Carolina
Carnegie Mellon University	Oregon State University	University of Notre Dame
Carroll College	Pennsylvania State Univ.	University of Oregon
Chapman University	Pepperdine University	University of the Pacific
Clemson University	Pitzer College	University of Pennsylvania
Colgate University	Point Loma Nazarene	University of Puget Sound
Colorado State University	Princeton University	University of Redlands
Columbia College	Purdue University	USC
Columbia University	Reed College	University of San Diego
Cornell University	Rensselaer Poly Tech. Inst.	University of San Francisco
Dartmouth College	Saint Mary's College	University of Texas
Drexel University	Santa Clara University	University of Washington
Duke University	Sarah Lawrence College	Vanderbilt University
Emory University	Seattle University	Villanova University
Fordham University	Seattle Pacific University	Wake Forest University
Georgetown University	Southern Methodist U.	Washington Univ. St. Louis
George Washington University	Southern Oregon Univ.	Wellesley College
Gonzaga University	Stanford University	Wesleyan University
Hampshire College	SUNY - New York	Westmont College
Harvard University	Syracuse University	Whitman College
Haverford College	Temple University	Whittier College
Hawaii Pacific University	Texas A&M University	Willamette University
Hofstra University	Texas Christian University	Yale University

## PROGRAMS OF EXCELLENCE

### AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination)

226 students are participating in the four year AVID program at PVHS. AVID seeks to ensure that mid range students are equipped with the skills necessary to become successful in college. 100% of 2011 AVID graduates were accepted by four year universities.

### Clubs, Activities, Associated Student Body (ASB) and Honor Societies

Consisting of 40 students, ASB Leadership class creates, implements and oversees all student activities at Palos Verdes High School. Student activities range from pep rallies and dances, to awareness weeks and school-wide community service. The purpose of each activity is to engage students and create a welcoming, spirited, enriched and involved school community at Palos Verdes High School.

In addition to campus wide events, the ASB Student Council also oversees 100 student run organizations on our campus in the areas of academics, politics, culture, religion, athletics, special interest and philanthropy.

Partial list includes:

California Scholarship Federation (CSF)	Animal Welfare Club
Chinese Honor Society	Gay Straight Alliance
French Honor Society	Greek Club
Mu Alpha Theta ( Nat'l Math Honor Society)	Green Club
National English Honor Society	Interact Club
National Fine Art Honor Society	KIDS Club
National Honor Society	Mock Trial
National Honor Society of Dance Arts	Model United Nations
Spanish Honor Society	Panama Service Club
Tri M Music Honor Society	Project Runway
Link Crew	Speech and Debate

### PVIT - Palos Verdes Institute of Technology

Palos Verdes Institute of Technology featured one of the first high school robotics programs in the nation. PVHS PVIT students represented the only high school to field an autonomous vehicle which competed in the 2005 DARPA "Grand Challenge" with entries from Cal Tech, MIT, Virginia Tech and the winning vehicle from Stanford. With this established record of success, there was interest in further developing an engineering and robotics program that would offer pre-college engineering /technology courses with continuing opportunities for competitions, internships, mentoring and research. Project Lead the Way (PLTW) offers this type of program through a flexible sequence of courses which builds students engineering/technology skills and knowledge. PVHS has linked math/science classes with PLTW courses which are recognized by UC and CSU and meet the "g" subject requirement.

### PVID - Palos Verdes International Diploma

This program is modeled after the Advanced Placement International Designation (APID) certification requirements. Students take rigorous and challenging courses with a focus on international history, politics and humanities. PVID requires that students complete AP classes in Human Geography, Comparative Government, World, European and US History as well as US Government and Economics. Additionally, students must take a humanities course at a local college or university while participating in Model United Nations (MUN). PVID students complete a culminating senior research project on a topic in international studies.

### MUN - Model United Nations

Model United Nations is an international program that allows high school and college students to compete and engage in debate about global issues in mock UN committees at conferences throughout the state and country. PVHS participates in conferences at UCLA, UC Berkeley, and Georgetown among others. Students enrolled in MUN earn social studies elective credit and are also able to satisfy requirements toward earning the prestigious Palos Verdes International Diploma. Last year, the MUN program received the following recognition and awards: six Awards of Excellence, Best Small Delegation Award, Commendation and Outstanding Awards.

### Senior Project

Each student at Palos Verdes High School conducts a culminating Senior Research Project in their senior English class. The components of the project include a research paper, a physical project, which is a minimum of 15 hours of fieldwork and 15 hours of community service related to some aspect of the paper, and a presentation to a panel of judges. Students select their own area of study and have the opportunity to demonstrate the knowledge and maturity they have gained during their high school career. By conducting formal research, academic writing, and public speaking to convey ideas, PVHS seniors are well prepared to be successful at the college level.

### Student Media Services:

#### Live from 205

*Live from 205* is a student run news broadcast show that runs two 25 minute broadcasts each week. The program consists of 28 of the school's top students who have to be accepted to participate in the program. *Live from 205* has proven to be a most efficient and professional mode to disseminate information to the student body. Over the last five years, *Live from 205* has won over 30 individual awards and three Excellence Awards at the Student Television News national convention. [www.livefrom205.com](http://www.livefrom205.com)

#### Yearbook

PVHS has several student print publications. The school's yearbook, *The Triton*, has over 100 student participants and has garnered several awards for design and journalism. It has been recognized as the first place yearbook by both the National Scholastic Press Association and the American Scholastic Press Association for each of the last three years. *The Triton* is a student run program, giving all students an opportunity to showcase and develop their leadership skills.

#### Literary Magazine

In addition to the yearbook, PVHS offers a literary magazine, *Trade Winds*. This magazine is published once yearly and gives all students the chance to submit their original literary works for publication. The *Trade Winds* staff is responsible for the design and production of the magazine.

#### Newspaper

*The Point*, PVHS's newspaper, involves more than 50 students and is published once a month. This student run program features stories of all aspects of the school including sports, academics and an editorial section. Several journalism students submit stories for the local newspapers as well. *The Point* is regarded as one of the top high school newspapers in the South Bay area.

## ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

Since PVHS re-opened in the 2002-03 school year, the athletic program has grown to include 30 different sports.

PVHS has won 67 League titles, 7 CIF championships and 1 state championship.

In 2011, four different teams were recognized by CIF for superior academic achievement, earning scholar athlete awards.

While winning and accolades are a source of pride, PVHS athletics seek to build student character, work ethic and integrity.

The athletic program includes the following sports:

Baseball	Cross Country (B&G)	Marching Band	Swimming (B&G)
Basketball (B&G)	Equestrian	Soccer (B&G)	Tennis (B&G)
Cheer	Football	Softball	Track & Field (B&G)
Choreo & Dance Teams	Golf (B&G)	Song	Volleyball (B&G)
Color Guard	Lacrosse (B&G)	Surfing	Water Polo (B&G)

B&G = Boys' & Girls' Sport