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# Summer 2021 Report



## School Starts August 19th!

For back-to-school details, visit [www.smmusd.org/school21-22](http://www.smmusd.org/school21-22)

**“The transformation of Malibu Middle & High School is exciting. The end result of this project and other school facility improvements will be 21st-century classrooms and science labs, and more hands-on (or ‘Project-Based’) learning for Malibu students in clean, safe and engaging environments.”**

— Craig Foster, SMMUSD Board Member

### Let's Continue to Stay Safe

COVID-19 vaccines are now available for everyone age 12 or older. Vaccines are free. Check LA County Dept. of Public Health website for locations and additional information: <https://tinyurl.com/4svbwpa4>



## Update on Student Achievements and School Improvement Projects in Malibu

## Letter from Superintendent

Dear Parents, Guardians, Staff and Community Members,



In this unprecedented year, we hope this update finds you well. Of course, our top concern is the health and safety of our students, teachers and staff, and we look forward to an exciting Fall where students will be able to take full advantage of new and improved school facilities.

We are proud of Malibu High's 100% graduation rate — a rare achievement, especially under the challenging circumstances our students faced over the last school year — and of our students for going on to attend top notch colleges. Congratulations Malibu High graduates!

We are grateful for the overwhelming support by Malibu voters who passed Measure M in 2018 to provide essential funds dedicated to the transformation of the Malibu Middle and High School campus. This project has been met with great excitement by the community and we have seen strong community participation in the design process of a new Malibu High School, scheduled to begin construction next year.

Over the past several years, we have made important upgrades, repairs, and improvements to support high-quality instruction and safe, healthy learning environments. As we look forward to the new school year, we want to report back to the community to show how these improvements will benefit students when they return in the fall as well as Malibu students for generations to come. This newsletter details some of the exciting work that has been completed as well as future projects.

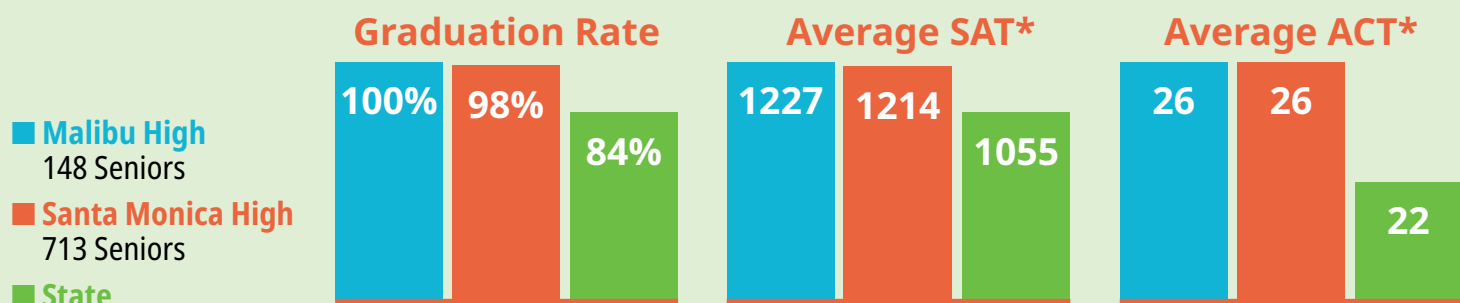
Thank you to all and I hope everyone is enjoying a safe and relaxing summer.

Sincerely,



Dr. Ben Drati, Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Superintendent

Santa Monica and Malibu high schools rank in the top 5% of schools in the state and nation, according to U.S. News & World Report 2019 Best High Schools. Our graduation rates and test scores continue to outperform averages in the county, state and nation.



\* SAT – Scholastic Aptitude Test; ACT – American College Testing



SMMUSD has been recognized with a “Best Communities for Music Education” designation for the 19th consecutive year, setting a new state record. This award recognizes districts that demonstrate outstanding achievement in efforts to provide music access and education to all students.

## New Malibu School Facilities Support Innovative Instruction for 21st-Century Learning

Thank you to Malibu voters for supporting past school bond measures! Voter-approved school bond measures have been essential to the high-quality education SMMUSD provides. Local bonds are the only way we've been able to afford the significant improvements to local schools — most of which were built more than 60 years ago. The projects integrate environmentally sustainable practices, saving energy costs.

### Highlights of Recent School Improvements include:

#### Grand Opening of New Malibu Middle and High School

**Administration, Library and Classroom Building:** A joyous ceremony marked the completion and opening of a much-anticipated project at Malibu Middle and High School in May. The new space includes six classrooms, three science labs, a media lab, computer lab, and a Career and College Counseling Center, along with rooms for student collaboration on multimedia projects. The demolition of Building D allowed for the creation of a large, beautiful student quad that completely transforms the campus.

#### New Malibu High School — 21st-Century Classrooms for

**Project-Based Learning:** The SMMUSD Board of Education has approved the design of a new Malibu High School, following the unanimous recommendation of the Malibu Facility Advisory Committee. Thank you to all who participated in more than 50 meetings held for Malibu students, staff, parents, and community members to provide input. Demolition of the former Cabrillo elementary school campus to make room for the new high school begins in 2022, with a target completion date in 2024 to open the new campus.

**Health, Safety and Air Quality Improvements:** Projects to replace old windows, doors, floors, and paint for all Malibu schools are complete. Air conditioning and updated filtration and ventilation systems are now in place to improve indoor air quality, including filtering smoke particles from wildfires. The final work on Malibu Middle and High School PCB abatement will be completed this summer.

**Malibu Elementary School:** New accessible playgrounds for both kinder and elementary school children include slides, climbing apparatus, and musical stations. The main playground is open to the public during non-school hours.

**Webster Elementary School:** The installation of new heating, air conditioning, and ventilation equipment was completed ahead of schedule while the campus was closed during the pandemic.

**Student Safety and Security:** Alarm and security systems with new visitor check-in has been completed at all SMMUSD schools.



New Malibu High School, environmentally sustainable design

