

Maria Carrillo High School

Excellence in Education



*What the best and wisest parent wants for his own child,
that must be what the community wants for all its children.*

John Dewey

MISSION: The Staff of Maria Carrillo High School in partnership with students, parents, and community members provides a challenging, caring and safe educational environment that prepares students to become powerful producers, universal citizens, masterful communicators and active listeners.





About Maria Carrillo High School

Maria Carrillo High School, home of the Pumas, has been serving the community of Santa Rosa since its opening in 1996. From the first year on, it has been widely acknowledged and recognized as a rigorous, academic secondary school as well as a high-performing one.

The collective focus of the school is to provide learning experiences in varied environments within a positive school climate for students and staff alike. Teachers actively engage students in their learning, offering opportunities for solving complex problems, showcasing creativity and employing higher order thinking skills. Through disciplined, substantive inquiry students are expected to demonstrate and exhibit the knowledge they acquire; ongoing assessment of this learning is embedded throughout their study.

One hundred percent of MCHS core subject area teachers are highly qualified in their respective credentials by NCLB standards. Teachers in the core subject areas align curricula to respective standards and then implement them in the classroom through a wide variety of instructional strategies and resources to insure all students at MCHS are successful.

MCHS' Expected School-wide Learning Results identify that each graduate will be a powerful producer, a universal citizen, a masterful communicator and an active learner.

Did you know...

- ✦ The school opened in 1996 with approximately 700 students – only ninth and tenth graders; a grade level was added each of the following two years
- ✦ The founding students selected both the school colors – forest green, gold and black – as well as the school’s mascot – a golden puma
- ✦ The mascot on the floor of the foyer to the large gym was the winner of a design contest for the Puma logo that was open to all founding students
- ✦ The Class of 1999 was the first graduating class in the school’s history and this year’s graduating class, the Class of 2012, will be the 13th since it opened in 1996.
- ✦ The school opened with twenty-six teaching/counseling staff members and has grown to eighty-five. Twelve of the founding staff still work at the school.
- ✦ The school is painted to emulate the surrounding landscape: the deep brown of the earth, the golden tan of the hills and the rich blue of the sky
- ✦ A picture of Maria Carrillo hangs in every English classroom, as well as in the foyer to the theater
- ✦ Contrary to rumor, the fake rocks in the quad are not heated

Education is not preparation for life; it is life itself.

John Dewey





Distinctions

- ✦ **Academic Performance Index (API) score for 2010-2011 was 849 – the highest of any comprehensive public high school in the Santa Rosa City School District and in Sonoma County**
- ✦ Highest average scores in the Santa Rosa City School District for the past five years on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) in Critical Reading (570), Mathematics (596), and Writing (572)
- ✦ Highest pass rates in the Santa Rosa City School District for the past five years on the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) in both English-Language Arts (94%) and mathematics (97%)
- ✦ Numerous teachers have received national, state and regional certification and recognition (e.g. National Board Certification)
- ✦ 37% of teaching staff have Masters Degree
- ✦ 14 AP and Honors classes in six subject areas
- ✦ In 2009, 84% of seniors earned a score of 3 or higher on Advanced Placement Exams, the highest percentage in the Santa Rosa City School District
- ✦ Annual National Merit Scholarship finalists (4 from the class of 2011)
- ✦ 26% of students identified for Gifted and Talented Program
- ✦ Of students attending a CSU after their first year, 89% remain enrolled versus 80% statewide and their GPA's are .07 higher than their state wide peers.
- ✦ Matriculation to top universities and colleges nationwide. 2011 graduates entered Stanford University, Harvard College, Brown University, Barnard College, University of Southern California, Gonzaga, Loyal Marymount, Michigan State, Mills College, University of Colorado, University of the Pacific, Princeton, Brigham Young University, California Institute of Technology, George Washington University, Pepperdine University, Brandeis University, Emory University, United States Naval Academy, Lewis and Clark College, most all of the California State Universities and University of California campus, and more.

MCHS Program

English Highlights

- ✦ 9th and 10th grade integrated English/Social Studies program
- ✦ Senior Thematic English Classes
- ✦ Flexible schedule promoting academic English for ELL students
- ✦ Jack London Award winner Senior Poetry Unit
- ✦ Opportunities to see distinguished writers, plays, and films
- ✦ 95% average AP literature test pass rate
- ✦ 92% average AP language test pass rate
- ✦ Free Peer Tutoring
- ✦ English Support classes

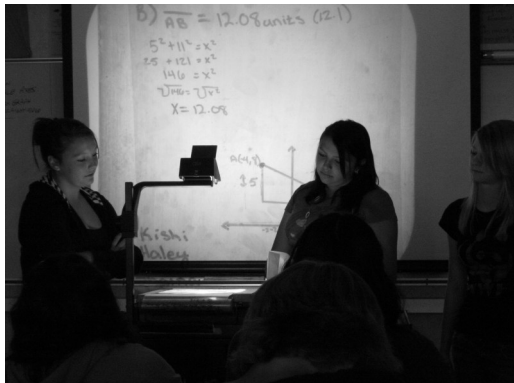


The teachers and staff really seem to care about the students and they do all they can to help students be successful.

*Current MCHS
Freshman*

Social Studies Highlights

- ✦ Global Humanities course
- ✦ Full year *Psychology* course
- ✦ Real time stock market simulation
- ✦ Congressional simulation
- ✦ 100% AP Government test pass rate
- ✦ 100% Macro Economics test pass rate
- ✦ Free peer tutoring
- ✦ Historical speakers





Science Highlights

- ✦ Annual Science explorations to Catalina Island, Monterey Bay, Sonoma coast and Don Klausen fish hatchery
- ✦ *Anatomy/Physiology and Zoology* elective courses
- ✦ Biology, Chemistry and Physics exceptional AP scores
- ✦ Of the 72 students who participated in the Sonoma County Science Fair, 50% were earned 1st place, and 49% earned a 2nd or 3rd place.
- ✦ In the past 4 years, 52 student have gone on to participate in the San Francisco Bay Area Science Fair. Of those students, 92% earned prizes, including Grand, Stockholm, Scientific American Best in Show, and many more awards. In the past 4 years, 14 students have participated and received recognition at state Science Fair
- ✦ Partnership with UC Davis Bodega Marine Lab – CAMEOS Project
- ✦ Partnerships with steelhead rehabilitation agencies and the City of Santa Rosa's biological assessment of creeks program.
- ✦ Highest AP Biology, Chemistry and Physics test pass rate
- ✦ Free Peer Tutoring

Mathematics Highlights

- ✦ CPM and Traditional math curriculums
- ✦ Participation in Math Steeplechase competition
- ✦ Participation in Leapfrog/AMC competition
- ✦ Sonoma County Math Council participation
- ✦ 78% AP Calculus test pass rate
- ✦ 89% AP Statistics pass rate
- ✦ Free Peer Tutoring

Pure mathematics is, in its way, the poetry of logical ideas.

Albert Einstein

World Language Highlights

- ✦ Immersion style courses in Spanish and French
- ✦ Conversational and university prep courses including *Spanish 1.5 and 1st and 2nd year honors*
- ✦ *Spanish for Spanish Speakers* offered levels 1 and 2
- ✦ Both *AP Spanish Literature* and *Language* offered
- ✦ AP French language and 2nd and 3rd year Honors
- ✦ Cross Age Bilingual Tutoring Program K-6
- ✦ Participation in Sonoma State University's *Concours de Diction*
- ✦ 87% AP French and Spanish test pass rate

Fine Arts Classes and Specialized Pathways

Performing Arts

- ✦ *Symphonic Band*
- ✦ *Concert Band*
- ✦ *Jazz Band*
- ✦ *Chamber Singers*
- ✦ *Vocal Ensemble*
- ✦ *Treble Choir*
- ✦ *Jazz Choir*
- ✦ *A Cappella Choir*
- ✦ *Piano*
- ✦ *Drama and Advanced Drama*
- ✦ *Stagecraft*
- ✦ *Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Dance*

The aim of art is to represent not the outward appearance of things, but their inward significance.

Aristotle

Visual Arts

- ✦ *Visual Arts, 3-D Art, and AP Arts*
- ✦ *Ceramics and Advanced Ceramics*
- ✦ *Digital Photography*
- ✦ *Film Study and Advanced Film Study*

Fine Arts Program Highlights

- ✦ National and state award-winning programs
- ✦ MCHS bands and Chorus perform at festivals throughout the United States
- ✦ UC approved (except digital media)
- ✦ Digital portfolios
- ✦ Trips to Museum of Modern Art, the De Young Museum and the Legion of Honor Museum in San Francisco
- ✦ Contemporary film showings
- ✦ State-of-the-art Computer Lab and professional software





Media and Communications

- ✦ *Journalism*
- ✦ *Yearbook*
- ✦ *Computer Foundations*
- ✦ *Computer Arts and Multimedia/Digital Media*

Media and Communications Highlights

- ✦ Journalism attendance at the National Scholastic Press Association Annual Convention
- ✦ Yearly winners in the Press Democrat's Annual Redwood Empire School Journalism Competition
- ✦ Award winning yearbook
- ✦ Martin Luther King speech competition

*We cannot
always build the
future for our
youth, but we can
build our youth for
the future.
Franklin D. Roosevelt*

Culinary Arts

- ✦ Santa Rosa Parade Iron Chef competition
- ✦ The Lodging Association Chef competition
- ✦ Harvest Fair competition
- ✦ Staff lunch catering
- ✦ Community catering
- ✦ Safeserve National Certification
- ✦ Access to Senior English organic garden
- ✦ Fourteen participants at the Skills USA competition in San Diego, CA

Automotive

- ✦ State-of-the-art automotive lab
- ✦ Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Auto Technology
- ✦ All levels available in each class
- ✦ Skills USA Competition
- ✦ Articulation agreement with SRJC

Translation Services

- ✦ Designed for students to achieve proficiency in communicating with the public in more than one language.
- ✦ After four years students will have the ability to translate both verbally and in writing.

Counseling and Student Support

- ✦ Provide academic, social and personal counseling services to students of all abilities and interests
- ✦ Counsel and track high school graduation requirements,
- ✦ Provide information on college admissions
- ✦ Hold workshops on scholarships (including the local Doyle Scholarship Program) and financial aid
- ✦ Registration for PSAT/SAT/ACT testing
- ✦ Counsel Work Readiness program
- ✦ Tutorial resources
- ✦ Coordinate Student Study Team meetings, teacher/parent/student conferences, mental health resources
- ✦ Attend yearly conferences sponsored by the University of California, California State Universities, and Santa Rosa Junior College
- ✦ Trained to address contemporary counseling issues such as anger management, motivation, trauma, bullying, grief, relational aggression
- ✦ Counselors have 35+ years of combined experience and one is a Certified Drug and Alcohol counselor. Counselors advise students on Career Pathways choices, college, and vocational interests. Each year MCHS gives each student a Student Handbook, as well as the MCHS Course Description Book.
- ✦ MCHS also has a Peer Resources Program, which involves students as mentors, leaders, tutors, and counselors for their peers



Everyone on campus from students to staff is very supportive. I always feel comfortable expressing myself, without feeling like I'm being judged.

Current MCHS junior





Media Center and Computer Labs

Collection Highlights:

- ✦ 16,000 book collection
- ✦ Outstanding non-fiction resources to support *English, Humanities, Science, History and Fine Art*
- ✦ Fiction collection spans the continents
- ✦ Fiction and non-fiction collections include contemporary young adult/adult books that are current in topic and interest
- ✦ Over 600 books in Spanish and French
- ✦ Promotion of Reading includes Book Talks, Showcase Displays and SSR
- ✦ Databases online for world and local news can be accessed 24/7
- ✦ Over 5000 documents are retrieved annually by students from elibrary
- ✦ Events – annual Book Fair during Back-to-School night
- ✦ State-of-the-art computer lab with professional software



Awards

- ✦ Santa Rosa Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Teachers of the Year
- ✦ Unanimous Superior Award by California Music Educators Association 1997 to present
- ✦ Jazz Festival, Folsom Jazz Festival, Santa Cruz Jazz Festival, and Delta Jazz Festival
- ✦ 1st place Music in the Parks and Heritage Festivals since 1998-present
- ✦ Jazz Choir invitation to Carnegie Hall, New York and Jeju, South Korea
- ✦ First place at the All State Honor Band
- ✦ Sonoma County Press Club's Annual scholarship (\$5000)
- ✦ Odyssey of the Mind Regional 1st Place 2007; State 4th Place 2007
- ✦ 1st place at Jostens Summer National Yearbook Camp 2007
- ✦ M.L King Oratory Speech Contest winner 2004, 2008
- ✦ Press Democrat Awards: Best News Writing, Best Editorial, Best Sports 2009
- ✦ Academic Decathlon Team placed 3rd in the region with over 38 individual awards in 2008
- ✦ Sonoma Country Teacher of the Year Award 2007-2009

Student Activities and Student Clubs

- ✦ California Association of Student Leaders participation
- ✦ Creators of Santa Rosa City Schools Leadership Council
- ✦ Extensive community service outreach

Academic Decathlon Club

Anime Club

Art Club

California Scholastic Federation

Caravaners Club

Cheerleading

Chess Club

Christian Club

CSF

Dance

ECO Club

Elias Club

Film Club

Future Educators

Gay/Straight Alliance

Geek Club

International Cultures Club

Junior Statesmen of America Club

Key Club

Leaders of Literacy

Latino Club

Mountain Biking

Odyssey of the Mind Club

Puma Peers

Renaissance

Speech and Debate Club

Swing/Salsa Club

Thespian Club

Ultimate Frisbee

Volleyball





Athletic Achievements

Football – NCS 2nd Place 2005

Women's Tennis – NBL Champions 2005 and 2011

Men's Tennis – NCS Singles 2nd Place 1999; Scholastic 2005

Men's Soccer – NBL Champions 1998, 2002, 2007, 2008; NCS Champions 2001, 2002, and 2011; 2008 NCS 2nd Place 2000, 2008; Scholastic 2004

Women's Soccer – NBL Champions 2000, 2009, and 2011; NCS Champions 2001, 2002; NCS 2nd Place 1998, 1999, 2000, 2003

Men's Golf – NBL Champions 2001, 2002, 2003; NCS 3rd Place 2005

Women's Golf - NBL Champions 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011

Women's Basketball – NBL Champions 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2012

Men's Basketball – NBL Champions 2008; Scholastic 2007

Women's Swimming – NBL Champions 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2011

Wrestling – NBL Champions 2002

Volleyball – NBL Champions 2002, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010; NCS Champions 2005, 2007, 2008, and 2010

Baseball – NBL Champions 2000, 2001; NCS Champions 2002, 2003; NCS 2nd Place 2001; Scholastic 2006

Co-Ed Badminton – NBL Champions 2002, 2003; Scholastic 2002, 2003, 2005

Softball – Scholastic 2005, 2006

Women's Cross Country – NBL Champions 2001, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2011; NCS Champions 2004, 2005, and 2011; NCS 2nd Place 2000, 2001, 2006, 2007, 2009; California State Ranking 4 Scholastic 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005

Men's Cross Country – NBL Champions 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009; NCS Champions 2005, 2006; NCS 2nd Place 2003, 2007; California State Ranking 7; Scholastic 2005

Women's Track and Field – NBL Champions 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2009; NCS Champions 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005, 2006; Scholastic 2004, 2006, 2007

Men's Track and Field – NBL Champions 2002, 2006 NCS Champions 2002; Scholastic 1997, 2005, 2006

North Bay League Sportsmanship Award – 2005, 2006, 2008, and 2011



*Education takes place in the combination of the home,
the community, the school and the receptive mind.*

Harry Edwards
