



School Profile – Sample B

This resource is part of Making Caring Common’s School Profile Project, an initiative aimed at providing school counselors with tools for effective and equitable college admission practices. You can find additional school profile materials [here](#), including templates, examples, best practices, and insights from school counselors. If you have recommendations for improving these resources, we welcome your comments or suggestions via our anonymous [feedback form](#).

The ‘School Profile Sample: School B’ provides school counselors with an example of a completed, three-page school profile.

This school profile sample assumes the identity and location of a fictional ‘Central High School’ in Brookside, California. However, the demographic details, academic profile, and extracurricular offerings were intentionally selected to reflect the offerings and experiences of many schools around the country. While ‘School Profile Sample: School B’ generally follows our School Profile Template, it offers a glimpse of how schools with numerous academic tracks or special programs may expand upon the parameters of the template to capture the full dimensions of their community.

This sample consolidates the 14 critical components of a school profile, as identified by Dr. Tara Nicola.* While we encourage all counselors to customize their profile in a manner that reflects their school’s programs and values, we hope that this document lifts up how a school can represent the most salient parts of its student experience in a realistic and feasible three-page format.

Viewers can download their own editable template [here](#).

*Dr. Nicola’s original research can be accessed at the cite below:

Nicola, T. P. (2022). Assessing applicants in context? School profiles and their implications for equity in the selective college admission process. *Journal of Diversity in Higher Education*, 15(6), 700-715. <https://doi.org/10.1037/dhe0000318>.

Central High School

2024-2025 School Profile

School Context

Central High School, Brookside's largest public school, serves 2,000 students in grade 9-12. Central High offers a range of academic programs to meet the needs of our diverse learning community, including an AP and IB diploma curriculum and a performing & visual arts concentration.

Central is located in an urban area and most students walk or take public transit to campus. It's not uncommon for students to arrive as early as 7am and stay until 7pm for extracurriculars. Many of our parents are faculty members, staff, or researchers at our regional state university. As such, our students often feel heightened family expectations to succeed in and out of the classroom.

While we do offer accelerated academic tracks, our teachers and counselors work to maintain a collaborative environment where students can explore their full range of interests. As part of our commitment to developing the whole student, all students are expected to complete 50 volunteer service hours with a community organization of their choice.

Demographic Information

- 45% identify as white.
- 23% identify as Hispanic.
- 20% identify as Black or African American.
- 10% identify as Asian/Pacific Islander.
- 2% identify as Indigenous/Native American.

30% will be the first in their family to attend college.

15% are English Language Learners.

20% qualify for free/reduced lunch.

IB Diploma Program

Our most rigorous course sequence, students apply their sophomore year into our IB program. 20% of juniors and seniors will take a full IB curriculum. In 2023, 197 seniors took IB exams in 12 subjects, earning a mean IB score of 28 points. Of our IB diploma recipients, eight students earned the Bilingual International Baccalaureate Diploma in French.

AP Curriculum

All students are eligible to take honors or AP classes during their four years. 40% of seniors will have taken at least one AP course prior to graduation. In 2021, 700 students took 1,350 AP exams, earning a mean score of 3.25. 78 students received AP Scholar recognition.

Performing/Visual Arts

Students have the opportunity to audition into an arts concentration in either band, orchestra, chorus, or visual arts. Beyond taking arts elective courses for all four years, arts concentrators are expected to participate in our senior art showcase, take at least one accelerated academic course in the arts (i.e. AP Music theory, AP Art History, AP Studio Art, etc.), and represent Central High School in regional performances and competitions.

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Scheduling a Visit

Central High welcomes admission officers to visit the counseling office during lunch hours from Sept. 5th through November 1st.

To schedule a school visit, please visit our [visit page here](#).

Course Offerings & Requirements

	Courses	AP Offerings	IB Offerings
English 4 years required.	<i>English I: Survey Lit</i> <i>American Literature</i> <i>British Literature</i> <i>World Literature</i>	<i>AP English Language and Composition</i> <i>AP English Literature and Composition</i>	<i>World Literature I, II (HL)</i>
Math 3 years required.	<i>Algebra I</i> <i>Geometry</i> <i>Algebra II</i> <i>Pre-Calculus</i>	<i>AP Calculus AB</i> <i>AP Calculus BC</i> <i>AP Statistics</i>	<i>Analysis & Approaches I, II (SL, HL)</i> <i>Applications & Interpretations I, II (SL, HL)</i>
Social Studies 3 years required.	<i>World History</i> <i>US History</i> <i>European History</i>	<i>AP US History</i> <i>AP Government</i> <i>AP Microeconomics</i>	<i>20th Century World History (SL)</i> <i>History of the Americas (HL)</i> <i>Theory of Knowledge</i>
Science 3 years required.	<i>Biology</i> <i>Chemistry</i> <i>Physics</i> <i>Astronomy</i>	<i>AP Biology</i> <i>AP Environmental Science</i>	<i>Biochemical Biology I, II (HL)</i> <i>Organic & Inorganic Chemistry I, II (HL)</i> <i>Physics (SL)</i>
Foreign Language 2 years required.	<i>Spanish I-IV</i> <i>French I-IV</i> <i>Chinese I-IV</i>	<i>AP Spanish Language</i> <i>AP French Language</i> <i>AP Chinese Language</i>	<i>French I, II (SL, HL)</i> <i>Spanish I, II (SL, HL)</i>
Arts 1 years required.	<i>2D/3D Art</i> <i>Choir I-III</i> <i>Orchestra I-III</i> <i>Band I-III</i>	<i>AP Music Theory</i> <i>AP Art History</i> <i>AP Studio Art</i>	<i>Visual Art (SL)</i> <i>Music (SL)</i>

Additional Graduation Requirements

- Each IB Diploma student must take the entire curriculum, sit for all required exams (both Higher Level and Standard Level), submit an Extended Essay in one of the subjects of the IB curriculum, and complete coursework in Theory of Knowledge.
- All Advanced Placement (AP) courses include the appropriate College Board examinations.
- All students are expected to complete 50 community service hours prior to graduation.

Grade Distribution for Senior class

-Central no longer provides class rankings. Only GPA and decile are reported to colleges.

-Deciles are based on 6th Semester Cumulative GPAs

Class Rank (%)	Weighted GPA	Unweighted GPA
Highest	5.0	4.0
10%	4.8	3.8
25%	4.0	3.4
50%	3.2	2.9
75%	2.9	2.8
90%	2.5	2.5

Grading Scale

Central grades on a 4.0 scale with the following weight:

	A	B	C	D	F	
						A = 90 – 100
AP/IB	5	4	3	2	0	B = 80 – 89
Regular	4	3	2	1	0	C = 70 – 79
						D = 60 – 69

SAT Scores

Central High sponsors an in-school SAT exam that all juniors are encouraged to attend.

Class Year	Percentage taking exam	Middle 50%	High Score
2024	65%	1100-1390	1560
2023	49%	1010-1290	1480
2022	40%	1040-1020	1500
2021	80%	980-1300	1460

Extracurricular Offerings

Athletics

- We offer **15** competitive sports throughout the year.
 - *Badminton (Club Sport), Basketball (M&W), Cheer (M&W), Crew (M&W), Cross Country (M&W), Field Hockey (W), Karate (Club Sport), Lacrosse (M&W), Soccer (M&W), Softball (W), Swimming/Diving (M&W), Tennis (M&W), Track and Field (M&W), Ultimate Frisbee (Club Sport), Volleyball (M&W)*
- **65%** of our students participate in athletics.
- Central High holds 3 conference titles in Track and Field, Swimming, and Baseball.

Fine and Performing Arts

- In addition to our arts concentration, all students have the option to participate in drama, dance, and music through elective course offerings and extra-curricular programming.
- The drama club puts on multiple productions each year, open to all students.
- Our music department includes choir, band, and orchestra at the beginning, intermediate, and advanced level. Our advanced ensembles are audition-based and regularly place in regional competitions.

Clubs & Student Organizations

- Central High offers **more than 30** student-run organizations.
- These encompass student leadership organizations (*Student Council, Student-Athlete Leadership Council*), academic clubs (*policy debate, Model UN, National Honor Society*), identity and affinity clubs (*Black Student Union, Gay-Straight Alliance, La Raza Coalition*), and service and action organizations (*Best Buddies, UNICEF, Students Demand Action*).
- A full list of our student organizations can be found on our [webpage here](#).

College acceptances & Postgraduate Plans

College lists reflect acceptances of the last three years. Bold indicates a matriculant in the most recent admission cycle.

- **65%** attending 4-year institutions:
 - **1/3** attending out-of-state institutions.
- **19%** attending 2-year institutions.
- **10%** directly entering the workforce.
- **6%** taking a gap year.

Student Achievement Awards

- **2** QuestBridge Recipients
- **5** National Merit Finalists
- **3** Posse Scholars

Amherst College
Arizona State University
Bard College
Barnard College
Beloit College
Berklee College of Music
Carleton College
Carnegie Mellon University
Cabot College
Chapman University
Cincinnati College of Music
City College of San Francisco
Claremont McKenna College
Contra Costa College
Cornell University
De Anza College
DePaul University
Diablo Valley College
Dillard University
Dominican University of California
Drexel University
Emerson College
Emory University
Evergreen State University
George Washington Georgetown
Georgia Tech
Glendale Community College
Hawaii Pacific University

Macalester College
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
McGill University
Merritt College
Morehouse College
Mt. Holyoke College
New York University
Olin College
Ontario College of Art and Design
Pacific Lutheran University
Penn State
Pitzer College
Pomona College
Princeton University
Reed College
Rhodes College
Stanford University
Swarthmore College
The University of Arizona
University of Chicago
University of Wisconsin, Madison
University of York
Whittier College
Willamette University
Williams College
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Xavier University of Louisiana

Disciplinary Policies

Disciplinary action is defined as probation, suspension, or expulsion. If a college or university asks a question regarding disciplinary action, we will respond to the question, and we strongly recommend that the student respond directly as well.