



Maine Township High School West

Dr. Audrey Haugan, Principal

2009-2010 Profile

Our Mission is to Improve Learning



THE SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

Maine Township High School West serves most of Des Plaines and a portion of Rosemont. Primarily residential, the attendance area of the school also includes some light industry, office developments, and shopping areas. Neighborhoods range from modest to affluent and include a mix of apartments, townhomes, and condominiums as well as single family homes. Maine West High School lies about forty minutes northwest of downtown Chicago.

With an increasing Hispanic population—almost 32 percent, Maine West also has an Asian population of just over 10 percent. Maine West educates students who speak 35 languages; 45 percent come from homes where English is not the primary language.

Enrollment at West for the 2008-2009 school year was 2,280. The student-teacher ratio was 18 to 1. The average class size was 19.

The citizens of Maine West's communities demand a comprehensive, innovative, and rigorous educational program for their youth. Curriculum offerings at Maine West are extensive, with over 200 courses offered in 13 departments including the fine arts, and applied arts and technology. Educational horizons are broadened via West'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, and the entire community benefits from West's outstanding cultural and athletic events, and from students' active participation in community service.

THE FACULTY

A talented and dedicated certified staff of about 210 provides the motivation for student achievement. About 75 percent of West's teachers have an MA degree or beyond.

ACCREDITATION

Maine Township High School West 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, European History, American Government, Comparative Government, English, English Literature, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Environmental Science, Calculus, Statistics, French, Spanish, German, Computer Science, Music Theory, and Studio Art.

In the spring of 2009, **228 students took 461 exams: 87 exams received a 5, the highest ranking; 82.5 percent** of West's examinations were **graded 3 or higher**.

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

In 2009, 460 of 509, or **91 percent of the graduates continued their education**. Among Maine West graduates now in college, 98 percent are enrolled in Midwestern colleges and universities.

STUDENT PERSONNEL SERVICES STAFF

David E. Smail Director
Gilit Abraham Career Counselor
Taylor Monroe, Dan Paustian, Sara Wadhwa Social Workers
Lynn Groeling Psychologist
Eileen Khasho Nurse

Counselors: Carla Badar, Rosanna Giricz, Eliades Hernandez, Elizabeth Hoover, Rick Lombardi, Gia Maniscalco, Brian Nagorzanski, Alonso Ramirez, Claudia Rueda-Alvarez.

ABILITY LEVEL GROUPING

Maine West has four ability level programs which are organized in academic subjects by each year: the Advanced Placement Program, Accelerated Program, Regular Program, and Academy and Special Education 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

Students have *the option* of reporting their grade point average (GPA)—on their transcript only—in two different ways: weighted only, or both 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 grade point average 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, 435 students took the ACT test earning a composite score of 21.6. The chart below shows West's sub-test scores, composite scores by class rank, and compares school scores with state and national scores.

ACT DATA — 435 STUDENTS

Score Comparisons		Maine West's Average Sub-Test Scores	
Maine West	21.6 (Composite)	English	21.3
		Math	21.7
Illinois	20.8 (Composite)	Reading	21.1
Nation	21.1 (Composite)	Science	21.9

The core composite reflects the mean score for test takers enrolled in Maine West's college preparatory curriculum.

PSAT RESULTS FOR THE CLASS OF 2009

In the 2009 National Merit Program, one student was commended based on their PSAT/NMSQT score.

PATTERN OF SCHOOL YEAR/LENGTH OF DAY

Two semesters form the 185-day school year. The school day is divided into nine periods. Laboratory classes are a period and a half 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	ALTERNATIVE
A	5	4	3
B	4	3	2
C	3	2	1
D	1	1	.5
F	0	0	0

2009-2010 Maine West Transcript Evaluation Guide

Explanation of Abbreviations and Symbols

ACC	Accelerated
AP	Advanced Placement
CCO	Child Care Occupations
CLID	Clothing Interior Design Occupations
CWT	Cooperative Work Training
DE	Distributive Education
DO	Diversified Occupations
FO	Food Occupations
HEO	Home Economics Occupations
IN	Incomplete: The grade must be earned during the first six weeks of the next quarter.
L	Remedial*
NG	Carries no credit and used under special circumstances such as an audit which has been approved in advance.
OO	Office Occupations
PA	Pass in Pass/Fail course
RLTD	Classroom work for job training
SS	Summer School
TRNG	On-the-job training
UN	Unsatisfactory in Pass/Fail course
X	Conditional: Passing work must be done during the next 10 weeks.

* Remedial courses are indicated in one of the following ways: Course numbers ending in a '3'; an 'L' or an asterisk '*' following the title.

DETAILED GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

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.

Mathematics*

Fund of Math	Basic skills of arithmetic
Intro. to Alg.	Slower approach to Algebra. Equal to the first semester of Algebra 1
Math 1	Algebra for average students
Adv. Math 1	Enriched Algebra for above average students
Acc. Math 1	Extended course of Algebra for superior students
Applic. of Math	Arithmetic applied to everyday life and consumer problems
Soph. Algebra	Slower approach to Algebra. Equal to the second semester of Algebra 1
Math 2	Plane Geometry
Adv. Math 2	Integrated course of Plane and Solid Geometry
Acc. Math 2	Integrated course of Plane and Solid Geometry for superior students
Math 3	Algebra 2
Adv. Math 3	Algebra 2 and Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus for superior students
Acc. Math 3	Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry
Math 4a	Trigonometry
Math 4b	College Algebra
Adv. Math 4a	Elementary functions
Adv. Math 4b	Anal. Geometry and Pre-Calculus
Acc. Math 4	Calculus A.P.

*The last school year these course titles were used was 1984-85.

