St. Vincent de Paul High School provides students with a college preparatory education, a spiritual foundation and a small, supportive community. No one slips through the cracks at St. Vincent’s. All are encouraged to find their passion, to speak their mind, and to make a difference in the world.

Take a tour, meet our students, and see what makes this place extraordinary. We look forward to connecting with you.
To prepare our students for success in a future that will require flexibility and individual initiative, we teach **creativity, critical thinking, collaboration and global awareness.**

**Creativity:**
our students develop their imaginations and express their inspiration in visionary works.

**Critical Thinking:**
our students learn to observe, analyze, and synthesize information to become rational, independent thinkers.

**Collaboration:**
our students gain experience working together as a team toward a common goal.

**Global Awareness:**
our students recognize themselves as interdependent communicators within a diversity of communities.
The mission of St. Vincent de Paul High School is to educate students through a college preparatory curriculum that develops their spiritual, academic, and social potential. As a Catholic school, we teach Gospel values and ideals and provide opportunities for our students to experience and grow in their faith. Our goal is for students to become compassionate, responsible and active members of their communities.
WHERE OUR STUDENTS COME FROM...

Diversity is effortless at St. Vincent de Paul High School. With students coming from more than 20 middle schools, our first-year students often start the year as acquaintances, and quickly become friends.

63% of our students identify themselves as “Catholic.”

Our 2019 freshman class is comprised of students who come from 24 different middle schools — Cinnabar, Collège Max Linder (France), Davidson Middle School, Good Shepherd Lutheran School, Harvest Christian, Kenilworth Junior High School, Lushan Experimental School (China), Marin Country Day School, Miller Creek Middle School, Our Lady of Loretto, Petaluma Accelerated Charter School, Petaluma Junior High School, Rincon Valley Middle School, San Jose Middle school, Shenzhen Chinas School (China), Sinaloa Middle School, Spring Hill Middle School, St. Isabella’s, St. Eugene’s, St. Peter’s Lutheran School, St. Raphael’s, St. Vincent’s, Twin Hills Charter Middle School and Wright Charter School.
WHERE ARE THEY GOING...

BELOW IS A LIST OF COLLEGES WHERE RECENT SVHS GRADUATES HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED:

Academy of Art University
American Academy of Dramatic Arts
Boise State University
Boston College
Boston University
Brown University
California College of the Arts
California Institute of the Arts
California Maritime Academy
California State Univ. (All)
Carnegie Mellon University
College of William and Mary
Cornell University
Drexel University
Duke University
Emory University
George Washington University
Gonzaga University
Hamilton College
Harvard University
Harvey Mudd College
Johns Hopkins University
Lewis & Clark College
Loyola Marymount University
MIT
Northeastern University
Northwestern University
NYU
Pepperdine University
Pitzer College Pomona
Reed College
Rochester Institute of Technology
Santa Clara University
Sarah Lawrence College
Skidmore College
Smith College
Stanford University
Syracuse University
Temple University
Trinity College
University of Alabama
University of Arizona
University of California (All)
University of Colorado
University of Michigan
University of Oregon
University of Notre Dame
University of Portland
University of Puget Sound
University of Redlands
University of San Diego
University of San Francisco
USC
University of Texas, Austin
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin
Villanova University
Wellesley College
Wesleyan University
Yale University
A few of our alums share their stories.

Kym McNicholas, SVHS Class of 1993
Executive Producer/Reporter, PandoDaily

Before attending St. Vincent’s, I went to a public school. I was shy and lost amidst the hundreds of students in my class. I never saw myself in a leadership role, never auditioned for key roles in the school play, although I always dreamed of being center stage, and I simply had no direction. College wasn’t on the map. I stayed home more than I was in the classroom, trying to avoid being bullied by the popular crowd.

When I transferred to SV, staff and students brought me out of my shell. They stretched my comfort zone, appointing me as Rally Commissioner, encouraging me to audition for the lead role in the school play, which I got, and tapping into my greatest strengths and passions, putting me on the collegiate track with extensive scholarship opportunities, ultimately resulting in my being accepted most recently into Stanford’s New Venture Creation Program.

It was at St. Vincent’s where I truly discovered my true potential. I found my voice, a voice so strong, that even through many a test of it in college, I never lost it. That was in big part thanks to Miss Donovan. She taught me to write from my heart and create amazing stories. She inspired me to follow my passion and gave me my first opportunity to share my work with the world through a weekly column with the Argus Courier. I carry her with me in every story I do even today.

So, as I accepted my first Emmy Award this summer, the first big thanks, beyond my parents, went to St. Vincent’s.”
Anthony Isola, SVHS Class of 2002
Attorney, Associate at Smith Dollar PC
Business and Real Estate Law

JD, UC Hastings School of Law
• Articles Editor, Hastings Communication and Entertainment Law Journal

BS Computer Engineering, UC Santa Barbara
• College of Engineering Honor Society
• Vice President, Toastmasters

“The teachers at SV played a critical role in developing my confidence as a student which translated into a strong belief that my professional opinions and theories are worth putting into practice. “

Amy Mellin, SVHS Class of 1998
Corporate Development M&A Integration Manager at Google

BS Business Administration– Sports Management Concentration, Seton Hall University; Earned athletic & academic scholarship for SHU NCAA Division 1 Softball

“The small-sized classrooms provided a setting where I was able to build a relationship with my teachers who guided me to do my best. My coaches instilled in our daily practices that hard work and dedication pays off, as I earned a scholarship to play Division 1 softball.

For the past 10 years I’ve worked at the #1 company in the Nation. When things get hectic, I thank SV for teaching me the importance of time management when balancing a tough academic and athletic schedule.”

Bridget Ferris, SVHS Class of 2006
Social Marketing Manager, Universal Music Group
BA Art History, minor in music history, UCLA Central Ticket Office, Toastmasters

“While at SVHS, I immersed myself in technology and writing courses which have played an invaluable role in my career. From Journalism to Computer Science to AP Literature, I was challenged to not only think critically, but to express myself articulately through writing. I feel blessed to have been a part of such a great school and honored to know that it will always be a part of me.”
The tradition of St. Vincent’s education extends over 100 years. We are the oldest Catholic high school and have the highest graduation requirements among all schools in the North Bay. Some of our students are fourth and fifth generation Mustangs.

19TH CENTURY

1859: St. Vincent’s School opened in a stable and later moved to the basement of the church.

1892: The Sisters of Charity and Blessed Virgin Mary began to staff the school.

20TH CENTURY

1918: The current brick building on the corner of Howard and Union was constructed.

1961: The Keokuk Street campus was opened through the vision of Monsignor Clyde Tillman.

1992: The freshman wing was extended with new classrooms, allowing the student body to grow.

21ST CENTURY

2001: The Victor L. DeCarli Gymnasium opened and provided a state of the art facility for basketball and volleyball.
2007: The chemistry lab was completely renovated with funding from private donations and a federal grant.

2008: The school opened the Kavanaugh Library, including wireless laptop computers, a conference room and an interactive Promethean white board system.

2009: Yarbrough Field opened with synthetic turf athletic field for multiple sports, and an outdoor amphitheater.

The entire school was equipped with Promethean white boards.

2011: New, larger student lockers with digital locks installed throughout campus.

Complete green renovation of arcade.

2012: Expansion and renovation of IT lab including 25 new student workstations and systems.

2013: 2,000 sq ft Field House completed with announcer’s view, restrooms, snack bar and athletic conference room.

2018: Completed the renovation of the weight room and added the Senior Lounge from private donations.

We value our long history and we continue to build and improve upon our strong foundation.
At St. Vincent’s every day starts with prayer. Our students are reminded that God is in their lives and that every day in this school is a blessing. Our Theology curriculum provides students with an opportunity to explore their faith and see the Holy Spirit at work in their lives and in the world around them.
The SVHS Make a Difference Program

Our “Make a Difference Program” is the way our students turn their faith, their values and their beliefs into meaningful action in the world. During their Freshman year, students are asked to write an essay making a four year commitment to changing one thing in the world that matters to them. This essay serves as a vision statement for the community service they do while they are at St. Vincent’s.

“Allow your life to be identified with that of Jesus, sharing his sentiments, his thoughts, his actions. The life of Jesus is a life for others. It is a life of service.”

- Pope Francis at World Youth Day 2013

Community Service Awards

- 50% of graduates awarded the Bronze Award for 150 hours of Community Service
- 15% of graduates awarded the Silver Award for 300 hours of Community Service
- 10% of graduates awarded the Gold Award for 500 hours of Community Service
What is a college prep program?

St. Vincent’s is the best preparation for admission to a competitive college and for lifelong success beyond academics. Students who have access to more honors and AP classes, from schools with more academic rigor, are better able to compete when applying to college. At SVHS there is an academic culture of high expectations.

Why a college prep education is important.

College admissions are becoming increasingly competitive. Students who have access to more honors and AP classes are better able to compete when applying to college. At SVHS there is an academic culture of high expectations and students step up to meet the challenge.
ACADEMICS

COURSE OFFERINGS

Honors Courses Offered
Honors English 9, 10, and 11
Honors Spanish 9, 10, 11
Honors Chemistry
Honors World History
Honors French 3
Honors Precalculus
Honors Algebra II

Advanced Placement Classes
AP English 12: Lit and Comp
AP US History
AP Spanish
AP French
AP Computer Science
AP Art History
AP Chemistry
AP Biology
AP 2-D Art and Design
AP Calculus
AP Physics

English Department
English 9: Lit and Comp
English 9 (H)
English 10: American Literature
English 10 (H)
English 11: World Literature
English 11 (H)
English 12: Modern World Literature
AP English 12
Creative Writing
Expository Writing
Journalism
Speech
Debate I, II, III, IV

Info Tech
Digital Citizenship
Computer and Information Technologies
AP Computer Science
Engineering

Math Department
Algebra I
Algebra II
Algebra II (H)
Geometry
Precalculus
Precalculus (H)
AP Calculus
Statistics
Math Lab

Science Department
Biology
AP Biology
Chemistry
Chemistry (H)
AP Chemistry
Environmental Science
Conceptual Physics
Physics
AP Physics

Social Science Department
World History
World History (H)
US History
AP US History
Economics
Government
Psychology
Business Management and Ethics

Theology Department
9th - Old Testament and New Testament
10th - Church History and Sacraments
11th - Catholic Morality and Catholic Social Justice
12th - Catholic Vocations and Catholic Questions/ Answers

Visual and Performing Arts
Art Appreciation
AP Art History
Ceramics
Sculpture
Advanced Drawing
Advanced Painting
Art III
AP Studio Art
Independent Art
Drama I, II, III, IV
Mixed Media and Photography
Yearbook
Jazz Ensemble
Recording Arts
History of Music

World Languages Department
French I, II, III
French III (H)
AP French IV
Spanish I, II, III, IV
Spanish I (H)
Spanish II (H)
Spanish III (H)
AP Spanish IV
Fall Sports
Cheerleading
Cross Country
Football
Soccer
Volleyball

Spring Sports
Baseball
Golf
Softball
Swimming
Track
Tennis

Winter Sports
Boy’s Basketball
Girl’s Basketball

All Year
Strength & Conditioning

Teamwork, fair play, mutual respect, hard work, handling pressure and...having fun.
We love our sports. Good for the body. Good for the soul.

38% participate in team sports outside of school.

On average, 80% of our students participate in sports at least once while at SVHS.
COUNSELING

Find your inspiration

At St. Vincent's it is cool to be smart. And that means we're succeeding in shaping intelligent, confident and socially aware young adults. Whatever your passion is, or even if it is yet undiscovered, St Vincent's is the place where it will grow and flourish.
Academic Advising
Our counselors really get to know each and every student at our school. They take the time to listen and understand each student’s strengths and weaknesses. The result — students get the classes and the support they need to discover their passion and their potential.

College Counseling
Our college counselor is an invaluable resource for juniors and seniors as they prepare for the move to college. She helps students find the schools that are a good fit and works with students to tailor their coursework and their extra-curricular activities to their college goals.

Scholarship Assistance
Our Scholarship Office informs all St. Vincent’s students about scholarship opportunities. This office provides extra support to students and parents as they prepare for SAT/ACT test registration, application deadlines, scholarship filing dates and upcoming workshops.

Naviance
Naviance is an outstanding online program that allows students and families to investigate, research, track, and plan for college admissions and career readiness.

Edline
Edline is the student’s personal portal to their classes, their homework assignments, and their grades. Edline is also a great tool to help parents stay informed. All of our teachers use the system, so families have an up-to-date view of the teacher’s expectations and the student’s performance.

In addition to the programs outlined above, our counselors facilitate and lead numerous workshops each year for both students and parents. Their goal is to help families make the most of this pivotal time in students’ lives.

“No one slips through the cracks here.”
A GENERATION OF INSPIRATION:

On average, our graduating seniors earn over $3 million in grants and scholarships. The seniors of St. Vincent de Paul High School not only earn admission to prestigious colleges and universities, they achieve unprecedented financial support.

Student success statistics

College Placement and Scholarships

- **99%** of our graduates received at least one scholarship
- **53%** of our graduates are California Scholarship Federation Seal bearers
- **44%** of our graduates are members of the National Honor Society
- **51%** of our graduates are awarded multiple scholarships and grants

AP Results

- **97 students** took 161 AP tests.
- **90–100% passing rates** (3 or above) in English, Calculus, and Spanish AP exams (over the last 5 years)
- **10%** earn a full semester of college credit by graduation

For the past 10 years, 99% of our graduating class has gone on to attend college.
SAT Results

Our average SAT I Reasoning Test scores are:

- Critical Reading: 537
- Math: 534
- Writing: 540

These scores include all juniors and seniors and are all above the state and national average.

Of the students who elect to take the SAT II Subject Tests, required by the UC system, the students’ average test scores are:

- Critical Reading: 576
- Math: 578
- Writing: 587
- Literature: 552
- U.S. History: 577
- World History: 495

Motivation for Math and Science

Over 50% of upperclassmen take additional math and science classes beyond those required for graduation.

Our average ACT composite is 23.9. All of these scores are above the national average.
COME FOR A VISIT.
• A small school atmosphere where we really get to know and support one another.

• An outstanding college preparatory curriculum with high expectations and consistently strong outcomes.

• A community that is rooted in faith, teaches Gospel values and puts values into action through service.

• Athletic programs for aspiring athletes and everyone gets an opportunity to play.

• Arts and technology programs that are expanding, not shrinking.

• Teachers and counselors who work with each student to provide extra help when it’s needed and who inspire each student to do their very best.

• College resources that are available to students and parents for all four years.

• And finally a commitment from teachers and administrators to develop the core skills that will be critical to success in the future:

  creativity • critical thinking • collaboration and global awareness
1) Come to the “Open House” in October
2) Parents, schedule a tour of the school
3) Students, register for a “Shadow Day”
4) Consider submitting an “Early Decision” application in October
5) Submit your “Regular Admissions” application in December
6) Register for the placement test in January
TO LEARN MORE:


Follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

Talk with our Admissions office to arrange a unique experience.