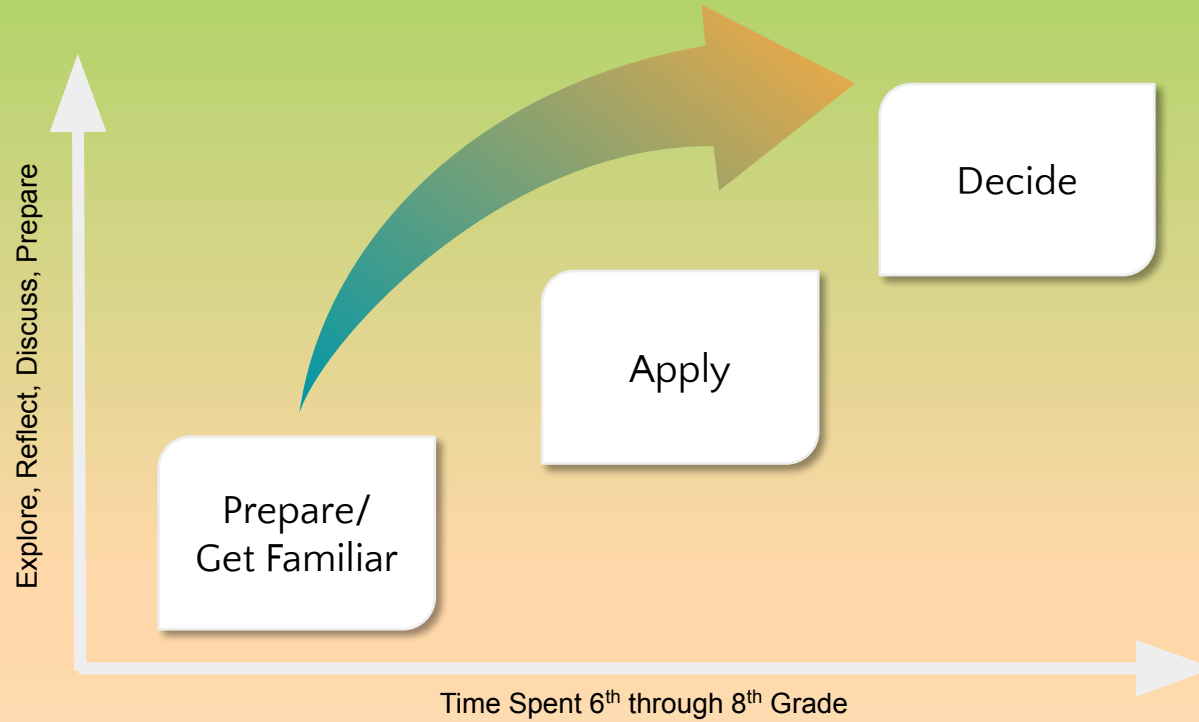




*8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students & Parents*  
*September 23, 2020*

# **Nuts and Bolts – High School Application Process + Admission Data**

# THE PATH TOWARDS HIGH SCHOOL



# What are the options after 8<sup>th</sup> grade at SDFAS?

1. Public American High School, w or w/out International Baccalaureate, A.P. classes & Honors – access via grades and/or recommendations.
2. Private / Independent / Faith-Based / Boarding American High School.
3. French School System: Network of schools in North America, or in France. (3<sup>e</sup> = 9<sup>th</sup> Grade) - Lycée + French Baccalaureate
4. International High School outside of the U.S.

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*The good news is that SDFAS graduates will be prepared for any of these options, and that they make very interesting candidates!*

# Factors to consider when choosing where to apply / go:

Academic Fit and Style

Public/Private/Faith-Based

Mission and Philosophy

Location/Commute

Cost

Community

Diversity in all its Forms

Athletics, Arts, Co-Curricular opportunities

Class Size + Size of School

Availability of individual support

College admission results

Program options – AP, IB, Honors, etc.

Classes available (consult the school's website!)

And the intangibles – How do you feel on campus?

Can you imagine “living” here for the next four years?

How can you know, virtually???

- *Know that completing the SDFAS Middle School program will prepare you for any high school program you end up choosing.*
- *The good news is that SDFAS graduates make very interesting candidates!*
- *Remember it's a 4-year commitment and that how things are right now (Covid-times) is not how things will be for your 4 years.*

# YOUR CURRENT ACTION ITEMS:

1

- Explore / Research  
*It's a 4-year commitment*

2

- Dialogue at home  
*Vision + Goals + Reality = FIT*

3

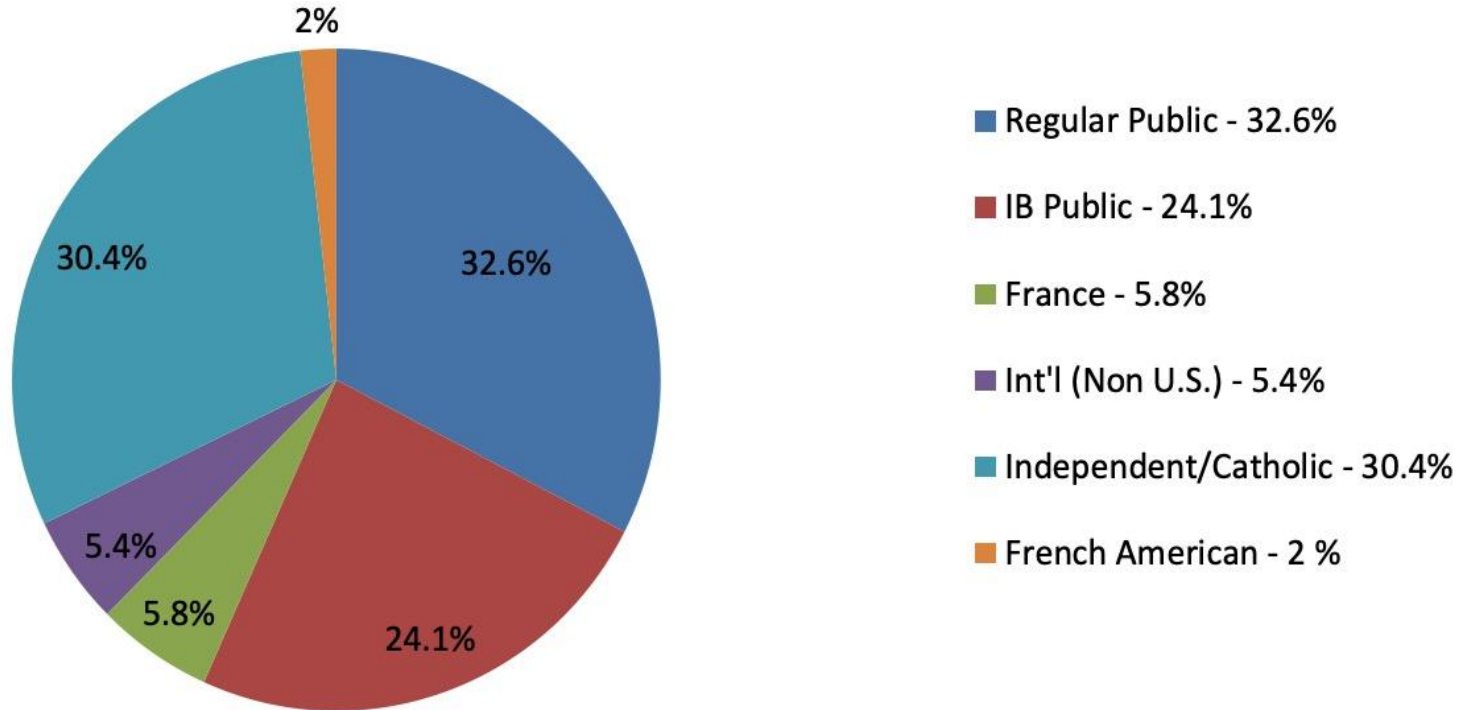
- Prepare at all times.  
*Build Academics & Character*  
*Keep all doors open. Plan A, B, C.*

DATA BREAKDOWN:

WHERE DO SDFAS GRADS GO TO HIGH SCHOOL?

# Breakdown: Where do SDFAS graduates go to high school?

**High Schools Attended by SDFAS Alumni: 2007-2020**



# Where do they go to High School? Class of 2015-2020

## Breakdown of public and private schools attended

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Bishop's	2	1	3	1	0	3
Cathedral	1	2	2	1	1	1
Francis Parker	3	2	1	2	0	2
Grauer	0	3	1	1	2	0
LJ Country Day	2	2	2	2	2	0
Our Lady of Peace	1	1	0	0	0	1
Pacific Ridge	0	0	0	0	1	0
Mission Bay HS IB	0	10	3	4	7 (6 choice)	3 (2 choice, 1 sibling)
San Diego HS IB	2	0	1	1	1 (choice+sib)	0
La Jolla HS	3	2	4	5	6 (1 choice+sib)	5*
University City HS	1	1	0	1	0	0
High Tech High	0	0	1	0	1 (2 accepted-lottery)	1
Canyon Crest	0	0	1	2	0	0
La Costa Canyon IB	0	0	1	1	0	0
Back to France	3	1	1	1	2	1
Back to Belgium	3	1	1	1	2	1
Back to Germany	-	-	-	-	-	1
Back to Mexico	-	-	-	-	-	2

*SDFAS Class of 2020 had 24 Students Graduating.*

*Other 2020 high schools include Westview in Poway District (1), Torrey Pines in San Dieguito District( 1), Scripps Ranch (1)*

*\*One 2020 graduate student was accepted at LJHS via Choice but later declined the spot.*

Other info for 2019: Lycée Français de Los Angeles (1). American School in Paris (1), Lake Washington HS, Seattle - public (1). Westview (1), Return to Germany (1). Past years – additional schools: COSA, LILA, Fusion, Vista IB, San Guajome IB, Mira Mesa, Collège Marie de France.



# Where do SDFAS Alumni go to college?

American University, Boston Conservatory, Boston University, Bradley University  
California Polytechnic State University San Luis Obispo (Cal Poly, SLO)  
California State University (Humboldt, San Marcos, San Diego, San Jose)  
Centenary College of New Jersey (Equine Studies)  
Columbia University, Dickinson College, Drexel College, Emory University,  
George Washington University, Harvard University, Johns Hopkins, Julliard,  
*La Sorbonne, School of Engineering in Paris, and Lille*  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, McGill (Montreal),  
Mira Costa Community College, New York University, Northeastern University, Northern  
Arizona University,  
Princeton University  
Purdue University  
Skidmore College, University of Arizona (Nursing)  
University of California at Berkeley, Davis, L.A., San Diego, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz  
University of Colorado (Boulder)  
University of Manchester (England)  
University of Pennsylvania, University of St. Andrews and of Aberdeen (Scotland)  
Vassar College  
University of the Incarnate Word (San Antonio, TX)  
University of San Diego, University of Southern California (USC)  
Wellesley College  
University of Washington

# SDFAS-Class of 2019-College Plans

## **American Colleges and Universities**

Fordham

Princeton

San Diego State University –Weber Honors College Merit Scholar – 4 year full ride

Tulane – Early Decision, Pre-Med

University of Arizona - Nursing

U.C. Berkeley

U.C. San Diego (2 students) – Engineering

University of Oregon – Environmental Science

## **International Colleges and Universities**

McGill Music Program (Peabody) + accepted at Johns Hopkins and SF Conservatory

University of Franklin (American University in Switzerland w/Emerson in Boston)

Ecole Hotelière de Lausanne (Switzerland) - Business Management – Hospitality

Prépas Artistique (France) then will apply to Ecole des Beaux Arts

University of Louvain-La-Neuve (Belgium) - Physics

Newcastle University (England) – International Business Program

Universidad de Monterrey (Mexico) – 4 year course in Graphic Design

Université de Grenoble (France) - Sciences then Engineering

Planning to attend nursing school after Bac S

Planning to attend business school after Bac ES

# PART 1 – PUBLIC SCHOOL – NUTS and BOLTS

## Quick Look at Public School...

- Free Tuition.
- Larger school overall -- Meet more people, more diverse community.
- Bigger Class Size - 36.
- May not have as many resources and more constraints, e.g. during Covid times.
- Larger population means more students assigned to college counselors, etc.  
This may affect “service” you receive. But bigger school can also mean more options available.
- AP classes at most high schools. Pass exam = credit at most colleges. AP offerings vary!  
*Looks good on college applications.*
- I.B. International Baccalaureate – very robust academic, college preparatory curriculum for free.  
Many colleges give credit for IB classes / passing IB exams.  
*Looks good on college applications.* Not for everybody - very writing intensive.  
SDHS, MBHS, Vista, San Guajome, La Costa Canyon (recently approved - last year was first exam year. 6 out of 7 students awarded full IB diploma.) [ibo.org](http://ibo.org)

# Public Schools: Assigned / Choice / Charter

- **Assigned:**

You want to attend your assigned high school in your neighborhood.

You must show proof of address to enroll, but you do not have to apply.

Enrollment and choosing classes is in the spring. [https://sandiegounified.org/schools/school\\_finder](https://sandiegounified.org/schools/school_finder)

San Diego Unified School District [www.sandi.net](http://www.sandi.net) (Mission Bay, La Jolla High School, SDHS, UCHS, etc.)

San Dieguito School District - [www.sduhsd.net](http://www.sduhsd.net) (TPHS, LCC, CCA)

Other districts: Poway, Vista, La Mesa, Chula Vista, etc. Inter-district transfer – extremely difficult.

- **Choice:**

You are in San Diego Unified and you want to go to a school that is NOT your assigned school.

Complete an Online Choice Application. (Note - no choice application in San Dieguito Union District!)

October 5 until Nov. 16. (Help session with Erin in October.)

We have been advised to tell our families to put #1 choice only.

The district controls the process - it is supposedly a lottery.

Not guaranteed, spots go first to neighborhood students, but SDFAS results are close to 100%.

Schools with more space = higher likelihood of being accepted via Choice.

Usually, decisions are announced in March, but can be as late as August. It's ok to enroll at your assigned school as a back-up while you wait for Choice. You are not “bound” to Choice if you get in.

- **Charter = Public but not under same SDUSD rules.**

High Tech High – Separate application + lottery = no guarantee

School of Creative & Performing Arts. Application + audition.

Let's pause for Q & A about Public School

*Please use the Q & A function  
located toward the bottom of your Zoom window.*

## PART 2 – FRENCH AFTER SDFAS

## What are the options for French after SDFAS?

- CNED: Maintain credentials with regard to the French Ministry of Education. Online. [cned.fr](http://cned.fr)
- Take French AP Test and/or SAT II Test for possible college credit + looks good on college applications. (In May. Usually 10th Grade.)
- Saturday classes offered at SDFAS:  
Advanced French (9th grade -- 18 students this year)  
and beyond (11 students this year)  
AP prep, AP boot camp, *possibly* HS French Math and History/Geography. Mme Addo is the contact person if you have questions. [maddo@sdfrenchschool.org](mailto:maddo@sdfrenchschool.org)
- IB: Standard Level French – SDHS, MBHS, LCC. (HL only at SDHS)
- World Languages in American High School System (and/or Junior College). Offerings vary. Ask potential high schools what they offer!
- You can go back to studying higher level French in college.



Let's pause for Q & A about French after SDFAS

## PART 3 – PRIVATE SCHOOL NUTS & BOLTS

# Quick Look at Private School...

- Pay tuition.
- Financial Aid possible.
- Smaller class size. Academic Programs vary. Some have AP and/or Honors.
- Compared to public school, may have more resources and different constraints, e.g. during Covid times.
- More access and availability/services from school staff such as college counselors.
- *USUALLY Must take challenging entrance exam ISEE/HSPT for almost all private schools (The Grauer School does not require them.) Not the case in 2020.*  
*Online options to take ISEE if sites are closed:*  
<https://www.erblearn.org/services/isee-at-home>  
*ISEE may grant accommodations for eligible students:*  
<https://www.erblearn.org/parents/isee-accommodations>
- Application process is time consuming: Must apply and be accepted, tour, shadow, individual and family interviews, essays, letters of recommendation, transcripts, etc.
- Very competitive – not guaranteed to be accepted at private high schools. Apply to more than one. Have Plan A, B, C + have a public school back up. Safety – Target – Reach.
- May have to take placement test(s) for math and foreign language levels
- Must Respect Application Deadlines

# What are schools looking for in a candidate?

- Academic Readiness: Grades count **AND** schools want more than just a high GPA
- Strong Character with Potential for Growth, not Perfection
- Work independently AND collaborate well with others
- Creative Thinkers
- Problem Solvers
- Resilience
- Compassion
- Open-mindedness
- Intellectual Curiosity
- Integrity
- Empathy
- Strong Communication Skills – oral and written -- especially in English
- Second and 3<sup>rd</sup> Languages are a plus
- Global Awareness
- Good Citizens
- Uniqueness
- Intrinsic Motivation

*(Note that high schools also consider factors like diversity, siblings, legacy, gender balance & outstanding skills for admission / to balance their incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade class. )*

# APPLY – Starting October 1 at most schools

- Narrow down list, know your assigned public school even if you are applying to private – have a public school backup plan.
- Plan Visits / Shadow Days / Tours – public and private - most virtual.
- **Public** – No need to apply unless using online Choice Application to non-assigned school. See SDUSD website for deadlines.  
Choice Application opens October 5 – mid November.
- **Private** – Apply to more than one and have Plan A, B, C...  
Complete Private Applications & Essays – ideally by Dec. 15.  
Register for / Study for / Take HSPT if required. (No ISEE this year.)  
Letters of Recommendation – ask teachers asap)  
Interview Prep (Prep w/Erin, English teacher, Mme Addo)

# DECISION TIME:

- Receive Admission decisions in mid-March\*
- Weigh options carefully.
- Recall family goals, vision, reality = best fit for student.
- Re-visit or shadow.
- Make decision, inform school, enroll.
- Politely decline other offers.
- Inform SDFAS so we can send final transcripts.

\**Choice and Wait List results can take longer.*

## SDFAS Class of 2015-20: Private School Admission Results

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020*</u>	<u>6 year total</u>
Bishop's	2/2	1/3	3/4	3/7	0/0	3/5	<b>12/21</b>
Cathedral	1/1	3/3	3/3	2/2	1/1	3/3	<b>13/13</b>
Francis Parker	4/4	0/1	5/5	3/6	3/4	4/7	<b>19/27</b>
Grauer	0/0	4/4	1/1	2/2	2/2	1/1	<b>10/10</b>
LJ Country Day	4/4	3/3	5/5	3/4	3/5	1/1	<b>19/22</b>
Our Lady of Peace	1/1	1/1	0/0	0/0	0/0	1/1	<b>3/3</b>
Pacific Ridge	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	1/1	0/0	<b>1/1</b>

\*24 Students in Class of 2020. 9 applied to at least one private school.

# Where do they go to High School? Class of 2015-2020

## Breakdown of public and private schools attended

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San Diego HS IB	2	0	1	1	1 (choice+sib)	0
La Jolla HS	3	2	4	5	6 (1 choice+sib)	5*
University City HS	1	1	0	1	0	0
High Tech High	0	0	1	0	1 (2 accepted-lottery)	1
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Back to Belgium	3	1	1	1	2	1
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