



WELCOME TO CAÑADA MIDDLE COLLEGE



A joint program
between the
Sequoia Union High
School District and
Cañada College,
established in 1999.

MC High School Staff

Jen Buchanan: English III, College & Career Readiness II

Halo Smart: US History, College & Career Readiness II

Alison Liberatorre: American Government/Economics, College & Career Readiness I

Jen Petroelje: English IV, College & Career Readiness

Chris Brandin: Staff Assistant



Bonnie Hansen

Principal and Assist. Superintendent of Ed. Services



Javier — independence, flexibility

“I’ve always been an involved student, but I was looking for a place where I could push myself academically and balance the work schedule I needed to have as a student living away from my parents. At middle college I’ve been able to work, participate in student government and push myself academically. I attribute my acceptance to Quest Bridge to the flexibility that Middle College allowed me.”



“Straight A Karpie” — grade turnaround

“When I arrived at Middle College I had mostly C’s and some B’s, but since I started Middle College I’ve earned almost all A’s. With the GPA bump I now have pretty snazzy GPA.”



Guiliana - More choices, support

"I wanted to leave my charter school because the class choices were so limited. Here I can take electives that interest me. I also wanted to get used to college expectations so I could feel more prepared when I go away to a four-year."



Batool— access to advanced classes, supported transition to college

“I came to this program because I wanted to get ahead, and Middle College is a great place for motivated students to do that. Students have the opportunity to earn college credits without having to take AP tests, and as long as you stay on top of everything it won’t be too difficult.”



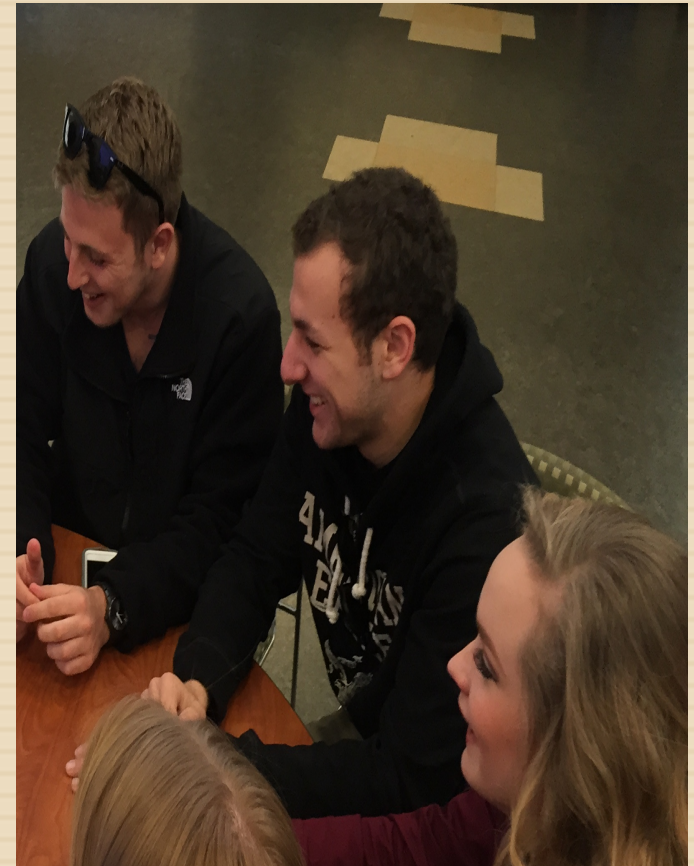
Kyle — Maturity, reduce cost of college

“Middle College works for me, I have been able to continue to play football at Woodside, while being in a more mature academic environment where I am taking college classes for free and reducing the overall cost of my college education.”



Middle College Culture

“Middle College students are more mature, collaborative and engaged than most of the students at my home school.” Jasper



Middle College Culture

“In Middle College classes, there is more of an emphasis on discussion, critical thinking and analysis—more students participating and less of the teacher talking at the class.” Nick



Middle College Graduates

Alaa now at UCB, Giovanna now at UCSC, Maria at UCLA, Jessica at UCSB

Advantages of Middle College



- ❑ Earn college credits while still in high school
- ❑ More mature learning environment
- ❑ Increased individual attention
- ❑ Supported transition from high school to college
- ❑ Substantial savings in time and money towards college

Typical School Day

- All students attend the three Middle College high school classes daily (12:30-3:10pm)

Juniors	Seniors
English III	English IV
US History	Econ/Government
College & Career Readiness I	College & Career Readiness II

- In addition, students take a minimum of **three** college courses in the morning and/or evening

Typical School Day

- For college classes:
 - ▣ MW/MWF will be different from TTh.
 - ▣ Electives can be selected from numerous college offerings
 - ▣ Some students may attend in the evening.

Possible School Day (MW)

- ▣ 9:45-11:00 Philosophy
- ▣ 11:10-12:25 Astronomy

- ▣ 12:30 - 1:20 College & Career Readiness
- ▣ 1:25 - 2:15 High School Social Studies
- ▣ 2:20 - 3:10 High School English

Possible School Day (TTh)

9:45 - 11:00

iOS Programming

12:30 - 1:20

College & Career Readiness

1:25 - 2:15

High School English

2:20 - 3:10

High School Social Studies

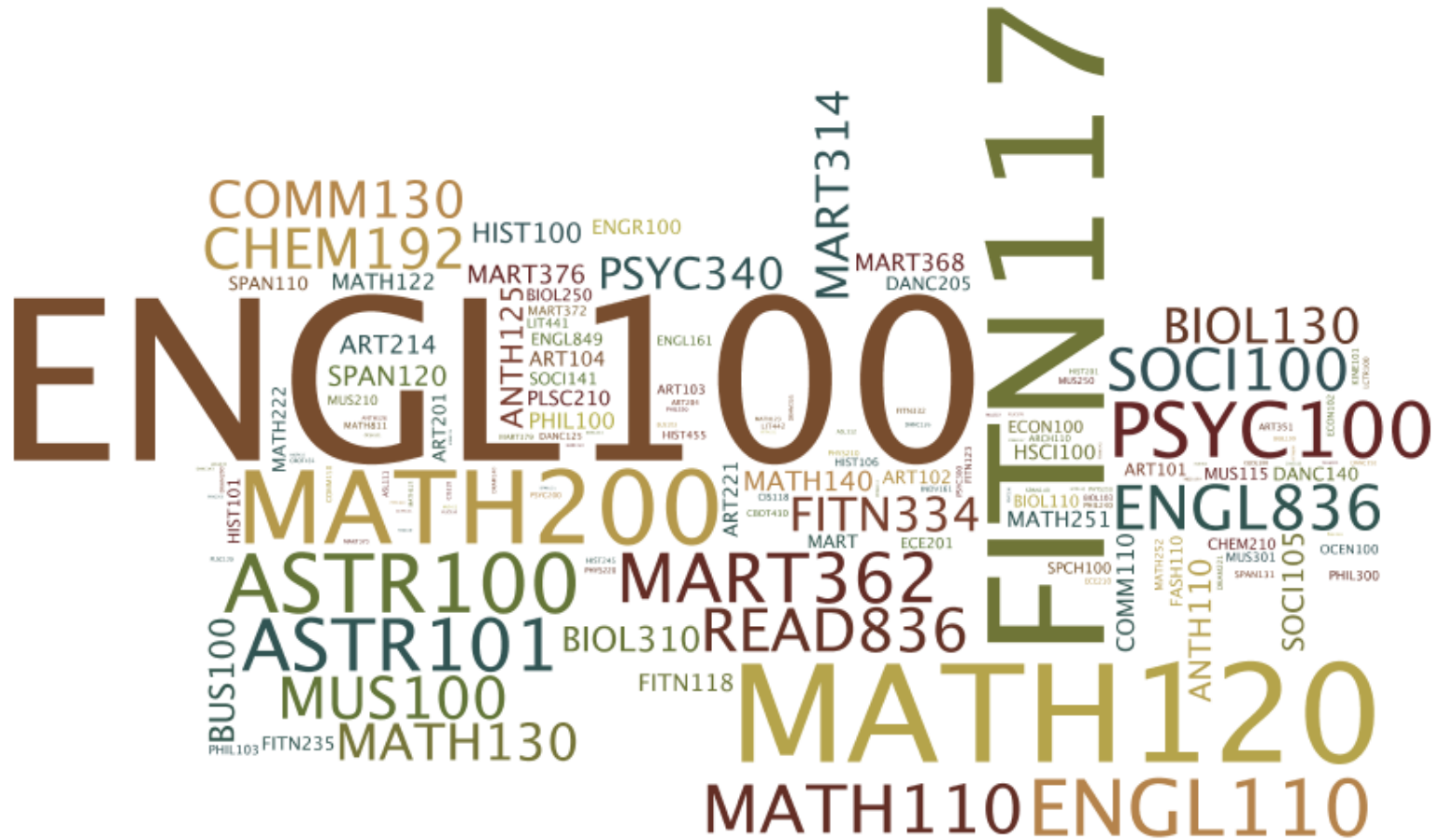
Th 7-10 pm

Astronomy Lab

College Access

- Each student has an **individually planned** schedule to meet SUHSD graduation requirements
 - ▣ College classes selected based on placement scores, interest level, and A-G requirements
 - ▣ Students have access to full Cañada College course catalog
 - ▣ Opportunity for students to take courses not offered at sites, including advanced math/science

Popular Courses



Courses Available to Students

Anthropology

Astronomy

Ballet

Communications

Engineering

Fashion Merchandising

Finite Math

Human Anatomy

Interior Design

iOS Programming

Latino Literature

Medical Terminology

Middle Eastern Literature

3D Modeling

Philosophy

Psychology

Sociology

Songwriting

Yoga



Per Year Estimated College Costs

2014-2015	Community College	CSU	UC	Private
Registration Fees & Tuition	\$802-\$1,084	\$6,920-\$7,484	\$13,070-14,832	\$30,144
Books & Supplies	\$1,746	\$1,746-\$1,826	\$1,746	\$1,500
Room & Board	\$3,550-\$11,556	\$12,410-13,350 on campus housing	\$11,619-14,990 on campus housing	\$9,330 on campus housing
Transportation	\$1,364	\$1,390	\$1,364	\$1,262
Personal Expenses	\$3,288	\$1,364-\$3,288	\$3,288	\$2,826
Total Expenses	\$10,750-\$19,038	\$23,830-\$25,732	\$31,087-36,220	\$45,062

Costs of Middle College

▣ College Tuition/Fees	\$ 0
▣ High School Books	\$ 0
▣ College Books	\$ 0-300
▣ Parking (optional)	\$50

- ▣ Students eligible for free or reduced lunch can still receive district-provided lunches at Middle College
- ▣ Students can continue to receive bus passes through their home school's treasurer's office

Guidance

- Middle College staff provides all high school/college advising under the supervision of guidance counselors at the home high school.
- Cañada College counselors are available to students for transfer planning.
- The College Career Center, Learning Center, Tutorial Center, Library, Transfer Center, Health Center, and Psychological Services are available to all students.

Attendance



- ❑ MC follows the same attendance requirements as SUHSD and Cañada College.
- ❑ Students may be dropped from college classes for excessive absences.
- ❑ College calendar & SUHSD calendar are different.

Expectations

- Students must obey all SUHSD and the Cañada College rules.
- Students sign a contract agreeing to minimum performance and behavioral standards.
- Middle College teachers are available every morning from 8-12:30 as a resource for parents and students.

Next Steps



- ❑ Complete the [Middle College Registration Form](#)
- ❑ Complete the [Cañada College Application](#)
- ❑ Take the [college assessment test](#)
- ❑ Send writing sample (*discuss a challenge you have faced in the last four years*), current high school transcript, and attendance report to Middle College
 - ❑ Fax to 650-306-3128
 - ❑ Email to brandinc@smccd.edu
- ❑ Schedule an intake interview with Middle College faculty
 - ❑ We will contact you to schedule the interview once all above components are complete

Frequently Asked Questions

Will I earn a high school diploma?

- Yes. You are still a student of the Sequoia Union High School District and your diploma will come from your home high school. All the SUHSD graduation requirements still apply; however, now you can take classes at Cañada College and earn both high school and college credit for the same class.

Middle College holds its own graduation celebration, however, students may choose to also participate in the cap and gown ceremony at their home high school.

Who is my new guidance counselor?

- All students meet regularly with the Middle College teachers to discuss their academic progress and educational plans. Students also meet with the college counselors at least once a year.

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I still attend prom?

- Yes. You will need to get a guest pass from your home high school and have one of the Middle College teachers sign it.
You may also go back to watch games or take part in extra-curricular activities, as long as they don't interfere with your Middle College schedule .

Can I still participate in sports?

- Yes. You still need to be enrolled in three college classes and the three Middle College classes, and you need to maintain a 2.0 GPA. Also, Middle College classes end at 3:10; you will not be allowed to leave early to get to practice, so you need to talk to your coach about when you can get to practice. You will be allowed to leave early on game days, provided you have talked to the Middle College teachers earlier in the day about what you will miss.

Can I play on Cañada's sport teams?

- No. Middle College students are not eligible to play on college teams; however, they can take part in other extra-curricular activities.

Frequently Asked Questions

What kind(s) of students attend Middle College?

- All different kinds of students attend Middle College. Some students need to get away from the social scene at high school and are looking for a more mature environment. Other students want to take more advanced classes than what is offered at the high school. Some of our students are looking for a greater challenge and many find they are ready to move forward with their education.

How much homework will I be doing?

- The homework load varies based on the type of classes a student takes. In general, there is far more reading required and fewer written assignments. Often a course will consist of two midterms and a final, with few if any, smaller homework assignments.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the difference between the AP program and Middle College?

- ▣ The AP program at the high schools is comprised of specially designed curriculum, crafted to aid students in passing the AP test in May. If students do well on the test, they may earn college credit for that subject. Students in Middle College take regular college classes each semester, enabling them to earn transferable college credit without being limited by the number or type of AP classes offered by the high school. For students who are interested in AP classes due to the increased rigor, credit opportunity and cost savings, Middle College is particularly practical since every class taken at Cañada offers the same incentives as an AP-level class at the high school—with the added bonus of a much wider selection of classes from which to choose.

Are the high school classes AP classes?

- ▣ No, the high school English and social studies classes are college-preparatory level classes, not AP or AS classes. However, the high school classes are more rigorous and tailored like college classes more than traditional high school classes. Many of the texts used are from the AP reading list. Students are expected to complete the required reading at home and be prepared to intelligently discuss it in class the next day.

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I take all my classes at Cañada?

- Yes. Both the college classes and the high school classes are taught at Cañada College. Students will not take any classes at their home high school. Student may also take classes at the College of San Mateo and Skyline College. Students must take at least three college classes, totaling a minimum of seven units each semester. With our guidance, students choose classes from the regular college schedule. Professors are not alerted as to which students are Middle College students until midway through the semester when progress reports are sent out.

What if I need to change my schedule?

- This is discouraged, but there is a two week add/drop period at the beginning of each semester, allowing students to change classes if needed.

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I call the professors to check on my child's grade?

- We prefer that students take responsibility for communicating with their professors to discuss their progress in class. The Middle College staff also sends out progress reports at least once a semester; these progress reports are then sent home to parents. Should you want more frequent updates, please allow the Middle College staff to contact the professor and relay the information to you.

What if I currently attend a private or charter school ?

- You will need to register at Carlmont, Menlo-Atherton, Sequoia, or Woodside. Please call the District Office for clarification: 369-1411.

What if I change my mind?

- Students may go back to their home high schools if fewer than 18 class periods have been missed at the home high school. Otherwise students must go back at the semester. Returning mid-semester is not advised.



Samantha

“There’s a lot more freedom here, but you have to take care of things on your own. You have to go about things in an adult way. This is not a place to slack-off—you have to be prepared. People are here because they want to be here.”



Holly

"I came to Middle College because I was really unmotivated in high school and needed a new environment where I could start over. Life Communications really helped me see that college was an option for me and I now know way more about the California college system than my parent and peers."

Student Profile

- Applied from Sequoia
- Entered with 2.67 GPA at end of sophomore year



“...the most significant benefits of the Middle College program is being able to save so much money while at the same time get ahead...”

“Middle College has motivated me... to educate myself and take school and my interests into my own hands”

Graduate Profile



“Being here has given me a space to breathe and to see that it gets better...”

- Applied from Woodside
 - Sought a more mature environment, in part to escape bullying
- Graduated with more than a year of college credit





Hector

“This experience is preparing me for the expectations at a 4-year college. You have to put in the work and the practice, but the professors help you—they encourage students to come to them with questions.”