



# DANA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **How can I stay updated on what is happening at Dana Hills High School?**

**Answer:** DHHS utilizes School Messenger. To register for an account, access the DHHS website, [www.danahills.net](http://www.danahills.net), scroll to the bottom-of the page under “Resources,” click on “DHHS Communications” and follow the instructions. You will receive detailed information about school programs, upcoming events and special schedules. As well, every year families need to update their Parent Portal as part of the data confirmation part of registration. The contact information provided each school year will be used to send out important information. Important phone calls also go out from our administration, so having the most updated contact information is the key to keeping you as informed as possible. Lastly, we encourage both student and parents alike to follow us on our social media platforms. You can find us on Instagram and Twitter @DanaHSPrincipal and @dhhs\_guidance.

### **How will I keep track of my child’s progress?**

**Answer:** Parents and students will create an account with Canvas. Canvas provides daily communication to the parent and student (both online and through daily email notifications) by showing current grades and assignments as well as missing assignments. By creating an account, you will have access to each teacher by email.

### **Do my child and I need to create separate Student and Parent Portal Accounts?**

**Answer:** Absolutely. Every student **MUST** have an account in order to choose his/her courses throughout high school. Current CUSD 8<sup>th</sup> grade students should contact their middle school for the necessary information to create their account. Non-CUSD students will receive this information during enrollment. Parents must also have their own account to complete the registration process and receive the date confirmation for Walk-Through Registration.

### **How many classes does my student need to take their freshman year?**

**Answer:** All freshman **MUST** be enrolled in at least 6 classes each semester. Please see our website for a full list of available courses for incoming freshman.

### **Can my student take honors courses?**

**Answer:** Yes, we offer a variety of Honors courses for our students. Honors courses in Science, English, Math and Social Science have specific CUSD placement criteria. Prequalified incoming freshman have been placed in appropriate suggested Honors classes on their Student Portal. If your student was not automatically recommended to take an Honors course, he or she should continue to work hard the remainder of the year. Final 4<sup>th</sup> quarter grades will be taken into consideration. Questions about course placement can be addressed with your student’s Middle School Counselor.

### **Can my child go into a higher-level math?**

**Answer:** The district mandates the math placement for incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders. The placement is based on 8<sup>th</sup> grade quarter grades for math and the final examination. A student who will be new to our district will be required to take a math placement test if they are trying to test into a class above Algebra 1. Contact the CUSD district office to register at (949) 234-9265.

### **How many AP classes do you offer to freshmen?**

**Answer:** We have one AP class for 9<sup>th</sup> graders, which is AP World History. This class has no leveling options.



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## ***Can my student take Health during the summer?***

**Answer:** Most 9<sup>th</sup> grade students take a yearlong combination of a semester of Health and a semester of another elective. If a student wants to choose a different elective in lieu of the Health/Elective combo, he/she should select an elective course in their AERIES Student Portal during the course request window and speak to their Middle School Counselor to register for Health during summer. Please keep in mind students who do not get a spot in 2022 Summer School will still have plenty of opportunities to take the course.

## ***Can we meet for a four year plan before school begins?***

**Answer:** Students have an opportunity to develop a four-year plan during freshman year with their High School Counselor.

## ***If my student took a world language in middle school, does he/she have to go into an advance level of that language as a freshman?***

**Answer:** No. Typically students that received an A or a B in their language are recommended to continue on to the next level. If a student feels they would like to repeat the level in High School, they are more than welcome to do so. Some students choose to repeat the first year of language in 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

## ***Do you have tutoring opportunities?***

**Answer:** Yes, our after school tutorial program is available four days a week, Monday – Thursday. No sign-ups are required, walk-ins are welcome and all subjects and grade levels encouraged. Additionally, the Guidance office can provide a tutor list.

## ***Can my student request a specific teacher or specific periods?***

**Answer:** No, we do not honor teacher requests, teacher changes or period requests. A zero period may be granted to students with impacted schedules, and is based on availability and is not guaranteed.

## ***Does my student have to try out for sports?***

**Answer:** Yes, most sports require a tryout (with the exceptions of wrestling and football). Please visit [DHHS Athletics](#) for information regarding sports programs, summer camps and tryouts. You can also contact the coach directly for further details or questions.

## ***My student will be trying out for a sport second semester. Do they have to be in PE first semester?***

**Answer:** Yes. All freshmen must be in either PE 9 or on an athletic sports team each semester.

## ***My child attended a private school during 8<sup>th</sup> grade; when do we enroll?***

**Answer:** The first step is to submit the [Online Enrollment form](#). You will receive an email from our Registrar once your information has been processed and received at our school site.

## ***What is the process if my student is interested in applying for the SOCSA or HMO Academies?***

**Answer:** The applications can be found on the DHHS website under [Academies](#). Students in HMO can also play sports. Guidance works to accommodate student athlete schedules. If a student is interested in participating in both academies, it is possible, but may require a zero period on the student's schedule. Students applying for School of Choice, must wait to apply until after approval of School of Choice. Additionally, students must attach a copy of their School of Choice acceptance letter to their application. The School of Choice window for the 2022-2023 school year is January 31, 2022 – March 4, 2022.