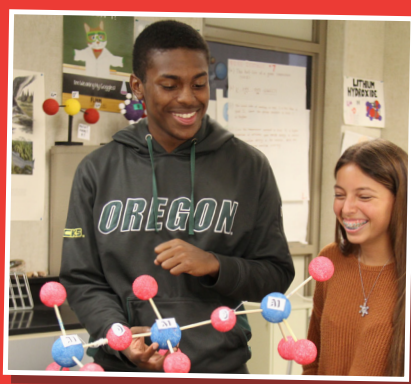


MT. PLEASANT HIGH SCHOOL



Achieving Excellence & Transforming Lives



MT. PLEASANT HIGH SCHOOL *50 Years of Excellence*

- We are an A-G college preparatory high school.
- An average of 72% of our students enroll in college (Class of 2011 – Class of 2015, National Student Clearinghouse).
- Our graduates attend highly ranked schools throughout the United States, such as Brown University, MIT, Harvard, UC Berkeley, Santa Clara University and St. Mary's University.
- We offer AP classes in Math, Science, World Languages, Social Studies, and Computer Science.
- All of our 10th grade students take the PSAT at no cost to their families.

- We offer two Career Pathways for our students: Animation and Engineering.
- Our Animation Program has a partnership with the Walt Disney Museum.
- Silicon Valley industry professionals mentor the students in our award-winning Multimedia program.
- We offer courses to serve the needs of all, including English Learners, Students with Disabilities, Advanced Placement students.
- Our school-wide PRIDE program instills Personal Responsibility, Respect, Integrity, Determination and Engagement through lessons that define the expected behaviors in and out of the classroom.

- Our Safe School Ambassadors Program, our anti-bullying program, empowers students to become advocates of a positive school culture by improving student-to-student interactions.
- We have an experienced and highly qualified teaching staff with an average of 14.6 years of experience in the classroom.
- Four of our teachers have participated in Yale University's National Fellows Program.
- We have an established partnership with the Goodwill 21st Century ASSETS Program, which provides free after school enrichment and tutoring programs for all students.

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Welcome to Mt. Pleasant High School



My name is Martha Guerrero, principal at Mt. Pleasant High School, and I am reaching out to you because this is the time of year when parents decide which high school their child will attend.

Before you make this decision, I would like to invite you to learn more about Mt. Pleasant High School and to visit our campus. As a parent of two children, I also had to choose which school my children would attend, so I understand how important this decision can be. The reason my husband and I chose Mt. Pleasant High School is because it is a place we believed our children would receive a quality education and where they would thrive.

While at Mt. Pleasant, my children took advantage of the classes we offered, participated in clubs and sports and had many opportunities to grow and contribute to our community. After graduating from MPHS, both pursued higher education. In addition, nine members of my immediate family graduated from Mt. Pleasant High School, and two others are currently enrolled.

For me, Mt. Pleasant is more than my place of employment for the last 30 years; it is also part of my extended family. I also know that I am not the only staff member who feels this way. Many of our former and present staff members have chosen to send their children to Mt. Pleasant High School.

We, too, had choices when it came time to decide where to send our children. We all chose Mt. Pleasant High School, and I hope you will as well.

Respectfully,
Martha Guerrero
Principal



Spartan East Side Promise

The Spartan East Side Promise provides a pathway to **guaranteed general admission** to San José State University (SJSU) by clearly specifying admission requirements and actively sharing this information with students and families at the East Side Union High School District (ESUHSD).

By identifying the specific criteria for guaranteed SJSU general admission as part of the Spartan East Side Promise, ESUHSD students will know what is expected early in their academic careers.

Student entering as a freshman in high school is guaranteed the same criteria when the student applies in their senior year.



GOALS

The goals of the Spartan East Side Promise are:

- To increase the number of ESUHSD students applying to and being admitted to college
- To contribute to a college-going culture within the ESUHSD based on a shared commitment to diversity and equity

Students graduating from an East Side Union high school will qualify for guaranteed general admission to SJSU if the following conditions are met:

- Graduate from East Side Union High School District
- Successfully complete all A-G college preparatory courses with grades of C- or better
- Apply to SJSU by November 30th
- Take the SAT or ACT test and submit those official test scores to SJSU
- Require no developmental coursework as determined by Math/English placement test scores
- Meet the Eligibility Index (EI) to the intended major (2900 or higher) or meet the minimum EI of 3300 (SAT) or 790 (ACT) to be guaranteed admission to Undeclared. All EIs are subject to verification of the final high school transcript
 - The Eligibility Index (EI) is a combination of the GPA from your A-G classes and your SAT or ACT score
 - See [csumentor.edu](https://www.csumentor.edu) for an EI calculator
- Meet all SJSU application procedures and deadlines

Contact: outreach@sjsu.edu or 408-924-2564

Academies & Advanced Placement Courses

ACADEMIES

Engineering

This academy is a four-year interdisciplinary pathway for students interested in Civil Engineering and Architecture. The interdisciplinary approach to learning allows students to take a sequence of courses offered through Project Lead the Way. Students will also receive support and enrichment in their core classes such as math and English.

The four-year sequence of the Engineering Academy core classes is as follows:

9th grade: Engineering and Design (IED)

10th grade: Principles of Engineering (POE)

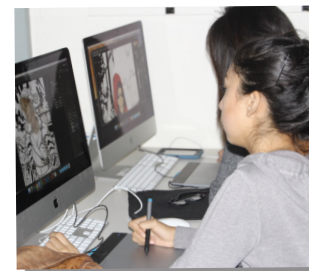
11th grade: Civil Engineering and Architecture (CEA)

12th grade: Engineering Design and Development (EDD)

Engineering Academy students have the opportunity to earn industry certifications and paid internships. Engineering students also participate in field trips to local companies, have access to mentors, and learn from various guest speakers.

Animation

Our Animation Program, in partnership with the Walt Disney Family Museum, provides our students opportunities to present their work to art and animation industry professionals. Our students learn and work with these professionals on specific projects to further develop their skill set and knowledge of techniques in the animation industry.



AP COURSES – Earning College Credit through AP Exams

Advanced Placement (AP) is a program administered by The College Board and consists of standardized high school courses that are equivalent to undergraduate college courses. After completing an AP class, students typically take the AP exam in that subject, which can earn them credits and accelerated placement in college.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) COURSES

- Computer Science Principles
- Calculus AB & BC
- Chemistry
- English Language Composition
- Physics 1
- English Language Literature
- Spanish Language
- Spanish Literature
- Statistics

Meet Our Graduates



"I was able to make the best out of my time at Mt. Pleasant: I took AP classes, was a part of student organizations and participated in sports. All of these endeavors really defined my high school journey. That being said, I wasn't alone in my journey because I had the support of family, friends, teachers and staff at Mt. Pleasant. Thanks to all of their support and help, I became the first one in my family to attend a university, and my dream one at that, UC Berkeley."

Andrew Garcia Chavez
MPHS Class of 2016
Attending UC Berkeley



"High school was one for the books. I was involved in many extracurricular activities that helped me step out of my comfort zone and meet new people. Being involved in the Portuguese Club, CVC Club, swim and water polo team made my high school years memorable.

I also found myself making long-lasting relationships with my teachers as they helped me tackle my AP courses. During my senior year, I found the counselors and staff to be very helpful in providing me with necessary information for college applications and scholarships."

Katelynn Ly
MPHS Class of 2016
Attending UC Irvine

"It is very competitive now...and Mt. Pleasant gave us a fighting chance to make it to the next step of our education, and in turn, make it in life."

Hector Gonzalez
MPHS Class of 2014
UC Berkeley

"Mt. Pleasant gave me a platform to express myself, whether it was through student government, athletics, cultural events or simply academics. There was always a place to develop myself not only as a student but as a person. Teachers and staff became my mentors and friends became my family."

Melissa Pasao
MPHS Class of 2016
UC Los Angeles

"Mt. Pleasant has become my second home. It has provided me with a place to thrive and achieve my goals throughout my high school career. It has given me many opportunities to succeed and I'm proud to be a cardinal. Ka-kahh."

Joanne Nguyen
MPHS Class of 2017
ASB President

High School Graduation Requirements

Pass 220 credits in the areas shown below:

Subject	Requirement	Credits
English	Students must pass: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4 years of English	40
Social Science	Students must pass: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 year of World History• 1 year of United States History• 1 semester of Economics• 1 semester of American Government	30
Mathematics	Students must pass: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CCSS Math 1• CCSS Math 2 (or higher level courses)	20
Science	Students must pass: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 year of physical and 1 year of biological college prep lab science	20
Fine Arts or Foreign Language	Students must pass: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1-year course in Fine Arts or Foreign Language	10
Physical Education	Students must pass: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 years of Physical Education (1 year must be taken in grade 9)	20
Electives	Students must pass elective courses chosen in the following areas: Art, Business, Home Economics Careers and Technology, English, Foreign Language, Math, Music, Industrial Technology Education, P.E., Reading, Science, Social Science, Safety Education, and Work Experience/SVCTE/ROP.	80
Total Credits Required for Graduation		220

AT EACH GRADE LEVEL:

Parents and students should:

- Check **class selections**
- Review semester **report card** and if your student has failed any courses, explore summer school options (contact school counselor)
- Review credit status** to ensure the student is on track and taking the necessary courses for graduation
- Learn about **free tutoring** or help that's available if your child is struggling in any subject area
- Learn about **options to recuperate credit** through **Cyber High, Summer School and Community College Classes**.

Four-Year Course Planner

Required classes to Satisfy A-G Requirements for UC, CSU or Private College Entrance. 4 year = Baccalaureate Degree (BA or BS)

9th Grade

What You Can Do To Become College Ready:

- B** English 1/1A
- C** CCSS Math 1
- D** Biology
- E** World Language 1
- F/G** Art or Elective
Physical Education

- Create a four-year plan to meet A-G requirements for college
- Pass all classes with a C or better
- Students should have 60 credits at the end of 9th grade

10th Grade

What You Can Do To Become College Ready:

- A** World History
- B** English 2/2A
- C** CCSS Math 2
- D** Chemistry
- E** World Language 2
Physical Education

- Attend District-wide College Night
- **For UC/CSU College Testing Recommendation:** PSAT in October of the 10th and 11th grade. The PSAT is excellent practice for the SAT
- Students should have 120 credits at the end of 10th grade

AT EACH GRADE LEVEL:

- Meet with your high school counselor to ensure that you are on track to meet A-G requirements.
- Counselors will walk students through a four-year plan to realize their college and career potential
- Students can get ahead by taking Mathematics and Science courses as electives

11th Grade

What You Can Do To Become College Ready:

- A** US History
- B** English 3
- C** CCSS Math 3
- D** Physics
- E** World Language 3
- F/G** Art or Elective

- **For UC/CSU College Testing Recommendation:** PSAT in the Fall and SAT or ACT in the Spring
- SAT Subject Tests usually taken at the end of the year the subject area course is completed
- Attend District-wide College Night
- Students should write the first draft of her or his essay that will be used for applications and scholarships
- Students should have 180 credits at the end of 11th grade

12th Grade

What You Can Do To Become College Ready:

- A/G** Government/Econ
- B** English 4
- C** Math Analysis
- D** Science
- E/F/G** Language
- F/G** Art or Elective

- **For UC College Testing Recommendation:** SAT or ACT Assessment plus Writing retest in the Fall to improve your score
- **For CSU College Testing Recommendation:** SAT or ACT Assessment re-test in the Fall to improve your score
- Apply to colleges and universities
- Apply for FAFSA in October
- Apply for scholarships
- Students earn a minimum of 220 credits completed at the end of 12th grade

A-G Subject Requirements

WHAT IS A-G?

The Subject Requirement, more commonly referred to as the “A-G” subject requirements, is 1 of 3 requirements needed to enter the University of California (UC) and Cal State University (CSU) as a freshman. Students must complete a pattern of 15 college-preparatory courses.

The chart below shows how the ESUHSD Graduation Requirements align with the A–G requirements.

	ESUHSD Requirements <i>must be passed with a D or higher</i>	A–G Requirements <i>must be passed with a C or higher</i>
A Social Science	30 Credits	20 Credits
B English	40 Credits	40 Credits
C Mathematics	20 Credits	30 Credits (40 recommended)
D Lab Sciences	20 Credits	20 Credits (30 recommended)
E World Languages	10 Credits of either World Language or Visual/Performing arts	20 Credits (30 recommended)
F Visual and Performing Arts		10 Credits
G Electives	80 Credits	10 Credits
Physical Education	20 Credits	

There are **variations between UC and CSU A-G Requirements**. Students should consult with their counselor about the specific colleges they wish to attend.

A student's grade point average (GPA) and test scores will also be considered. In order to be competitive, students should plan to take **higher levels of courses** that exceed the A-G requirements. Students should consult their counselor for guidance.

Students can **get ahead** by taking Advanced Placement courses in Mathematics and Science courses as Electives.

Roadmap for Success

STEP 1

Know What "A-G"
Courses Are
Required

STEP 3

Take The Practice
SAT (PSAT) In
10th Grade

STEP 5

Take The SAT and
ACT Exams
2nd Semester of
11th grade and before
Oct. of 12th grade
year

STEP 7

Paying For College
FAFSA (October)
Check for scholarships
and college
financial aid

STEP 2

Know When To
Take Your A-G
Classes

STEP 4

Take The Early Assessment
Program (EAP) Exam In 11th Grade
Take this exam as part of the Grade
11 California Standards Test.
It can take the place of CSU
placement tests and
certify you as
"college ready"

STEP 6

Apply To College
4-Year and 2-Year
Colleges and
Universities

Meet Our Dedicated Teachers



MEET MS. HAMAK

AP CHEMISTRY AND BIOLOGY, ENGINEERING

Ms. Hamak grew up in the Bay Area and has been working at Mt. Pleasant for 7 years. She engages students with numerous labs, demonstrations, and hands-on activities based on trainings through Chem Ex2 (Stanford University) and Elevate to Science (Silicon Valley Education Foundation). She recently won a scholarship to attend AP training in anticipation of additional AP science offerings at Mt. Pleasant.



MEET MS. VITUG

YALE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FELLOW

An alumna of Mt. Pleasant, Ms. Vitug has dedicated her 15 years of science teaching to the East Side community. For the past 5 years as the city representative for the Yale National Initiative (YNI), Ms. Vitug is leading a city-wide effort to bring the Teachers Institute Approach to Professional Development to San Jose. YNI teacher fellows craft rigorous research-based curricula designed for their student population, helping to bridge the gap between K-12 education and university. Ms. Vitug has also been honored as a Mt. Pleasant teacher-of-the-year and has served as MESA (Mathematics Engineering and Science Achievement) advisor for 13 years.



MEET MR. CAVADA

YALE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FELLOW

Mr. Cavada has been working at Mt. Pleasant for 18 years. In 2016, four of his students in the Multi-media pathway won Best Biography in the Real to Reel Global Youth Festival, an international film festival that took place in Hollywood, CA, the capital of the film industry. He continues to work endlessly in the classroom to support students in local, national, and international competitions. He also teaches design & instruction at Foothill Community College.

Types of Colleges & Universities

University of California (UC)	9 UC Schools UC Berkeley, UC Los Angeles, UC Santa Barbara, UC San Diego, UC Davis, UC Irvine, UC Santa Cruz, UC Riverside, UC Merced
Private University	Example of Private Universities Carnegie Mellon University, Columbia University, Cornell University, Duke University, Harvard University, Howard University, Johns Hopkins University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), New York University, Princeton University, Santa Clara University, Stanford University, University of Chicago, University of Miami, University of Notre Dame, University of Pennsylvania, University of San Francisco, University of Southern California (USC), Yale University
Cal State University (CSU)	23 CSU Schools CSU Bakersfield, CSU Channel Islands, CSU Chico, CSU Dominguez Hills, CSU East Bay, CSU Fresno, CSU Fullerton, Humboldt State University, CSU Long Beach, CSU Los Angeles, CSU Maritime Academy, CSU Monterey Bay, CSU Northridge, California State Polytechnic University Pomona, CSU Sacramento, CSU San Bernardino, San Diego State University, San Francisco State University, San Jose State University, California Polytechnic State University San Luis Obispo, CSU San Marcos, Sonoma State University, CSU Stanislaus
2-Year Community Colleges	There are 113 Community Colleges in California. Here are a few examples: Evergreen Valley College, De Anza College, Foothill College, Gavilan College, Mission College, San Jose City College, West Valley College



Athletics, Extracurricular Activities & Clubs

SPORTS

Baseball, Basketball, Badminton, Cross-Country, Football, Golf, Soccer, Softball, Track & Field, Wrestling, Tennis, Swimming and Water Polo, Volleyball



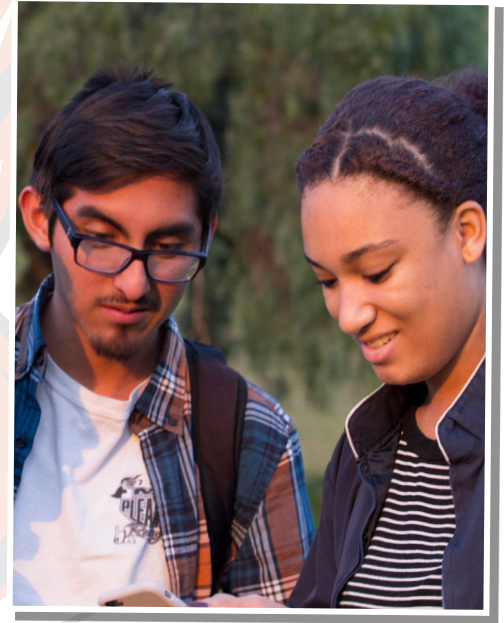
OVER 30 CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Animation, Associated Student Body (ASB), Band, JROTC, Literary Society, MESA, Engineering, Science, Adobe Youth Voices, Chinese/Vietnamese Club, Cheerleading, African-American Student Union, Latino Student Union, Drama, Gay-Straight Alliance, Photography, Portuguese Club, Journalism, Ballet Folklorico, Kasama Club, East Indian Student Union, Gaming, Robotics, & more

School Culture & Community

We cherish our role in the community and endeavor to continue to be a source for artistic and cultural expression and community involvement. We offer events that welcome our students' families and friends.

- Parent & Student Field Trips to Colleges and Universities
- Parent Workshops (Bilingual)
- Parent Empowerment Conference
- District-wide College Night
- Foothill Family Community Clinic
- Literary Society Authors Series
- Rallies
- Prom
- Food Festivals
- Nuestra Noche
- Band & Choir Concerts
- Theater Performances
- Dances
- Fantastics
- Chinese Vietnamese Production
- Multi-Cultural Day
- Cardinal Holiday
- Poetry Slam
- Goodwill Assets After School Classes
- Student Volunteers
- Coffees with the Principal
- Open House



Glossary

Advanced Placement (AP): Program administered by the College Board, consists of standardized high school courses that are equivalent to undergraduate college courses. AP Exams can earn students college credit and accelerated placement in college.

American College Testing (ACT): 3 ½ hour national college admissions exam that tests students knowledge in English, Math, Reading and Science.

CAASPP: California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress

CSU: Cal State University

College Entrance Exams: Standardized, national tests that students will need to take to be considered for college (SAT, ACT).

District College Night: Many colleges and universities attend this event and provide materials and answer any questions. It takes place at Independence High School in September. Students and parents/guardians are welcome to attend at any grade level.

Early Assessment Program (EAP): Take this exam as part of the Grade 11 California Standards Test. It can take the place of CSU placement tests and certify you as “college ready”.

EI: Eligibility Index

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA): Single most important application for need-based financial assistance. It is a federal form that looks at your need and determines a student’s eligibility for federal, state, and college sponsored financial aid, including grants, educational loans, and work study programs.

GPA: Grade Point Average

Grants and Scholarships: Represent financial support awarded based on merit or merit plus need. They do not need to be repaid.

Guidance Plan: Counselors meet with all students at each grade level to discuss personal and academic exploration, refinement of career and college goals, and post high school planning.

Internships: Student internships available through our alliances with Strive San Jose, Genesys Works Bay Area, and local industries.

Magnet & Career Technical Programs: Rigorous programs that focus on a special study and academic pathway.

Naviance: Online guidance resource for developing a 4 year high school plan. It also assesses and supports college and career readiness.

PSAT: Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (Practice Test)

SAT: Most colleges require that students take the SAT or the ACT as a college entrance requirement.

STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

UC: University of California



Resources

SCHOOL-SPECIFIC RESOURCES

AVID = Advancement Via Individual Determination, a 4-year program focused on improving A-G course completion in order to qualify for 4-year universities

MESA = Math, Engineering and Science Academy, focused on preparing students to major in Math and Science fields

PCIS = Parent & Community Involvement Specialist: Irma Jaramillo, jaramilloi@esuhsd.org, (408) 937-2800

USEFUL WEBSITES

ACT = actstudent.org

AP = apstudent.collegeboard.org

Black College Dollars = blackcollegedollars.org

California Colleges (college/career planning) = californiacolleges.edu

Cal-SOAP = sanjosecalsoap.com/

College Board = collegeboard.org

College Toolkit = collegetoolkit.com

Community College = home.ccaply.org

CSU = csumentor.edu

Dream Act = dream_csac.ca.gov/

EAP/CSU = calstate.edu/eap

Fast Web (Scholarship Site) = fastweb.com

Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) = fafsa.ed.gov
studentaid.ed.gov/sa/prepare-for-college/checklists/12th-grade

Financial Aid = finaid.org

First in the Family = firstinthefamily.org

For Undocumented Students = finaid.org/otheraid/undocumented.phtml and www.getready.org

Gates Millenium Scholars Fund = gmsp.org

Go For It Scholarships = esuhsd.org/Students--Parents/Resources/Students-Resources/Go-For-It-Scholarship/index.html

Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities = hacu.net

Historical Black Colleges & Universities (HSBC) = hbcuconnect.com

Hispanic Heritage Scholarship List = hispanicheritage.org/youth.php

Hispanic Scholarship Fund = latinocollegedollars.org/directory.htm

NAACP Scholarship Opportunities = naacp.org/page/s/scholarship2

SAT = collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat/reg.html

Scholarships.com = scholarships.com

UC = universityofcalifornia.edu

United Negro College Fund = uncf.org
Scholarship List by Categories =

scholarships.fatomei.com/minorities.html

200 Free Scholarships for Minorities = blackexcel.org/200-Scholarships.html

Good Studying Habits & Additional Tips



SUPPORT GOOD STUDYING HABITS

- Set a regular time for study each day.
- Designate a quiet, well-lit area as your child's studying zone.
- Limit distractions: No cell phone, video games, internet surfing or television.
- Encourage your child to use the local public library. It's a quiet place to study and a great place for school research projects.
- Ensure your child gets a good night's sleep and eats a healthy breakfast.

CREATE A SUMMER READING LIST

- Teachers, librarians and counselors may be able to provide reading recommendations.

ADDITIONAL TIPS

- Discuss your child's college goals with counselors and teachers.
- Fill out school lunch forms; this might help you obtain fee waivers for SAT and ACT.
- Meet with teachers and counselors every year.
- Help your student start a college information folder.
- Visit colleges and make sure that you understand the admissions criteria and application process. Some colleges have virtual tours online.
- Have your child sign up for a free account at www.collegeboard.org.
- Make sure your child creates an appropriate email address that he or she can use for communication to colleges, possible summer jobs and internships.
- Remind your child that entries on Facebook and other social networking sites may be accessible to college admissions officers.
- Join the School Site Council or ELAC (English Language Advisory Committee) and attend meetings.
- Attend high school Open Houses, Coffee with the Principal and information sessions.
- Attend workshops throughout the year for college applications, financial aid, parenting, etc.

Graduate Profile

East Side graduates are prepared for college and career, powered with a plan and ready to thrive in a global society.



COMMUNICATORS

Present and consider ideas using a variety of communication methods and technology appropriate to the audience and task.



CRITICAL THINKERS – PROBLEM SOLVERS

Develop and propose solutions to current and future challenges through a process of inquiry, analysis and inference.



COLLABORATORS

Work effectively with others to build knowledge and create solutions & products.



CREATORS

Formulate new ideas, individual responses and develop plans of action when faced with a task or problem.



COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Identify issues, seek out information, and gather perspectives to respond to challenges affecting our community.



POWERED WITH A PLAN

Students graduate with a plan to take the next step toward success in their path of study and career.

Mt. Pleasant students graduate each year ready to drive Silicon Valley



Our Vision

Every student graduates prepared for college and career empowered to transform their lives and thrive in a global society.

Our Mission

The mission of Mt. Pleasant High School is to make a difference in the lives of our students by providing an academically challenging, supportive, and safe environment, and to prepare our students for college and career.



MT. PLEASANT HIGH SCHOOL

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(408) 937-2800

mtplesant.esuhd.org

Principal: Martha Guerrero

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