

DUSD Secondary Scholar Pathways:

Advanced Placement, International
Baccalaureate, and Dual Enrollment
Opportunities



Board Goal #12

Downey Unified will actively **expand** on the six “Areas of Focus” identified by our Enrollment Growth Committee: Career Technical Education, AVID, **Rigorous Pathways (AP, IB, GATE)**, Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA), Dual Language Immersion, and personalized technology integration. In addition, we recognize the vital role of athletics in fostering student engagement, leadership, and well-being. By directing our efforts toward these areas including athletics, we are committed to cultivating a passion for learning, supporting well-rounded student development, and empowering every student to achieve academic excellence and reach their fullest potential, in an effort to sustain our enrollment.



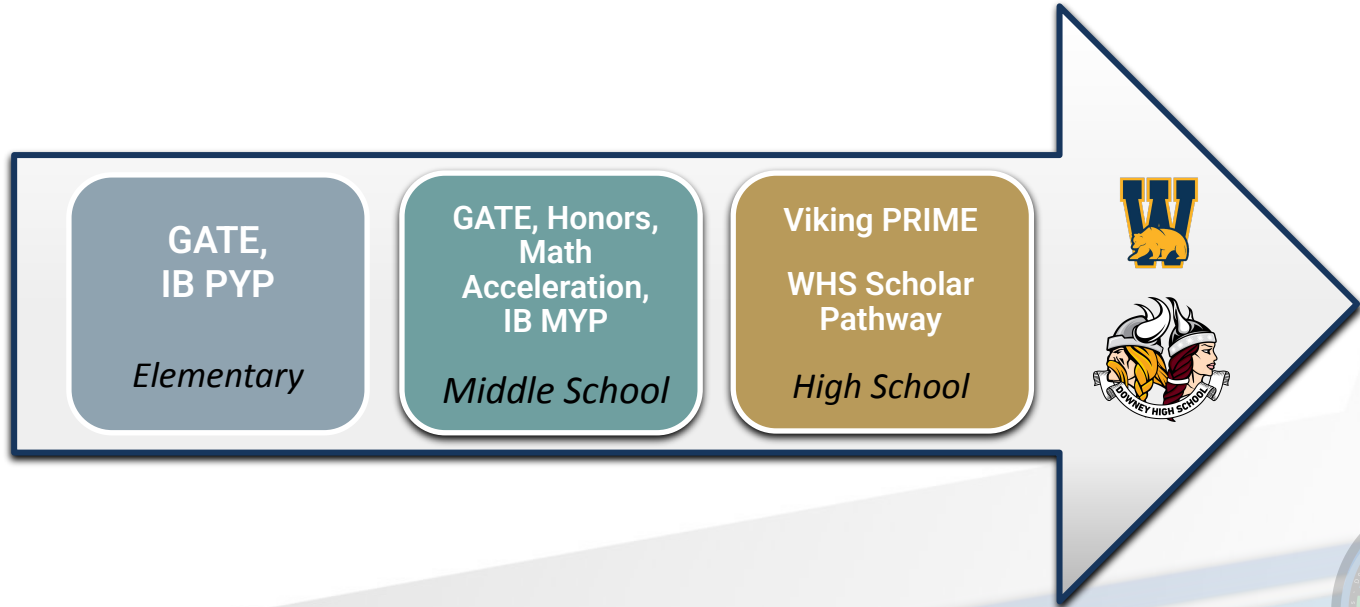
Benefits of creating rigorous pathways

- **Increases academic opportunities for our students**
- **Attracts and retains our students**
- **Increases acceptance rates to Top Tier Universities**



Downey Unified School District

Rigorous Pathway Continuum



Elementary School

Gifted and Talented Education (GATE)

- 167 students 4th and 5th Graders

What is a GATE Student?

- A child with advanced abilities or potential, often learning faster, having a larger vocabulary, intense curiosity, and complex thinking

Students are identified through testing and performance criteria.

- CAASPP Scores
- Reasoning Test - SAGES-2
- Classroom Evidence

What does our program include?

- Designed to meet the unique academic and social-emotional needs of students identified for exceptional abilities in areas such as academics, creativity, or leadership.
- Differentiated instruction and enriched learning opportunities beyond the standard curriculum

IB Primary Years Programme (PYP)

- Authorized as a IB World School in June 2022
- 778 students
- The Primary Years Programme is an inquiry-based, interdisciplinary curriculum framework that builds conceptual understanding. Students develop international mindedness and student agency. Our classrooms take a student-centered approach to learning and reflecting to develop knowledge, conceptual understanding, skills and attributes of the IB learner profile to make a difference in our students lives, their communities, and beyond.

Middle School

Gifted and Talented Education (GATE)

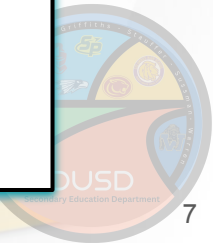
- 6-8th grades, 400 students
- The GATE program provides access to the most rigorous courses with highly qualified teachers, as well as provide educational experiences that expose students to local university programs and varied resources

Math Acceleration (Math 6/7, Math 7/8, Honors Algebra 1)

- Implementation began 2025-2026 school year
- Currently 866 students enrolled in Accelerated Math

Honors ELA 7 and 8

- Implementation will begin in the 2026-2027 school year
- Estimating 200 students per site



IB Middle Years Programme (MYP)

- IB MYP Authorization visit and notification December 2025
- 435 students in 6-8th grade
- The IB Middle Years Programme (MYP) is a challenging academic framework for students that develops inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people by connecting classroom learning to the real world, fostering skills for managing complexity, and promoting international-mindedness through inquiry-based, interdisciplinary study.

What do we currently have in place in high school?

Advanced Placement (AP)

Early College/Dual Enrollment



Advanced Placement

A College Board program offering college-level courses and exams for high school students to potentially earn college credit

- Different levels of distinction for passing AP tests

AP Scholar with Distinction



- Pass 5 AP tests with a 3 or higher
- DHS = 81
- WHS = 36

AP with Honors



- Pass 4 AP tests with a 3 or higher
- DHS = 50
- WHS = 33

AP Scholar



- Pass 3 AP tests with a 3 or higher
- DHS = 127
- WHS = 121

AP By The Numbers

Downey High School



- 71 AP Sections
- 24 AP Courses
- 973 Students taking AP Classes
- 77% passage rate

Warren High School



- 85 AP Sections
- 27 AP Courses
- 1,266 Students taking AP Classes
- 63% passage rate

High School - Viking Prime and WHS Scholar Pathway



VIKING PRIME
Vikings Pathway

VIKING PRIME IS A CAPSTONE-BASED PATHWAY THAT BUILDS RESEARCH, WRITING, PRESENTATION, AND CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS WHILE STUDENTS THRIVE IN THE VIKIE VIBE.

- ENROLL IN OUR HIGH-PERFORMING AP COURSES
- EARN AN AP CAPSTONE DIPLOMA, SEAL OF BILITERACY, CUSTOM GRADUATION REGALIA & MORE!
- RECEIVE COMPREHENSIVE COLLEGE CONSULTING SERVICES ON CAMPUS

VIKES ARE MAKING THEIR MARK AT TOP UNIVERSITIES!

Y S BROWN SE TH CM UCLA UCSB LB Cal NYU

A PATHWAY BUILT FOR SCHOLARS READY TO EXCEL.
APPLY TODAY...

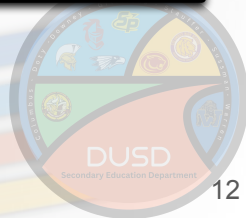


WARREN
SCHOLAR PATHWAY

OUR BEARS ARE THRIVING ACROSS THE COUNTRY

APPLY TODAY.
EXCELLENCE BEGINS HERE

- Enroll in over 50 available Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment Course Offerings
- Receive dedicated college essay writing, scholarship, and application support
- Earn an AP Capstone Diploma and custom graduation regalia
- A distinguished pathway reserved for our premiere scholars who want more



What is the AP Capstone Diploma?

4 AP CLASSES

*Earn score of 3
or higher on AP
Exams*



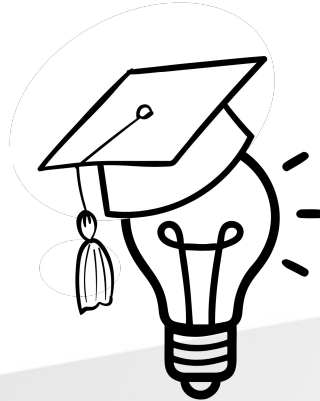
AP SEMINAR

*Earn score of 3
or higher on AP
Exam*



AP RESEARCH

*Earn score of 3
or higher on AP
Exam*



AP CAPSTONE



Why the AP Capstone Diploma?

It's more than just extra AP classes – ***it's a program that shows colleges that students are ready for big challenges.***

- Increases acceptance rates to Top Tier Universities
- AP Seminar → Learn how to research, think critically, and present your ideas on real-world topics.
- AP Research → Choose a topic you care about and design your own year-long project.
- Earned by the end of 11th grade year

DUSD Viking Prime and WHS Scholar Pathway Schedule

9th Grade

Honors Math
AP Human Geography
Honors English 9
Language Other Than English
Honors Biology
VAPA/CTE/Dual / ELECTIVE
PE/Athletics

10th Grade

Honors Math
AP European History
AP Seminar
Language Other Than English
Honors or AP Science
VAPA/CTE/DUAL/ ELECTIVE
PE/Athletics

11th Grade

Honors/AP Math
AP US History
AP English Language
AP Research
Language Other Than English
AP Physics/AP Chem/
AP Bio
VAPA/CTE/DUAL/
ELECTIVE



12th Grade

AP Calculus AB, BC, Stats
AP Government
AP Economics
AP English Literature
AP Language Other Than English
4th Year Science of Choice
VAPA/CTE/DUAL/ ELECTIVE



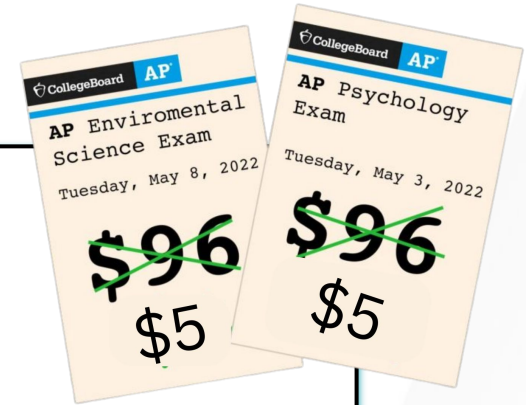
Costs of AP Exams

Cost per test = \$96.00

Most of our students pay only \$5.00 per test

- Funded in our LCAP

Tests administered last year = 2,239





AP Cost approximate yearly costs includes:

- Training
- AP Coordinator release time
- Approximately \$50,000 per year



What do we currently have in place in high school?

Advanced Placement (AP)

Early College/Dual Enrollment



What is Early College?

- A structured program where high school students earn both a high school diploma and significant college credit, often leading to an associate degree or substantial transferable credits, by taking college-level courses while still in high school, with strong support systems to help them succeed.
- It's a specialized type of Dual Enrollment providing academic and social guidance
- Prescribed set of 12 general education courses
- Students have the opportunity to take Cerritos College classes at their high school and complete approximately 43.5 units transferable to a CSU and/or UC while earning their high school diploma simultaneously.
- Free tuition and books
- Students can save up to two years worth of the cost of college
 - \$28,000 UC
 - \$11,600 CSU

Early College by the Numbers

Downey High School



- 18 Sections
- 180 Students enrolled in Early College
- 240 Students will be enrolled next year

Warren High School



- 18 Sections
- 180 Students enrolled in Early College
- 240 Students will be enrolled next year

SAMPLE EARLY COLLEGE SCHEDULE

9TH	10TH	11TH	12TH
<div>READ 101</div> <div>MUS 104B</div>	<div>COMM 100</div> <div>CS 101</div>	<div>ENG C1000 Hist 103</div> <div>SOC 101 ANTH 115L</div>	<div>ENG C1001 MATH C1000</div> <div>ANTH 115 SOC CL210</div>
English 9 Math I Biology Spanish I Athletics	English 10 Math II World History Spanish II Athletics	Math III Chemistry Spanish III Athletics CTE or Elective	Economics/Government Health/Elective AP Spanish Athletics CTE or Elective

What is the Dual Enrollment ?

- Dual enrollment allows high school students to take college-level courses, earning both high school and college credits simultaneously, often at no cost, providing a head start on their degree, saving money, and easing the transition to higher education by exploring subjects and building college readiness skills
- Dual Enrollment
 - *A la carte* courses
 - Can take up to 12 courses
 - Courses within their school day

Dual Enrollment by the Numbers

Downey High School

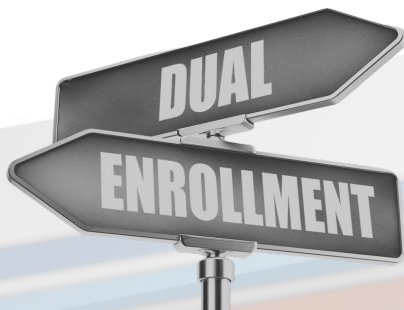


- 13 Sections
- 352 Students enrolled in a Dual Enrollment Course

Warren High School



- 46 Sections
- 600+ Students enrolled in a Dual Enrollment Course





Early College/Dual Enrollment approximate yearly costs includes:

- Dual Enrollment counselor
- Dual Enrollment coordinator release time
- Approximately \$200,000 per year
- Subsidized by the State
- **Cost saving of 16 FTE = \$2,400,000**



Current rigorous pathways

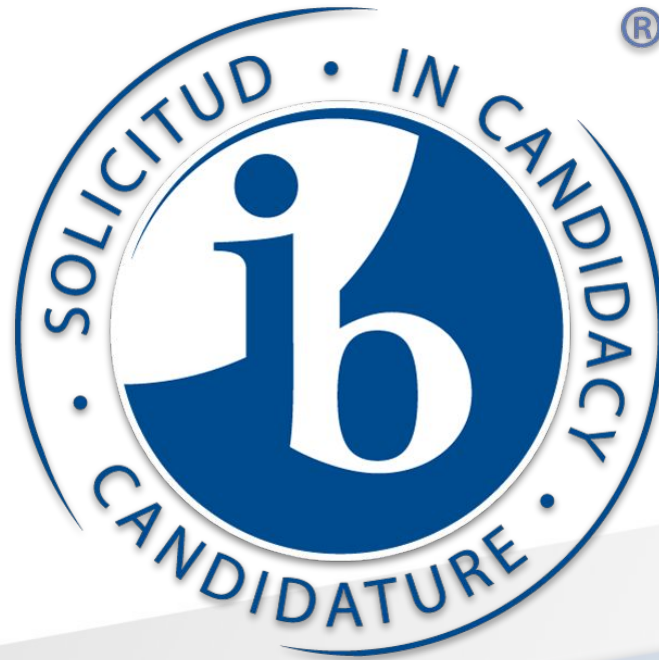
Advanced Placement (AP)

Early College/Dual Enrollment

IB Diploma Programme



Components of the High School IB Diploma Programme



IB Diploma Programme

IB Courses begin in 11th grade

AP and Honors courses taken in 9th and 10th grade

Passage of 6 IB courses and exams in 11th and 12th grade

**Additional Requirements: Creativity, Activity, and Service (CAS),
Extended Essay (EE), Theory of Knowledge Course (TOK)**

Must be authorized to offer courses/Diploma Programme



Sample Course of Study:

IB Diploma Programme

9th Grade

Honors Geometry
AP Human Geography
Honors English
AP Language/Spanish 2
Honors Biology
VAPA/CTE/DUAL/ ELECTIVE
PE/Athletics

10th Grade

Honors Algebra 2
AP European History
AP Seminar
AP Language/Spanish 3
Honors Chem/AP Biology
VAPA/CTE/DUAL/ ELECTIVE
PE/Athletics

11th Grade

Math IB SL 1
History of Americas HL1
English IB HL1
Biology IB HL1
IB Art/Music SL
LOTE HL 1
Theory of Knowledge IB
Economics (Summer School)

12th Grade

Math IB SL 2
History of Americas IB HL2
English IB HL2
Biology IB HL2
Environmental Systems IB SL
LOTE HL2

IB
Diploma
Programme

Extended Essay
CAS Project



What we learned from High School IB Diploma

Regular meetings with our IB consultant

- Information on training and costs

Meeting with West Covina Unified School District

- Edgewood IB School - wall to wall
- IB Enrollment: approximately 850 students.
- Graduation outcomes: 20–30 students earn the IB DP diploma annually.



Visited Corona-Norco Centennial High School - IB pathway

- IB is a pathway
- IB enrollment: 110 students
- Graduation outcomes: 38 students could qualify for an IB DP



Meeting with Pacific Palisades Charter High School



- IB candidate school - will begin next year

Considerations to implement the IB Diploma Programme



Cost



Timeline



IB Cost includes:

- **Training**
- **Candidacy Fee**
- **Application Fee**
- **IB Coordinator**
- **Approximately \$400,000 per year**





2025-2026 IB students are 8th graders

- Spring 2026
 - a. Apply for Candidacy
 - b. The principal must attend/register for DP Head of School training prior to applying for candidacy
 - c. A decision on candidacy from IB will be announced
 - d. Begin teacher training
 - e. 20-30 teachers will begin the initial training



2026-2027 IB students are 9th graders (Hire/Train Coordinator, Train teachers)

- Continue Teacher training through Nov. 2027



2027-2028

- **Jan./Feb. 2028 Apply for Authorization**
- May 2028 Verification Visit
- July 2028 Authorization report from IB



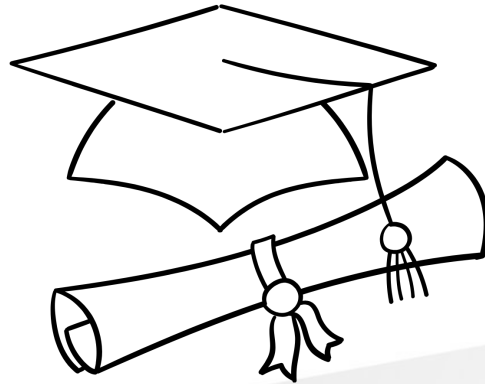
2028-2029 DP 11th graders



2029-2030 DP 12th graders



AP Capstone Diploma and IB Diploma Programme at a Glance



Rigorous Pathway Sample Course of Study:

AP Capstone/IB Diploma Programme

9th Grade

Honors Geometry
AP Human Geography
Honors English
AP Language/Spanish 2
Honors Biology
VAPA/CTE/DUAL/ ELECTIVE
PE/Athletics

10th Grade

Honors Algebra 2
AP European History
AP Seminar
AP Language/Spanish 3
Honors Chem/AP Biology
VAPA/CTE/DUAL/ ELECTIVE
PE/Athletics

AP Capstone

11th Grade

AP Calculus AB
AP US History
AP English Language
AP Research
AP Physics/AP Chem/AP Bio
VAPA/CTE/DUAL/ ELECTIVE

AP
Capstone
Diploma

12th Grade

AP Calculus BC, Stats
AP Government
AP Economics
AP English Literature
4th Year Science of Choice
AP Psychology
VAPA/CTE/DUAL/ELECTIVE

IB Diploma Programme

11th Grade

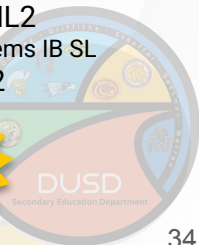
Math IB SL 1
History of Americas HL1
English IB HL1
Biology IB HL1
IB Art/Music SL
LOTE HL 1
Theory of Knowledge IB
Economics (Summer School)

12th Grade

Math IB SL 2
History of Americas IB HL2
English IB HL2
Biology IB HL2
Environmental Systems IB SL
LOTE HL2

IB
Diploma
Programme

Extended
Essay
CAS
Project



Program Implications

Advanced Placement

- Universities view as highest tier of rigor
- One time online training
 - Additional training if test changes
- Approximately 60 teachers trained
- No authorization or application
- Long history of AP program
- Diploma Program or a la carte
- Cost approximately \$50,000 per year
- Master Schedule Implications
 - Multiple course offerings
 - 51 different offerings

Early College/Dual Enrollment

- Universities view as highest tier of rigor
- Teachers must have a master degree in the course they are teaching
- Mix of Cerritos College and DUSD Teachers
- No authorization or application
- Growing program subsidized by the state
- Structured Program or a la carte
- Subsidized by the state cost savings of 16 FTEs, \$2.4 million
- Cost approximately \$200,000
- Master Schedule Implications
 - Students need room in their schedule to be able to take a DE course

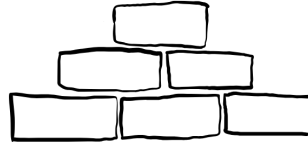
International Baccalaureate

- Universities view as highest tier of rigor
- Application for initial authorization
- Training is ongoing
 - 20-30 teachers will need to be trained
- Reauthorization every 3 years
- Need teacher buy-in
- Diploma Program or a la carte
- Cost approximately \$400,000 per year
- Master Schedule Implications
 - IB and AP courses are often double rostered
 - Some IB only classes can run at 10-15 students

Board Direction



Next Steps for Elementary



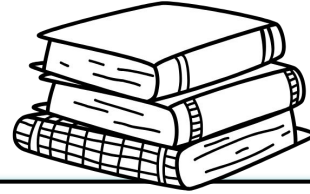
IB PYP

- *Continue to train and support teachers for reauthorization in 2026-2027*

GATE

- *Continue training teachers on how to support students within the school day*
- *Focus on the social emotional needs of our GATE students*

Next Steps for Middle School



IB MYP

- *Implementation of the Community Project*
- *Implementation of the interdisciplinary units*
- *Continue to train and support teachers for reauthorization*

GATE

- *Continue training teachers on how to support students within the school day*
- *Schedule students in Accelerated Math and ELA Honors courses*

Next Steps for High School



- *Promote and market Viking Prime and WHS Scholar Pathways*
- *Continue to pursue alternative bell schedule at Downey High School to facilitate more dual enrollment*

Questions

