

CHAPARRAL STAR ACADEMY

HIGH SCHOOL PROFILE

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SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Marsha Hagin, *Principal*
Kris Barnett, *Assistant Principal/Counselor*

THE SCHOOL

Chaparral Star Academy (dba Star Charter School) is a State of Texas fully accredited open-enrollment charter school in Austin, Texas that services grades K – 12th. For 2017-18, 124 students are enrolled in the high school. Chaparral Star Academy opened its doors in 1998 to 6 students, leading to its first graduating class in 2001 consisting of 5 students. This year, 28 students will be receiving diplomas, with around 70% having attended the school for at least 4 years. There are no geographical boundaries, but students travel from various neighboring communities, such as Georgetown, Hutto, Pflugerville, Austin and Round Rock. For 2017-18, the high school student body consists of 75% White, 20% Hispanic/Latino, 6% African-American, 21% Asian and 2% American Indian.

THE MISSION

Our mission, in partnership with students' families, is to create a welcoming atmosphere and stimulate a love for learning in order to produce nationally recognized student academic performance in grade level mastery and to prepare students for the highest levels of post-secondary education, while allowing the students pursuit of excellence in extracurricular activities. Our mission statement is *enable young minds to pursue their passion in a community of excellence.*

Our learning settings are varied in many ways, e.g. moving students to different locations, bringing in teaching specialists and community members, and blending multi-grade classrooms. The learning atmosphere is one of mutual trust, respect, and commitment to self-improvement. The climate encourages thinking, questioning, and respect for individual differences. The environment is both safe and stimulating and helps the students achieve a balance between small and large groups and independent activities. The teacher serves as a facilitator of learning rather than a dispenser of information while maintaining a focus on the quality of the learning experience.

SCHOOL HONORS / DISTINCTIONS

- Exemplary rating by TEA in 2009-13
- A 2007 National Charter School of the Year Recognition by the Center for Education Reform
- AAA Honor Roll Award for 2016
- 35th statewide ranking in U.S. News & World Report
- 224th nationwide ranking in U.S. New & World Report
- 410th nationwide ranking with Daily Beast in 2014

CLASS OF 2018 AVERAGE SAT SCORES

EBRW	535
MATHEMATICS	531
OVERALL	1219

CLASS OF 2018 AVERAGE PSAT TEST SCORES

EBRW	573
MATHEMATICS	568
OVERALL	1140

CURRICULUM

Each course is taught in a 40-minute daily block and follows a condensed and accelerated curriculum. The yearlong plan for each course goes above and beyond the state-required curriculum, as it is the goal of the charter for the student to learn more than state expectations. In the classroom, educators use advanced teaching techniques in order to reach a level of college instruction. Most classes are designed to be taught on an AP level.

Every student at Chaparral Star Academy is expected to graduate under the Foundation Plan with a respective endorsement, which is typically comprised of 4 math courses (Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and PreCalculus), 4 English courses (English I, II, III, and IV), 4 Science courses (Biology, Chemistry, Physics and an advanced science), 4 History courses (World Geography, US History, World History and Government/Economics), 2 years of a foreign language (Spanish), 1 year of Fine Arts (Theatre), 1 year of Physical Education, and then 6 years of varying electives.

Currently, the school offers the following AP courses: English III – Language and Composition, English IV – Literature and Composition, Calculus AB, Spanish – Language and Composition U.S. History, World History, Physics 1 and Physics 2. AP courses are available to any student who wishes to take the course, provided they meet certain prerequisites. Currently, 64% of our seniors are enrolled in Pre-AP or AP courses. In 2015-16, 43 students took 55 AP tests (13% scoring a 5, 20% scoring a 4, 38% scoring a 3). Around 46% of our current students take advantage (or have) of the Early College Start program and co-enroll in college courses at a local community college to earn dual credit.

MATRICULATION PLANS FOR CLASS OF 2017

ATTEND 4-YEAR UNIVERSITY: 72%	ATTEND 2-YEAR COLLEGE: 17%	VOCATIONAL TRAINING: 3%	MILITARY ENROLLMENT: 0%
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COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES ATTENDED BY CHAPARRAL STAR ACADEMY GRADUATES

The University of Texas at Austin The University of Texas – San Antonio The University of Texas – El Paso Texas A&M – Galveston Texas A&M – College Station Texas A&M – Corpus Christi Arizona State University LeTourneau University University of Mary-Hardin Baylor United States Naval Academy Rice University Brigham Young University Texas Tech University	St. Edward’s University Louisiana State University Texas State University – San Marcos Texas Abilene Christian University Southwestern University Concordia University Trinity University Angelo State University Coastal-Carolina University Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Tarleton State University McMurry University Pratt Institute	University of Delaware Baylor University Sam Houston State University New York University Belmont University University of Montana University of Rochester University of Utah The University of North Texas Dominican University of California Mount Holyoke College The University of Oregon
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GRADING SYSTEM

Chaparral Star Academy uses the following grade scale in all of its high school courses:

90 – 100	A
80 – 89	B
70 – 79	C
69 and below	F

GPA AND CLASS RANK

Chaparral Star Academy ranks its students on a weighted 4.0 scale. GPA points are awarded by semester grade and equate to a graduated conversion chart (e.g. 99 = 4.0, 92 = 3.6, 85 = 3.3). AP and Pre-AP courses receive a weighted GPA (out of a 5.0 scale). College dual enrollment courses are not factored into the GPA. Cumulative class rank is calculated at the end of every semester and is based on GPA (and previous year enrollment for top two positions). Student rank and GPA is printed on the student’s transcript. For the class of 2018, the highest GPA is 4.497 and the lowest is 2.164. For 2017-18, there are 29 graduates.

ACCREDITATION

Chaparral Star Academy is fully accredited by the State of Texas, and abides by the Texas Education Code and Texas Education Agency requirements for graduation from accredited public schools in the state of Texas.

STUDENT BODY AND FACULTY QUICK FACTS

Students in the High School (both sessions): 125
High School Faculty: 20
Teacher/Student Ratio: 1:7
Student Male/Female Ratio: 1:2

DISCLOSURE POLICY

Chaparral Star Academy discloses disciplinary action to colleges upon request.

EXTRACURRICULAR OFFERINGS

Due to students already having time-intensive extracurricular duties, Chaparral Star Academy offers limited extracurricular activities. Current opportunities include Yearbook, Forensics (Speech/Debate) Team, Theatre Club, Martial Arts Club and National Honors Society.

THE UNIQUE STRUCTURE

In order to provide unique opportunities to our students, Chaparral Star Academy conducts two distinct school days in one. The morning session lasts from 7:45 – 11:50 am, while the afternoon session lasts from 12:05 – 4:10pm. Students attend school for only 4 hours a day to facilitate a need for flexibility due to student’s extracurricular demands.

HIGHEST LEVEL OFFERED

ENGLISH: English IV (AP) – Literature and Composition
 MATH: Calculus AB (AP)
 HISTORY: Government/Economics
 SCIENCE: Physics 2 (AP) or Environmental Systems
 SPANISH: Spanish IV (AP) – Language and Composition

ADMISSION POLICY

Admission to Chaparral Star Academy is not based on gender, national origin, ethnicity, religion, disability, academic or athletic ability, or the district the child would otherwise attend as long as the district of residency is served by Chaparral Star Academy. Submission of false or incomplete required information may be grounds for revocation of enrollment. Enrollment is offered according to the following priority guideline: first, continuing students; second, siblings of continuing students; third, open enrollment. Should the need for a waiting list arise, students will be offered enrollment for available space according to priority level during the open enrollment, and by random lottery thereafter.

In accordance with its charter document, Chaparral Star Academy **does not accept** students with a documented history of criminal offense, juvenile court adjudication, or discipline problems resulting in suspension, alternative education program placement or expulsion as described by TEC, Chapter 37, Subchapter A. If there is a history of disciplinary problems and consideration for enrollment is desired, the Admission Committee will consider applications on a case-by-case basis; appeal may be made directly to the Governing Board of Chaparral Star Academy.