



DANA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

January 2026

Dear Parents/Guardian of Incoming Ninth Grade Students – Class of 2030:

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your student to Dana Hills High School – Home of the Dolphins! Today your student is bringing home with them the packet which initiates the course registration process for Grade 9. CUSD policy states that **all freshmen must take a minimum of six classes** which includes year-long courses in English, Mathematics, Science, Physical Education (athletics, pep squad, marching band and dance meet this requirement) and **one elective**. Additionally, Health is a required semester-long course paired with another semester-long elective. For more detailed information regarding course descriptions, graduation requirements and college admissions requirements please visit the Guidance tab on the DHHS website www.danahills.capousd.org.

Every student will be meeting with their middle school counselor to complete their Academic Plan requests.

Meetings will occur between February 23 - March 27, 2026. Your student will be pre-enrolled in his/her freshman level academic core courses for English, Math, Science and Physical Education (including honors courses, if eligible). Placement in academic classes is done automatically according to district established criteria. Students may select Honors World History or AP World History if they have been pre-enrolled in English 1 Honors. If your student would like an alternate elective instead of Health, please be sure they add that to their academic plan.

Freshman Schedule Options

All CUSD freshmen are pre-enrolled in English, Mathematics, Science and PE 9 based on District criteria. Your courses will be listed in the Student Portal under “Classes” – “Course Request Entry”.

Option #1 - Standard College Preparatory	Option #2 - Alternate College Preparatory
1. English (District Placement)	1. English I Honors (District Placement)
2. Mathematics (District Placement)	2. Mathematics (District Placement)
3. Biology (District Placement)	3. Honors Biology (District Placement)
4. Physical Education 9	4. Physical Education 9
5. Health or Elective (Semester Classes)	5. Health or Elective (Semester Classes)
6. Elective (World Language or other elective – student choice)	6. Elective (World Language or other elective – student choice)
	7. Honors World History or AP World History

We look forward to working with you and your student. If you have questions or concerns regarding the Fall 2026 registration process, please contact your Middle School Counselor. The Dana Hills Guidance Team will be available to assist you beginning in May. Our office number is (949) 496-6666.

Sincerely,

Ashley Ortiz
Assistant Principal

Michelle Zides
Counselor
A-Duf and AVID

Ann Marie Casazza
Counselor
Dun-Ji and HMO

Lexi Jakovich
Counselor
Jo-Pin

Sarah Dean
Counselor
Pit-Z



DANA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

Enero, 2026

Queridos Padres/Tutores legales para los futuros Delfines del grado nueve de la—Clase del 2030:

Nos gustaría aprovechar esta oportunidad para invitarlos a ustedes y a su hijo(a) a la Escuela Secundaria Dana Hills, ¡Hogar de los Delfines! Hoy su hijo o hija llevara a casa el paquete que inicia el proceso de registro del curso para el 9° grado. La norma de CUSD establece que **todos los estudiantes del primer año en la escuela secundaria, deben tomar un mínimo de seis clases** lo cual incluye cursos de un año de inglés, matemáticas, ciencias, educación física (atletismo, pep-squad, banda musical y danza/baile que cumplen este requisito) y una clase electiva. Adicionalmente la clase de Salud debe tomarse todo un semestre acompañada con otra clase electiva por un semestre. Para obtener información más detallada sobre las descripciones de los cursos, los requisitos de graduación y los requisitos de admisión a la Universidad, visite el Tabulador de Consejería en el sitio web de DHHS en www.danahills.capousd.org

Todos los estudiantes se reunirán con su consejero de secundaria para completar sus solicitudes del Plan Académico. Las reuniones se realizarán del 23 de febrero al 27 de marzo de 2026. Su estudiante será preinscrito en las asignaturas básicas de primer año de inglés, matemáticas, ciencias y educación física (incluyendo cursos de honores, si es elegible). La colocación en clases académicas se realiza automáticamente de acuerdo con los criterios establecidos por el distrito. Los estudiantes pueden seleccionar Historia Mundial de Honores o Historia Mundial AP, si han sido previamente inscritos en la clase de Inglés I de Honores. Si el estudiante decide escoger un curso semestral diferente al de salud, por favor asegúrese de que agreguen esto a su plan académico.

Opciones de Calendario de Clases para los Estudiantes del 9° grado

Todos los estudiantes en su primer año en la secundaria de CUSD, están previamente inscritos en inglés, matemáticas, ciencias y educación física para el 9°, según los criterios del Distrito. Sus listas de cursos estarán en el Portal para Estudiantes en “Clases”—“Entrada de Solicitud de Cursos”.

Opción #1 – Preparación Estándar para la Universidad	Opción #2 – Preparación Alternativo para la Universidad
1. Inglés (Colocación por el Distrito) 2. Matemáticas (Colocación por el Distrito) 3. Biología (Colocación por el Distrito) 4. Educación Física 9 5. Salud o curso electivo (clases semestrales) 6. Electiva (Lenguaje Mundial u otra opción—elección del estudiante)	1. Inglés I Honores (Colocación por el Distrito) 2. Matemáticas (Colocación por el Distrito) 3. Biología Honores (Colocación por el Distrito) 4. Educación Física 9 5. Health or curso electivo (semester classes) 6. Electiva (Lenguaje Mundial u otra opción—elección del estudiante) 7. Historia Mundial de Honores o Historia Mundial de AP

Esperamos con interés trabajar con usted y sus hijos. Si tiene preguntas o inquietudes sobre el proceso de inscripción para el Otoño del 2026, comuníquese con su Consejera de la Escuela Intermedia. El Equipo de Orientación de Dana Hills estará disponible para ayudarlos a partir de mayo. Nuestro número de oficina es (949) 496-6666.

Sinceramente,

Ashley Ortiz
Assistant Principal

Michelle Zides
Counselor
A-Duf and AVID
mlzides@capousd.org

Ann Marie Casazza
Counselor
Dun-Ji and HMO
amcasazza@capousd.org

Lexi Jakovich
Counselor
Jo-Pin
atjakovich@capousd.org

Sarah Dean
Counselor
Pit-Z
smdean@capousd.org



DANA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

Information to Consider When Choosing Your Elective

World Language

If you plan to take a world language class as your elective, please select the appropriate class listed above in your student portal account. College bound students are required to take a minimum of two years in the same world language (3 years are recommended for the University of California and impacted campuses in the California State University System). Please refer to the UC/CSU A-G information provided today.

Visual & Performing Arts

College bound students will be required to take a minimum of 1 year of Visual or Performing Arts (yearlong course). **Courses that meet the UC/CSU VPA requirement are listed indicated by (P)* – college prep.** Please refer to the UC/CSU A-G information provided today.

PE and Athletic Sports – *ALL Students have been pre-enrolled in PE9*

Students who plan to try-out for athletic teams (i.e. tennis, surf, volleyball, golf, basketball, soccer, baseball, softball, swimming, lacrosse, cross country, track and field, pep squad) will have their schedules updated upon receipt of the team roster from the Coach or Athletic Director in August or during the sport season.

www.danahillsathletics.com

AVID

This nationally recognized program is designed to help bright, motivated students in their completion of college prep coursework while in high school, and to prepare these students to apply for 4-year colleges or universities directly from high school. AVID is a four-year elective class for students with academic potential. Upon entering AVID after acceptance, students enroll in the “A-G” sequence, college preparatory classes that fulfill the requirements for entry into the University of California, California State University systems and private colleges. Application & interview required.

ASU

Applications will be available at www.danahills.capousd.org in mid-February.

HMO Academy

Applications will be available at www.danahills.capousd.org in mid-February.

Dual-Immersion Students

Please let your Counselor know if you plan to continue your dual-immersion study from middle school at DHHS. You will then be placed accordingly into TWI Honors World History and TWI Spanish Speakers II.

SOCSA Academy

Applications will be available at www.danahills.capousd.org in mid-February.

Other Electives & Alternate Electives

If you plan to take a fine art or other elective in lieu of or in addition to a World Language, please select the appropriate class listed above in your student portal account. After adding your first-choice elective, please click on ‘add alternate’ to select your second-choice elective in case your first choice is not available.

Zero Period Request (7976)

A zero period is not guaranteed and are limited for the 9th grade class. Students may request a zero period (through the student portal) by choosing Course Code 7976.



DANA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

Class of 2030 Course Offerings

ACADEMIC COURSE OFFERINGS

All CUSD freshmen are pre-enrolled in English, Mathematics, Science and PE 9 based on District criteria. Your courses will be listed in the Student Portal under “Classes” – “Course Request Entry”. If your student has been pre-enrolled in Honors English or Honors Biology, and you wish to change this selection, alternative course numbers are provided below.

COURSE	COURSE
EN1 English 1	*Math determined by 8th grade math placement
EN1H Honors English I	U2911 Health
BIO Biology	U9042 College & Career Planning
BIOH Honors Biology	

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ATHLETICS

All 9th graders will be placed into a PE Activities 9. Sports count toward your 4-semester requirement; however, you must participate in try-outs and make the team. **The sports listed below do not require try-outs.** All other athletic teams will hold try-outs after the fall semester begins. You will be placed into PE Activities 9 until the coach informs Guidance that you have been selected for the team. At that time, your schedule will be changed to reflect the sport, which may affect your academic schedule. *Please note: SOCSA Dra/Mu/PE (an afterschool option) can only be selected if you choose another SOCSA course concurrently. *

COURSE	COURSE
PE9 PE Activities 9	DPSOPE SOCSA Dance (audition required)
3351 Athletic Wrestling – Boys	DMSOPE SOCSA Dra/Mu/PE
3350 Athletic Wrestling – Girls	SURF Surf Class
7002 Athletic Lacrosse - Girls	3251 Athletic Basketball - Girls
3211 Athletic Football	SUPPE Stand up Paddle

ELECTIVE CHOICES

Students have the option of selecting one (1) elective from the categories below:

WORLD LANGUAGES

College bound students will be required to take a minimum of two years in the same language (three years are recommended for the University of California and impacted campuses in the California State University system).

COURSE	COURSE
SP1 Spanish 1	SPKR1 Spanish Speakers 1
SP2 Spanish 2	SPKR2H Honors Spanish Speakers 2 *for Dual-Immersion students



DANA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

WORLD HISTORY

Students interested in AP World History or Honors World History should have at least an A- in English 8. Additional requirements may be used to determine student placement.

COURSE	COURSE
WHAP AP World History	WHH Honors World History
TWIWHH Honors World History TWI *for Dual-Immersion students only	

OTHER ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

COURSE	COURSE
ASB ASU (application required)	AVID9 AVID 9 (application required)
0122 HMO - Health & Medical Occupation (application required)	

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

College bound students will be required to take a minimum of 1 year of Visual and Performing Arts (yearlong course). The VAPA requirement does not need to be completed in your 9th grade year, but must be completed prior to graduation. You will have more VAPA options beginning in the 10th grade. Courses that meet the UC/CSU VAPA requirement are indicated by (P) – college prep. * Please note: It is unnecessary to apply and interview for the SOCSA program to complete your VAPA requirement. *

COURSE	COURSE
5801 SOCSA Marching Band (earns PE credit)	DH109Y SOCSA Digital Photography
SBDSO SOCSA Concert Band	DH110Y SOCSA Multimedia Design
SO614F SOCSA String Orchestra	DRPTSO SOCSA Drawing/Painting
COMU SOCSA Commercial Music	DU302Y SOCSA Stagecraft Basics
CCHSO SOCSA Concert/Show Choir	D297Y CCA Digital Media Arts
MADSO SOCSA Madrigals/Mixed Choir	DH201Y CCA Sound Engineering
DU105Y SOCSA Drama	DH113Y CCA Fashion Design
DU106Y SOCSA Adv. Drama *audition required	DH216Y Publishing 1 / Yearbook 1
	DH016Y Publishing 1 / Newspaper Year 1



DANA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY SCHOOL OF THE ARTS (SOCSA)

Application and Audition are required - available on website

The mission of SOCSA is to provide an educational opportunity to those students who have chosen the arts as their occupational objective, plan to major in the visual or performing arts in college, or simply wish to enhance their arts education as much as possible during their high school years. The SOCSA information is available at: www.socsadhhs.org.

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination)

Application is required - available on website

AVID places students in a rigorous, college preparatory curriculum while providing academic and emotional support and creating a team of students in which to practice the soft skills needed in the university setting. The AVID elective course emphasizes time-management and goal-setting skills, and builds effective habits via binder checks, academic Cornell notes, peer tutorial, and test preparation. Students commit to keeping a 3.0 GPA, 30 hours of community service, involvement in extracurricular activities, and taking all college entrance exams. Current AVID Middle School students must still fill out the AVID Application on the DHHS AVID website, and new AVID students must also schedule an entrance interview. For more information, refer to the Dana Hills website: danahills.capousd.org, Academics, drop down menu AVID.

HEALTH AND MEDICAL OCCUPATIONS ACADEMY (HMO)

Application and Interview are required - available on website

Students enrolled in HMO fulfill all the requirements of a high school diploma as well as college prep curriculum. English, science, math and lab components have been developed to provide a relevant application to the medical and health care professions. HMO students do NOT take Health. (In HMO, you will be required to take a year-long health science class in 10th grade.) Once students are admitted, HMO courses will be added to the schedule. The application and additional information can be found on the DHHS website listed under Academies.



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. All students are linked to the district database. Parents of students registered to a specific school **should not** sign up for this service. No further action is required. Every year families will 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 students 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 to choose his/her courses throughout high school. Current CUSD 8th 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 freshmen **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 for the remainder of the year. Final 4th quarter grades will be taken into consideration. Questions about course placement can be addressed with your student's Middle School Counselor.

How many AP classes do you offer to freshmen?

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

Can my student take Health during the summer?

Answer: Most 9th 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 academic plan 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 2026 Summer School will still have plenty of opportunities to take the course.



DANA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

If my student took a world language in middle school, does he/she have to go into an advanced 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 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 9th grade.

Do you have tutoring opportunities?

Answer: Yes, our after-school tutorial program is available three 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 a few exceptions). Please visit www.danahillsathletics.com 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 8th grade; when do we enroll?

Answer: The first step is to submit the Online Enrollment form. Please visit: danahills.capousd.org/Guidance/New Student Enrollment

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 at <https://danahills.capousd.org/Academies/DHHS-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 2026-2027 school year is January 6, 2026 - February 1, 2026.



DANA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

PREGUNTAS MÁS FRECUENTES PARA NUEVOS FRESHMAN Y PADRES

¿Cómo puedo mantenerme actualizado sobre lo que está sucediendo en Dana Hills High School?

Respuesta: DHHS utiliza School Messenger. Todos los estudiantes están vinculados a la base de datos del Distrito. Los padres de estudiantes matriculados en una escuela específica no deben inscribirse en este servicio. No se requiere ninguna acción adicional. Cada año, las familias deberán actualizar su Portal para padres como parte de la parte de confirmación de datos del registro. La información de contacto proporcionada cada año escolar se utilizará para enviar información importante. También salen llamadas telefónicas importantes de nuestra administración, por lo que tener la información de contacto más actualizada es la clave para mantenerlo lo más informado posible. Por último, alentamos tanto a los estudiantes como a los padres a que nos sigan en nuestras plataformas de redes sociales. Puede encontrarnos en Instagram y Twitter @DanaHSPrincipal y @dhhs_guidance

¿Cómo haré un seguimiento del progreso de mi hijo?

Respuesta: Padres y estudiantes crearán una cuenta con School Loop. School Loop proporciona comunicación diaria a los padres y al alumno (tanto en línea como a través de notificaciones diarias por correo electrónico) al mostrar las calificaciones y tareas actuales, así como las tareas faltantes. Al crear una cuenta, tendrá acceso a cada maestro por correo electrónico.

¿Necesitamos mi hijo y yo crear cuentas separadas para el portal de estudiantes y padres?

Respuesta: Absolutamente. Cada estudiante **DEBE** tener una cuenta para poder elegir sus cursos durante la escuela secundaria. Los estudiantes actuales de 8º grado de CUSD **deben** comunicarse con su escuela intermedia para obtener la información necesaria para crear su cuenta. Los estudiantes que no pertenecen al CUSD recibirán esta información durante la inscripción. Los **padres también deben tener su propia** cuenta para completar el proceso de registro y recibir la confirmación de la fecha de registro de recorrido.

¿Cuántas clases necesita mi estudiante para tomar su primer año?

Respuesta: Todos los estudiantes de primer año **DEBEN** estar inscritos en al menos **6 clases** cada semestre. Consulte nuestro sitio web para obtener una lista completa de los cursos disponibles para estudiantes de primer año entrantes.

¿Puede mi estudiante tomar cursos de honor?

Respuesta: Sí, ofrecemos una variedad de cursos de honor para nuestros estudiantes. Los cursos de honor en Ciencias, Inglés, Matemáticas y Ciencias Sociales tienen criterios específicos de colocación de CUSD. Los estudiantes entrantes del primer año precalificados se colocaron en clases apropiadas de Honores sugeridas en su Portal del Estudiante. Si a su estudiante no se le recomendó automáticamente que tomara un curso de Honores, él o ella debería continuar trabajando duro el resto del año. Se tomarán en consideración las calificaciones finales del cuarto trimestre. Las preguntas sobre la ubicación del curso se pueden abordar con el consejero de la escuela intermedia de su hijo.

¿Cuántas clases de AP ofrecen a los estudiantes de primer año?

Respuesta: Tenemos una clase AP para estudiantes de noveno grado, que es Historia Mundial AP. Esta clase no tiene opciones de nivelación.

¿Puede mi estudiante tomar Salud durante el verano?

Respuesta: La mayoría de los estudiantes de noveno grado toman una combinación de un semestre de salud y un semestre de CCP durante todo el año durante su primer año. Si un estudiante desea elegir una materia optativa diferente en lugar del combo de Salud / CCP, debe seleccionar un curso electivo en su Portal de Estudiantes AERIES durante la ventana de solicitud del curso y hablar con su Consejero para registrarse en Salud durante el verano. Tenga en cuenta que los estudiantes que no obtengan un lugar en la Escuela de Verano 2026 todavía tendrán muchas oportunidades para tomar el curso.



DANA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

Si mi estudiante tomó un idioma mundial en la escuela secundaria, ¿tiene que ingresar a un nivel avanzado de ese idioma como estudiante de primer año?

Respuesta: No. Por lo general, se recomienda que los estudiantes que recibieron una A o una B en su idioma continúen al siguiente nivel. Si un estudiante siente que le gustaría repetir el nivel en la escuela secundaria, es más que bienvenido a hacerlo. Algunos estudiantes eligen repetir el primer año de idioma en noveno grado.

¿Tienes oportunidades de tutoría?

Respuesta: Sí, nuestro programa de tutoría extracurricular está disponible cuatro días a la semana, de lunes a jueves de 2:55-3:55pm. No se requieren registrarse y los estudiantes son admitidos sin cita previa; todas las materias y niveles de grado son alentados. Además, la oficina de orientación puede proporcionar una lista de tutores.

¿Puede mi estudiante solicitar un maestro específico o períodos específicos?

Respuesta: No, no aceptamos solicitudes de maestros, cambios de maestros o solicitudes de período. Se puede otorgar un período cero a los estudiantes con horarios afectados (más de 6 clases), y nunca se garantiza. Se administra a los estudiantes que necesitan un período cero debido a problemas de programación y se basa en la disponibilidad.

¿Mi estudiante tiene que probar deportes?

Respuesta: Sí, la mayoría de los deportes requieren una prueba (algunas excepciones). Visite nuestro www.danahillsathletics.com para obtener información sobre programas deportivos, campamentos de verano y pruebas. También puede contactar al entrenador directamente para más detalles o preguntas.

Mi estudiante estará probando para un segundo semestre deportivo. ¿Tienen que estar en educación física el primer semestre?

Respuesta: Sí. Todos los estudiantes de primer año deben estar en PE 9 o en un equipo deportivo atlético cada semestre.

Mi hijo asistió a una escuela privada durante el octavo grado; cuando nos inscribimos

Respuesta: El primer paso es enviar el formulario de inscripción en línea. Por favor visita danahills.capousd.org/Guidance/New Student Enrollment

Recibirá un correo electrónico de nuestro Registrador una vez que su información haya sido procesada y recibida en nuestro sitio escolar.

¿Cuál es el proceso si mi estudiante está interesado en solicitar las Academias SOCSA o HMO?

Respuesta: Las solicitudes se pueden encontrar en <https://danahills.capousd.org/Academies/DHHS-Academies> Los estudiantes en HMO también pueden practicar deportes. La orientación funciona para acomodar los horarios de los estudiantes atletas. Si un estudiante está interesado en participar en ambas academias, es posible, pero puede requerir un período cero en el horario del estudiante. Los estudiantes que solicitan la escuela de elección deben esperar para presentar la solicitud hasta después de la aprobación de la escuela de elección. Además, los estudiantes deben adjuntar una copia de la carta de aceptación de la Escuela de su elección a su solicitud. La ventana de Escuela de Elección para el año escolar 2026-2027 es del 6 de enero de 2024 al 1 de febrero de 2026.