



PLANO ISD ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL

Innovative
Interdisciplinary
Inspirational

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Industry Partners

NASA HUNCH

Plano Seed Council

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About Our School

Plano ISD Academy High School is a 9-12 grade magnet program focused on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM). Our mission is to foster a creative and innovative educational environment that equips students with essential skills for the modern world. We utilize an interdisciplinary, project-based learning approach that encourages students to think critically and solve real-world challenges.

Academy courses are considered advanced level and are taught similarly to a college course.

Commitments

We are committed to creating an environment that emphasizes collaboration, curiosity, and leadership to support the holistic development of each student. We aim to prepare our students to become compassionate leaders across engineering, sciences, robotics, the arts, and related industries while strongly advocating the significance of community service and strategic partnerships. Furthermore, we prioritize continuous improvement and the exploration of innovative methodologies that enhance our educational practices.

All Academy High School students complete 4 interdisciplinary research projects each year.

Class of 2024 Profile

Total number of graduates: 76

Top 10% GPA distribution: 4.3897-4.4852

% attending college: 80.3

% Attending 4 Year University: 56.6%

Attending 2 Year College: 23.7%

Tech/Work/Military Svc. /Other: 19.7%

All Academy High School students complete a rigorous research-based capstone project before graduation.

About Our Community and District

Plano is a suburban city of approximately 290,500 residents located just north of Dallas. The Plano Independent School District is comprised of three early childhood schools, 44 elementary schools (K-5), thirteen middle schools (6-8), six high schools (9-10), three senior high schools (11-12), one 9-12 high school, and a Special Programs Center. Academy High School is one of three academy programs within Plano ISD and is a 9-12 campus. Plano ISD serves the residents of 114 square miles in the southwestern corner of Collin County. The district enrollment is approximately 50,000 students.

Extracurricular Activities

Learners can participate in extracurricular activities during the school day. Club formation and campus activities are driven by learner interest and initiation. They foster mixed grade-level interaction and offer a forum for learners to share and pursue their collective passions.

Rank in Class

Class rank is based on cumulative averages from grades 9-12. Correspondence and online courses are not computed into class rank. Final rank in class and grade point average are determined at the end of the third nine-week grading period of the Senior year. Plano ISD Academy High School does not rank learners beyond the Top 10%. Learners in the Top 10% will have a certificate of rank provided with their transcript.

GPA and Grading System

Academy High School uses a proficiency/standards-based grading system, which is based on mastery, providing learners with specific feedback on academic growth. Learners receive narrative feedback on formative and summative assessments, enabling them to improve their submitted work, extend their inquiry, and reflect. Scoring is based on the demonstration of learning evidence. Grades are given at the end of each semester. Course scores are documented as A+, A, B+, B, C, or F on the transcript. Given the advanced rigor of the coursework, all courses, including AP coursework, are counted equally on a 4.5 grade point scale.



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Plano ISD Plano Academy High School students graduate under the Foundation/Endorsement Plan.

This plan includes:

- English - 4 Credits
- Math - 4 Credits
- Science - 4 Credits
- Social Studies - 4 Credits
- Fine Arts - 1 Credit
- Foreign Language - 2 Credits
- Physical Education - 1 Credit
- Communication - .5 Credit
- Communication - .5 Credit
- Elective/Endorsement Choices - .5 Credits

Current Course Offerings

Courses are embedded within interdisciplinary projects. Projects are inquiry-based and extend over four nine-week grading periods. Learners work in collaborative teams for each project.

English:

English I, II, *III, *IV

Math:

Algebra I
Algebra II
Geometry
Pre-Calculus
*Calculus
*Statistics and Data Analysis

Science:

Biology
Chemistry
*Physics
Environmental Systems
Scientific Research & Design

Social Studies:

*World Geography
*World History
*U.S. History
*Economics
*Government

Engineering:

Introduction to AutoCAD
Engineering Design & Presentation
Engineering Design &
Problem-Solving
Practicum in STEM

Art:

Art & Media Communication I
Art & Media Communication II
Art II-III

Technology:

Principles of Information Technology
Web Design
Computer Science

Foreign Language:

Spanish I, II, III, IV

GPA Scale:

A+ 4.5
A 4.0
B+ 3.5
B 3.0
C 2.0
F 0

SAT average 1194
ACT average 25.6

Portrait of an Academy Graduate

Sense of Self - Prepared to take on challenges and problems with enthusiasm and integrity; has a strong understanding of his/her place in the world and the ability to adapt to challenges and change.

Learner - An enterprising risk taker who voraciously innovates solutions; an open-minded, curious information-seeker, he/she understands self as a learner.

Collaborator - Leaves a positive footprint on peers and community; knowing when to lead and when to follow, he/she is a productive collaborator.

Connected - Engages in issues beyond his/her community with a sense of local, national, and global responsibility; has strong communication and networking skills.

AHS graduates complete one of two programs of studies: Technology or Engineering Foundations, which includes an opportunity to obtain the AutoCAD Certification.

*AP Extension Courses: Beginning 2023-2024 with no additional grade points awarded.

Plano ISD Academy High School Internship (30 Hours): A rich, authentic experience in a professional environment in which the learner has a demonstrated interest.

Senior Capstone Project: A culminating year-long scientific research and design project driven by academic interest. Learners generate an original research question or idea to solve problems or contribute to society. Their research is shared during a public presentation.

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