



2009-2010 Profile

Our Mission is to Improve Learning



THE SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

Maine Township High School South serves most of Park Ridge and portions of Harwood Heights, Niles, Norridge, and Norwood Park Township. Primarily residential, the attendance area of the school also includes some light industry, office developments, and shopping areas. Comprised mostly of single family homes, neighborhoods range from modest to affluent and also include a mix of apartments, townhomes, and condominiums. Maine South High School lies thirty minutes northwest of downtown Chicago.

Primarily homogeneous, Maine South also includes a small language minority population. In 2008-2009, 10% of students spoke one of 33 languages other than English at home.

Student enrollment for the 2008-2009 school year was 2,581. The student-teacher ratio was 18 to 1. The average class size was 20.

The citizens of Maine South's communities demand a comprehensive, innovative, and rigorous educational program for their youth. Curriculum offerings at Maine South are extensive, with over 200 courses offered in 13 departments including the fine arts, and applied arts and technology. Educational horizons are broadened via South's distance learning and video conferencing capabilities, allowing student learning to expand into the larger community.

A rich curricula and outstanding programs provide students with multiple learning opportunities. Parental and community support further guarantee an outstanding secondary education (parental involvement was 96.5 percent for the 2008-2009 school year), and the entire community benefits from South's outstanding cultural and athletic events and from students' active participation in community service.

THE FACULTY

A talented and dedicated certified staff of about 200 provides the motivation for student achievement. Approximately 80 percent of South's teachers have an MA degree or beyond.

ACCREDITATION

Maine Township High School South is accredited by the North Central Association and fully recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Advanced Placement courses are offered in American History and European History, American Government and Comparative Government, English Language, English Literature, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Environmental Science, Calculus, Spanish, Computer Science, Economics, Music Theory, Studio Art, and Statistics.

In the spring of 2009, **431 students took 956 exams: 270 exams received a 5, the highest ranking; 88 percent** of South's examinations were **graded 3 or higher**.

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

In 2009, **95.6 percent of the graduates continued their education** (77.3% to 4-year colleges, and 18.3% to 2-year colleges).

STUDENT PERSONNEL SERVICES STAFF

Maryanne Kelly Director
Mary Angioletti, Julie Hamrin Social Workers
Stephanie Maksymiu Career Counselor
Steve Mihalopoulos, Brian Dreger Psychologists
Counselors: Krista Clarke, Trisha Conlon, Susan Maurer, Dennis McCann, William Milano, Terry Rausch, Victoria Smith, Timothy Spiegel, Diane Spillman, and Robert Tortorelli.

ABILITY LEVEL GROUPING

Maine South has four ability level programs which are organized in academic subjects by each year: the Advanced Placement Program, Accelerated Program, Regular Program, and Transitional Program. Students are selected for these programs based on previous academic achievement. Students may take courses at various levels in different subjects.

GRADING SYSTEM AND RANK IN CLASS

Grade point average (GPA) is reported in two different ways: weighted and non-weighted. The non-weighted GPA gives equal grade points to every course regardless of difficulty. A class rank based on the non-weighted GPA will be calculated; however, the **weighted system will be used for designating official class rank**, selection of Maine Scholars (students in the top one percent of their class), and Honor Roll designees. Driver Education does not count in the GPA and class ranking. Physical Education counts in the non-weighted GPA, but not in the weighted GPA. In a Pass/Fail course, a passing grade does not affect a student's GPA; however, a failing grade will be figured into the student's total GPA as a zero.

ACT RESULTS FOR THE CLASS OF 2009

In the Class of 2009, 590 students took the ACT test earning a mean comp. score of 24.4. The chart below shows South's sub-test scores, comp. scores by class rank, and compares school scores with state and national scores.

ACT DATA — 590 STUDENTS			
Score Comparisons		Maine South's Average Sub-Test Scores	
Maine South	24.4 (Composite)	English	24.6
		Math	24.8
Illinois	20.8 (Composite)	Reading	23.9
Nation	21.1 (Composite)	Science	23.9
The core composite reflects the mean score for test takers enrolled in Maine South's college preparatory curriculum.			

PSAT RESULTS FOR THE CLASS OF 2009

In the 2009 National Merit Program, 5 students were named National Merit Scholar Finalists, 5 students were named Semifinalists, and 16 students were named Commended Students based upon superior achievement

PATTERN OF SCHOOL YEAR/LENGTH OF DAY

The 185-day school year is divided into two semesters. **Nine 45-minute periods make up the school day, allowing students to complete a wide variety of required and elective courses. Laboratory classes are 70 minutes in length.**

GRADING SYSTEM

The weighted GPA calculation recognizes more difficult courses by assigning different grade point values as shown below. The non-weighted GPA is calculated on a 4-point scale.

	Accelerated & Advanced Placement	Regular & Transitional
A	5	4
B	4	3
C	3	2
D	1	1
F	0	0

2009-2010 Maine South Transcript Evaluation Guide

Explanation of Abbreviations and Symbols

- ACC Accelerated
- AP Advanced Placement
- CCO Child Care Occupations
- CWT Cooperative Work Training
- IN Incomplete: The grade must be earned during the first six weeks of the next quarter.
- NG Carries no credit and used under special circumstances such as an audit which has been approved in advance.
- PA Pass in Pass/Fail course
- RLTD Classroom work for job training
- SS Summer School
- TRNG On-the-job training
- X Conditional: Passing work must be done during the next 10 weeks.

DETAILED GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Beginning with the class of 2008, a **minimum of 23.25 academic units of credit** are required for graduation. Coursework must include the following: English, four units; mathematics, three units; social sciences, three units; science, three units; two units of credit from any of the following—fine arts, applied arts and technology, or foreign language; one-quarter credit each of oral communications and consumer education; one-half unit of health; elective credit, five units; physical education each semester except when enrolled in health; driver education; and examinations on the Declaration of Independence, the Flag of the United States, the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Illinois.

GRADE SCALE

- A = 90 - 100
- B = 80 - 89
- C = 70 - 79
- D = 60 - 69
- F = Below 60
- NG = No Grade
- PA = Pass
- EX = Excused
- I = Incomplete
- UN = Unsatisfactory

English

- English I
- English II
- English III
- English III AP
- American Studies
- English IV AP

Electives

- Eyrie (Yearbook)
- Southwords (School Newspaper)

Senior Courses

- Literature of Chicago
- Contemporary Authors
- Advanced Composition
- British Literatures
- World Literature
- Senior Composition
- Creative Writing
- Journalism
- Literature and Film Study
- Literature Seminar

Mathematics

- Intro. to Alg. Slower approach to Algebra. Equal to the first semester of Algebra 1
- Algebra 1 First course in Algebra
- Algebra 2 Fresh. Enriched Algebra for above average students
- Acc. Alg 2 Extended course for superior students
- Soph. Algebra Second course in 2-year Algebra sequence
- Plane Geometry Two-dimensional Geometry
- Geometry Plane and solid Geometry
- Acc. Geom. & Trig. Continuing program for superior sophomores
- Algebra 2 Junior year continued program for average students
- Adv. Alg. & Trig. Junior year continued program for above average students
- Pre-Calculus Designed for above average students
- Acc. Math Designed for superior students
- Analysis
- Transition to College Math Functions and Intro. to Trigonometry
- Trigonometry Plane Trigonometry for seniors
- Probability & Statistics Application of Statistical Techniques Jr./Sr.
- Intro To Calculus Prepares students for advanced mathematics
- Calculus AP AB and BC Calculus offered
- Multivariable Calculus Equivalent to third semester of college calculus
- Differential Equations Equivalent to fourth semester of college calculus
- Computer Science 2
- AP Computer Science
- AP Statistics

