**Administrat**
Dr. Helen Griffith, Executive Director  
Dr. Matthew Steitz, Principal  
Karin Marsolais, CAO  

**About The Preuss School UC San Diego**

The Preuss School UC San Diego is a public charter school providing an intensive college preparatory educational environment for low income students who represent the first generation in their families to graduate from a four-year college or university. Through the application of tutor-assisted teaching, a single track college preparatory curriculum, and a number of student supports, the Preuss School UC San Diego mission is to create a highly enriched middle and senior high school instructional environment that will prepare graduates to distinguish themselves academically, and thus be competitive for admission to the University of California and other selective institutions of higher learning.

The Preuss School UC San Diego was founded in 1999 by the Chancellor of the University of California San Diego, based upon the Charter’s agreement with San Diego City Schools. Our location is on the UC San Diego campus, giving students ready access to a variety of learning opportunities available at the university, including research, internships, cultural events, and service learning.

The Preuss School UC San Diego began in the Fall of 1999 with 150 students in grades 6-8. Currently the school has 838 students, in grades 6-12. The student body is ethnically diverse and lives throughout San Diego County (representing over 40 different zip codes). Students ride multiple modes of transportation to commute from distant neighborhoods in San Ysidro, Chula Vista, La Mesa, Linda Vista, and other mid-city or Southeast San Diego County locations.

The Preuss School UC San Diego provides an environment in which students are continually encouraged and empowered to develop a greater sense of confidence and self-worth through self-sufficiency and a sense of pride in their academic accomplishments. The Preuss School UC San Diego fosters a culture of high academic performance in an environment that encourages risk-taking. Students are taught the art of questioning as well as logical and critical thinking. The Preuss School UC San Diego also sees as its mission, the development of personal character, healthy lifestyles, good judgment, and ethical behavior. It is further recognized that students’ families, community institutions, and the School share responsibility for encouraging young people to develop both as scholars and as citizens.

**School Population**

Total 850 Students in Grades 6-12  
100% of students receive Free/Reduced Price Lunch  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>39.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>15.41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>1.65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>16.47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian</td>
<td>0.12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>1.76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MultiEthnic</td>
<td>25.29%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Accreditation and Special Recognitions**

- The Preuss School has been named the nation’s top “miracle high school” and #1 Transformative High School by Newsweek magazine, 2011, 2012, and 2013.
- U.S. News & World Report has ranked The Preuss School #1 in San Diego the last 4 years, 2017-2020.
- The Preuss School was named a NASSP Breakthrough School in 2012, and Redesignated as a Breakthrough School in 2017.
- The Preuss School UC San Diego is a 2010 High Performing National Blue Ribbon School, and also a 2012 California Distinguished School.
- WASC full accreditation granted through 2023.

**AP Test Results May 2020**

358 AP Students with total of 801 AP Exams taken in 18 subjects  
48% of exams received a score of 3 or higher  
61% of students received a score of 3 or higher on at least 1 exam  
88 AP Scholars  
15 AP Scholars with Honor  

AP Equity & Excellence graduating class summary 91.4%

**Class of 2020 Average Test Scores and GPA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAT ERW</th>
<th>SAT Math</th>
<th>SAT Total</th>
<th>ACT Comp</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>559</td>
<td>559</td>
<td>1118</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Average Overall Total GPA: 4.09

9-12 total weighted cumulative GPA:

- Highest GPA: 4.31  
- Mean GPA: 3.42  
- Lowest GPA: 1.10  
- Median GPA: 3.56

**Grading Scale and Policy on Class Rank**

- A = 4.0  
- B = 3.0  
- C = 2.0  
- D = 1.0  
- F = 0.0  
- No Mark (NM) = 0.0  

The Preuss School does not report class rank.  
Since the senior class size is small and all students are enrolled in a rigorous preparatory program, the school believes that class rank is not a meaningful predictor of college academic potential and future success.

**Transcript Explanation**

Each student takes a minimum of 8 full-year courses every year. Preuss operates on a semester system with each course earning a total of 10 credits per year. Letter grades of A, B, C, D, F, or No Mark (NM) are awarded. Students may repeat A-G core subject courses to replace a D or F grade, based upon availability of courses.  
AP courses receive a weighted grade when A, B, or C is earned.  
Academic GPA for grades 9-12 and grades 10-12 are noted on the transcript, as well as total GPA for grades 9-12 which includes all courses.
Curriculum
The Preuss School offers only one curriculum designed for students to meet the University of California’s “a-g” requirements. There is no general or vocational track. All high school students take four years of mathematics, four years of English, four years of science (students can only take one among the three AP science courses offered), Spanish through AP Spanish Language, four years of history/social science, and three years of college preparatory electives including fine arts. All students are enrolled in University Prep Advisory every year, transitioning to UC San Diego EAOP Senior/Junior Seminar in 11th and 12th grade. All advisory activities are geared toward personal development, college preparation and exploration, literacy and mathematical skill reinforcement, preparation for standardized testing, and college application and admission. All students enrolled in an AP course are required to take the AP Exam. Only students making up deficient grades in core academic classes may take APEX courses, our credit recovery program, which includes a combination of online and in-class instruction.

“a-g” UC Approved Course List 2020-21

A. History/Social Science
- AP EUROPEAN HISTORY
- AP US GOVERNMENT & POLITICS
- AP US HISTORY
- ETHNIC STUDIES FOUNDATIONS
- ETHNIC STUDIES (APEX)
- EUROPEAN HISTORY (APEX)
- US GOVERNMENT & POLITICS (APEX)
- US HISTORY (APEX)
- US HISTORY (APEX)
- WESTERN CIVILIZATION (APEX)

B. English
- ENGLISH 9, 10, 11, 12 (APEX)
- ADVANCED ENGLISH 9
- ADVANCED ENGLISH 10
- AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE/COMP
- AP ENGLISH LITERATURE/COMP

C. Mathematics
- CALCULUS
- INTEGRATED MATH II (APEX)
- INTEGRATED MATH I, II, III
- PRECALCULUS

D. Laboratory Science
- AP BIOLOGY
- AP CHEMISTRY
- AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
- ADVANCED BIOLOGY
- UC SCOUT BIOLOGY
- ADVANCED CHEMISTRY
- ASTRONOMY
- MARINE SCIENCE
- PHYSICS

E. Language Other than English
- AP CHINESE LANGUAGE
- AP SPANISH LANGUAGE
- AP SPANISH LITERATURE
- SPANISH I, II, III, IV
- MANDARIN 1 & II

F. Visual and Performing Arts
- AP ART HISTORY
- AP MUSIC THEORY
- AP STUDIO ART
- CHOIR, HONORS CHOIR
- INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLES
- DRAMA I & II
- STUDIO ART I & II, STUDIO ART II HONORS
- INTRODUCTION TO PIANO & MUSIC
- ORCHESTRA, HONORS ORCHESTRA

G. College Prep Electives
- ECONOMICS (APEX)
- INTRO TO COMPUTER SCIENCE
- JOURNALISM
- PRE-ENGINEERING AND DESIGN
- PRINCIPLES OF ENGINEERING
- READERS & WRITER’S WORKSHOP FOR UNIVERSITY PREP
- STUDENT GOVERNMENT
- UCSD EAOP SENIOR/JUNIOR SEMINAR
- YEARBOOK

Graduating Class of 2020 (105 graduates)
93% of students were accepted to an undergraduate/4-year college

College Enrollment Plans:
- 49% University of California
- 26% California State University
- 8% Private or Out-of-State 4 Year Colleges
- 17% Community College

Colleges enrolling 2010-2020 Preuss School Graduates:
- Amherst College
- Bates College
- Point Loma Nazarene University
- Boston College
- Pomona College
- Bowdoin College
- Princeton University
- Brown University
- Purdue University Fort Wayne
- College of the Holy Cross
- San Diego Christian College
- Cornell University
- San Diego State University
- CSU Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
- University of Pennsylvania
- UC Davis
- University of Redlands
- Emory University
- University of Rochester
- The Evergreen State College
- University of San Diego
- Georgetown University
- University of San Francisco
- Gonzaga University
- University of Southern California
- Harvard University
- University of Virginia
- Harvey Mudd College
- Villanova University
- Johns Hopkins University
- Wesleyan University
- Lehigh University
- Wellesley College
- Mills College
- Western New England University
- Mount St. Mary's College
- Westmont College
- New York University
- Whittier College
- Yale University
- Brigham Young University