

School Information:

School History: Hillside High School began as a result of the city election to annex Upland High School from the Chaffey Joint Union High School District. Part of the Upland High population included about 75 continuation students attending Chaffey district's Valley View continuation high school. Hillside High School officially opened its doors in September of 1987. It was located in a converted warehouse just off of the corner of Mountain and 9th Street about a mile east of its current location. Its location was temporary though and over the next few years the district staff and the Hillside staff collaborated with the architect to develop a site that reflected the intimacy we enjoyed in the inward opening setting of the self-contained warehouse. We liked the inward opening school where teachers could observe student behavior. We liked having a small setting where students could reasonably be from one class to another in one minute. This maximized the teaching day and minimized the opportunity for students to misbehave.

The district commitment to Hillside has been apparent from the beginning. The superintendent himself redrew the courtyard to provide a more serene setting with the grass, plants, and trees. He also added the stage area to enhance outdoor assemblies. The landscaping and attention to details of the finished site were important to the atmosphere of the school and he wanted Hillside to reflect Upland's commitment to students.

This fact was not lost on the students. On opening day, one student was overheard asking, "Wow, who's all this for?" Evidence of student pride has been reflected in the general absence of graffiti. Although Hillside does have some textbooks, the site has been comparatively free of tagging and/or damage caused by Hillside students. There have been a few incidents of tagging by our students, but most have been attributed to students here at night from the other high school and a small number by those from other cities and neighboring continuation high schools.

School Profile:

Facility: Hillside is housed on approximately 4.5 acres with a playing field and a paved activity court. There is ample student staff and visitor parking in addition to the beautifully landscaped grounds. The school has 10 classrooms, a student center and student store/snack bar. There are the school offices, a health room, a daycare facility, staff work room and a quad that serves as an outdoor theater for assemblies and graduation ceremonies, as well as the student gathering area during lunch.

Hillside High School is the sole continuation high school for Upland Unified School District. Hillside is located near public transportation and is reasonably located for Upland's diverse socio-economic mix of students. Hillside High School's current enrollment is 210 but varies weekly. The highest enrollment in recent years was 230.

The school offers two sessions daily, one in the morning from 7:55 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and one during the early afternoon running from 11:00a.m. To 2:35 p.m. Roughly half of the students are enrolled in each session. Each session consists of four (43 minute) class periods used for daily instruction with a one-minute passing period between each. A 30-minute nutrition/lunch break is placed between the AM and PM sessions.

The continuation day program offers small standards-driven core curriculum classes with a negotiated, contracted enrollment (not attendance) limit of eighteen students per classroom. Some classes operate with fewer.

Hillside High School partners with the Baldy View Regional Occupational Program (ROP). A few ROP classes are offered on campus after the school day, but the close proximity to the Regional Occupational Center two doors east on Ninth Street allow students to extend their day to facilitate credit production. Approximately 63 Hillside students are enrolled in ROP classes.

Hillside houses Upland USD's CALSAFE Program. Approximately 12 teen parenting students are enrolled in what is locally named the "Hawks Nest". The program provides care for 10 infants and toddlers. District busing is provided for the teen parenting students and their children when needed. CALSAFE, formerly titled School-Age Parenting and Infant development Program (SAPID) and Pregnant Minor Program (PMP), is for teens enrolled in either Hillside School or Upland High School.

Hillside also hosts the district's Independent Study (ISP) program, which offers our students yet another avenue for success. The Hillside ISP center serves both Hillside and Upland High students, and currently has 15 HHS students voluntarily enrolled.

Finally, the Hillside campus houses the Upland Adult School diploma program. Those classes are offered Monday through Thursday in the evenings from 6:00PM to 8:30PM. Additionally, Hillside houses the Upland Adult School Independent Studies Program designed to serve those adult diploma students who cannot attend traditional classes due to work/family/transportation/schedule issues. Other Adult Education community classes are offered at various locations around the district as well.

Students 16 years and older qualify to be referred to Hillside. Their names are submitted to the district Alternative Placement Committee (APC) for a case-by-case consideration. Sources include Upland High School, Upland Community Day School, the local Charter High School and Options For Youth, and current continuation high school students moving into, or transferring in from other cities on Inter-District Transfers. The APC meets weekly to review and place all district student referrals.

Upon placement, all students and parents are required to attend and successfully complete an orientation program taught by the HHS staff prior to attending classes. This course includes attendance, behavior, and production expectations as well as answering all student questions. It emphasizes the areas of state standards, behavior and attendance expectations. Orientation class content stresses how to be successful, ROP, variable credit, and general expectations of both students and parents. Orientation emphasizes minimum school-wide expectations such as 90% attendance and 16 credits (per quarter) production to remain enrolled. The staff also begins exploring careers subsequently followed up by the school counselor in developing a graduation plan. Parent buy-in is also elicited for the success of their student. Although most parents are "mentally distressed" when polled at the beginning, nearly all are pleased when the course ends. Clerical and certificated staff including the principal, school secretary, and proctor teach the course. The course lasts 2 to 3 hours and is offered every two weeks.