

Amador Valley High School



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SCHOOL PROFILE & TRANSCRIPT SUPPLEMENT 2021-2022

Amador Valley High School (AVHS) opened its doors in 1922 and is the oldest and largest of two comprehensive public high schools in the Pleasanton Unified School District in Pleasanton, California. AVHS serves nearly 2800 students with a senior class of 670 students. The school includes approximately 178 staff members and is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. AVHS's honors include: National School of Character (2004), California Distinguished School (1994, 2001, 2005, 2021), AVID National Demonstration School (2007), and National Blue Ribbon School (2002, 2006, 2017). AVHS is currently ranked #36 in the state and #283 in the nation. An annually updated comprehensive list of clubs and sports is available on the website. Pleasanton is an affluent suburban community about forty miles east of San Francisco with a population of 82,270 people.

While many parents hold advanced degrees from U.S. colleges, recent growth from outside the United States has caused an increase in the population of students attending a U.S. college for the first time. Ethnic diversity is increasing and approximately 38 different languages are spoken at AVHS with English and Mandarin being the majority. Most households are dual income, and the academic expectations and social pressures are demanding. The median household income had risen to \$121,622 (whereas the state median is \$60,190). In 2018, the median home value in Pleasanton was \$1,075,700.

SCHOOL POLICIES

High school level courses, such as math and world language, taken in middle school are footnoted on the high school transcript. Grades are shown but not calculated in the GPA and high school credits are not earned for these courses unless there is a need for graduation credit or NCAA eligibility.

Students needing to remediate a D or F in a graduation or minimum California public university entrance requirement may enroll in PUSD's Virtual Academy. This typically occurs over the summer, however exceptions are made as needed. Not all PUSD courses are available through Virtual Academy. When a student remediates a deficient grade, both grades appear on the transcript and are factored into the student's GPA.

Students are highly encouraged to take all courses at AVHS; however, students seeking additional courses outside PUSD are currently limited in what they can list on the AVHS transcript. Students may concurrently enroll in both community college and high school courses (must have a minimum of four periods at their designated high school). Community college courses are not weighted on the AVHS transcript.

SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Students follow a modified block schedule. Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays, students attend periods 1 through 6. On Wednesdays, students attend periods 1, 3, and 5 with one advisory period. On Thursdays, students attend periods 2, 4, and 6 with two advisory periods. Most students have a full course load of six periods, however some students may take a 7th period if desired & available. On occasion, classes are full and students are denied access until the following school year. Please note, AVHS was fully remote from March 2020 through March 2021. Students received hotspots and an updated device as needed. In April, students had the option to return to campus part time.

REQUIREMENTS, GRADING, HONORS & ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Five credits are earned for each class in an eighteen-week semester with 230 credits needed for graduation. Twenty hours of community service earned anytime between 9th through 12th grade are required for graduation. These requirements also apply to students enrolled in the Middle College Program. Required subjects and credits are listed below.

The overall GPA begins when the student becomes a ninth grader and includes permanent grades in all courses, whether passed or failed. The cumulative GPA in this category appears on the transcript. District policy eliminated class rank beginning with the Class of 2014.

Advanced Placement (AP) course grades and some honors courses are weighted and designated as (HP) as follows: A=5, B=4, C=3. College preparatory classes are designated by a (P) on the transcript. Students have open access to AP and Honors courses, and while balance is encouraged, there is no cap on the number they can take. In addition, the regular college-preparatory courses are extremely challenging. All General Education courses carry college preparatory status with the exception of Teacher's Assistant (TA), PE, Academic Support, AVID/Special Education Tutor.

Most classes are open access for enrollment with the exception of the following courses that require an application, interview and/or selection process: Publications, Journalism, AVID, Leadership, ROP Nursing Careers, Medical Occupations, and Honors US Government & Politics: We the People. Amador also has some music courses that require an audition for selection (for example: Chamber Choir, Jazz 1, and A Period Wind Ensemble 1). Some courses, including some of the music courses, may be repeated for credit and the course title remains the same.

Career-technical courses (CTE) are offered both on and off campus through PUSD and the Tri-Valley Regional Occupation Program (ROP). Some of these courses may be two class periods in length (thus earning 10 credits per semester); others may be one class period but due to necessary travel time, this reflects as only five class periods on the transcript. For the 2010-11 school year, Multivariable Calculus was added on campus as a non-weighted course for students who have completed AP Calculus BC; however, students also have an option to take it through the local community college to earn college credit rather than high school credit.

TEMPORARY GRADING CHANGES DUE TO COVID-19

From March 2020 through March 2021, all students learned remotely. The grading scale temporarily changed for Spring semester ending May 2020 and Fall semester ending December 2020 to: 90-100=A, 80-89=B, 70-79=C, 60-69=Credit (CR), Below 60=No Credit (NC), and for Spring semester ending May 2021 to: 90-100=A, 80-89=B, 70-79=C, 50-69=Credit (CR), Below 50=No Credit (NC).

ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

Biology	Music Theory
Calculus AB	Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism
Calculus BC	Physics C: Mechanics
Chemistry	Psychology
Computer Science A	Spanish Language & Culture
English Language	Spanish Literature & Culture
English Literature	Statistics
Environmental Science	Studio Art: Draw
French Language & Culture	Studio Art: 2D
Government & Politics	Studio Art: 3D
Human Geography	United States History
Japanese Language & Culture	World History
Macroeconomics	

WEIGHTED HONORS COURSES

Honors French V;	Honors Aerospace
Honors Pre-Calculus;	Engineering;
Honors US Government & Politics/We the People;	Honors Civil Engineering & Architecture;
Honors Human Body Systems;	Honors Digital Electronics;
Honors Medical Interventions	Honors Principles of Engineering;
	Honors Artist Portfolio

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

% Ethnic Breakdown

African American/Black:	0.8
Asian:	44.3
Latinx:	8.7
Native American:	0.0
Pacific Islander/Hawaiian:	1.8
White:	39.5
Two or More Races:	4.7

% Other Information

English Learners:	3.5
Foster Youth:	0.0
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged:	8.23
Students w/ Disabilities:	8.12

POST-HIGH SCHOOL PLANS*

% Students Attending

College/University:	71.5
Community College:	23.2
Trade School/Work	
Other Military/Plans:	5.3

*Data based on 2019-2020 student survey results

STANDARDIZED TEST INFORMATION*

National Merit Qualifying Test

Award Recipients:	4
Finalists:	24
Semi-Finalists:	26
Commended:	77

AP Placement Results

Students in AP Classes:	2616
# of AP Exams Taken:	2482
% Students Scored 3+:	94.3
% Students Scored 4+:	77.2
% Students Scored 5:	47.1

SAT Results

Mean Score:	1285
% Passed Reading/Writing:	96
% Passed Math:	88

ACT Mean Scores

English:	28.9
Math:	28.4
Science:	28.9
Composite:	28.7

*Data based on results from 2019-2020

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Mathematics	20
English	40
Social Studies	35
Life Science	10
Physical Science	10
Health	5
Physical Education	20
VAPA/LOTE/CTE	10
Electives	80

GRADING SCALE

A: Excellent	90 <	4
B: Above Average	80-89	3
C: Average	70-79	2
D: Below Average	60-69	1
F: Fail	59 >	0