



ANIMAS HIGH SCHOOL COVID COVER LETTER

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AHS School Changes for 2019-2020 Due to COVID-19

Curriculum

Friday, March 13th was the last day of in-person instruction at Animas High School. Students left for Spring Break and resumed remote learning on Monday, March 30th for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. Staff at AHS were able to successfully transition to distance learning with only a 5-day break in instruction due to our school's already heavy emphasis on using Digital Portfolios for curriculum delivery. We provided a daily asynchronous learning environment that modeled our traditional school schedule.

Grading

AHS's concern for equity to access for our most vulnerable students led us to move all classes to a Pass/Fail grading system for the remainder of spring semester 2020. Students did not have an option to receive letter grades. Students earned a Pass in their class if they earned a 70% grade or higher for each course. All students at AHS are provided a loaner computer if families are unable to purchase their own. However, due to our rural area, some students were unable to access the internet effectively, causing students to require paper copies of course work. Additionally some of our most vulnerable families were directly affected by COVID in the form of job loss, food insecurity, family instability, housing insecurity, and health concerns.

LINK Internships

Traditionally juniors are immersed in their LINK internships for three weeks in April. However, due to COVID-19, many internships that the class of 2021 had secured were cancelled. We extended the deadline for completion of LINK Internships to May 2021 and our Career Counselor is working diligently to support students as they find internship experiences that work within COVID safety guidelines.

AHS School Changes for 2020-2021 Due to COVID-19

Curriculum

Animas High School moved to a hybrid learning model for all students starting on Monday, August 31st. Juniors and seniors attend core academic classes in person two days a week (Thursday and Friday) and participate in online core academic classes twice a week (Monday and Tuesday). During in person learning days seniors have a scheduled Flex period. This period allows for students to engage with college preparation curriculum, receive additional support with academic content they are learning during their online days, and provides an opportunity for students to receive one on one support from staff if needed. Flex is a non credit bearing course. On Wednesday all students attend academic elective classes online. All online classes are delivered in a synchronous learning environment. While we do not provide an alternative, fully online curriculum, we work to support students who must stay home due to medical reasons.

Grading

Since students are able to participate in in-person classes, AHS has returned to a letter grading system for the 2020-2021 school year. Students who are still unable to access the internet are invited to come to school on their designated remote days to access the school's internet so they may engage in their online classes.

LINK Internships

Some current seniors are still working to obtain and complete their LINK Internships while engaging in full senior schedules. Students who have completed their internship **will have a Pass on their transcript**. Students who are in the process of completing their internship requirement **will have an Incomplete on their transcript**. It is still a requirement for all seniors to complete a LINK Internship before graduation and we have not adjusted the minimum requirement of 90 hours.



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ANIMAS HIGH SCHOOL PROFILE 2020-2021

Community Description:

Located in Durango, CO, we are a rural community of 18,985 residents in the Four Corners region of the southwestern United States. The nearest major cities are Albuquerque (215 miles), Denver (340 miles) and, Salt Lake City (390 miles). Key professional sectors in the Durango community are business, agriculture, tourism, and the service industry. Fort Lewis College provides numerous educational and cultural advantages to the region.

School Description:

Animas High School is a 4-year free, public charter school enrolling 198 students in grades 9-12. The school's project-based, interdisciplinary curriculum prepares students for the 21st century by ensuring mastery of critical skills and content and promotes students' preparedness for college, career, and lifelong learning. Our rigorous academic program prioritizes authentic engagement, thoughtful inquiry, and in-depth analysis over rote memorization and broad coverage. Our faculty-designed projects have real-world applications; students are asked to transform and apply knowledge that is relevant to their community and their lives. Students exhibit their work to authentic audiences, thereby refining presentation and communication skills. Exhibitions, Student-Led Conferences, and Presentations of Learning provide students the opportunity to reflect on and take ownership of their growth and learning. Students work both individually and in small groups to design and complete projects that solve real-world problems.

GRADING SCALE

Rank: Animas does not report rank

Grading Scale: AHS uses a 4-point grading scale to evaluate academic work. The minimum passing grade is "C-." No credit is assigned below a C-, but points are still calculated into the GPA. The highest attainable grade is an "A." We do not award "A+" grades. Grades and grade point averages are not weighted.

Marking System: A grade of "A" represents academic achievement of 94% or higher. A = 4.00, A- = 3.67, B+ = 3.33, B = 3.00, B- = 2.67, C+ = 2.33, C = 2.00, C- = 1.67, D+ = 1.33, D = 1.00, D- = 0.67, F = 0.00

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

English 4 years	Social Studies 4 years	Art 1 year
Math 4 years	Lab Science 3 years	Physical Ed 3 years
Foreign Language 2 years	Academic Electives 3 years	
Senior Project 1 year	LINK Internship 1 year	

198

STUDENTS

22% FIRST GENERATION COLLEGE

23% FREE & REDUCED LUNCH

18

FACULTY

Class of 2020 Post Graduate Plans

69%

10%

4-Year College

2-Year College

54%

25%

Public College

Private College

11

STUDENTS
AVERAGE
CLASS SIZE

DEMOGRAPHICS

11% Hispanic

3% American Indian

1% Asian

.5% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander

79.5% White

5% Multiple Races

ANIMAS HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM

AHS offers a rigorous curriculum that prepares students for their college and career goals. Classes are offered on a semester and yearlong basis. Honors options are available to juniors and seniors in Humanities (English and Social Studies) and to seniors in Statistics. Students are able to elect into Honors each semester and are able to drop yearlong classes at semester. Students are required to take cohort math with their class all 4 years, where classes integrate math concepts from Algebra I & II, Geometry, Statistics, and Trigonometry. Project Application and Physical Education are graded on a credit/no credit basis. As of 2016, some AHS classes provide students dual credit through Pueblo Community College. Students may also pursue concurrent enrollment options through local colleges, including Fort Lewis College, at their own expense.

Humanities: English 9*, English 10*, English 11*, English 12*, Social Studies 9*, Modern World History 10*, US History 11*, Civics 12*, Creative Writing Workshop, Film Studies, Journalism Quill Media, Advanced Journalism/Quill Media, Positive Psychology, SAT Preparation, Race & Identity in US American Literature, SciFi & the Human Condition, On Course, Podcasting, Advanced Imperialism & Foreign Aid in Sub Saharan Africa (IFASA)

As of 2020 we no longer offer: Sociology and Psychology

Mathematics: (yearlong): Math 1*, Math 2*, Math 3*, Statistics*, College Algebra, Calculus, Advanced Calculus, Consumer Math+, Advanced Consumer Math, SAT Preparation, Engineering Math, Advanced Engineering Math, Art of Mathematical Thinking

As of 2020 we no longer offer: Pre-Calculus and Advanced Algebra

Post Secondary Preparation: LINK Internship*, LINK 2.0, Project Application, Personal Career Readiness, PCR: Access Skills, PCR: Career Success, PCR: College Success

Foreign Language: Spanish 1, Spanish 2, Spanish 3, Spanish 4, French 1, French 3 **As of 2020 we no longer offer: French 2**

Arts: Digital Art*, Advanced Digital Art, Studio Art, Advanced Studio Art, Drawing, Advanced Drawing, Painting, Advanced Painting, Digital Photography, Advanced Digital Photography, Music Production, Advanced Music Production, Music Performance, Advanced Music Performance, VAM Theater Class, Advanced VAM Theater Class

Sciences: Physics*, Biology*, Chemistry*, Anatomy, Intro to Computer Science Term 1 & Term 2, Geology, Ecology

As of 2020 we no longer offer: Advanced Chemistry, Advanced Physics, Astronomy 1 & 2, Intro to Engineering, Advanced Engineering, Intro to Electronics, Advanced Electronics

* Denotes courses students are required to take

+Denotes courses that offer concurrent enrollment

CLASS OF 2021 PROFILE

57 Seniors

PSAT/ NMSQT AVERAGES

961 Composite

504 EB Reading/Writing

457 Math

3.24 GPA Average

4.00 Highest GPA

AWARDS

- Colorado Department of Education Performance School
- College Success Award for Great Schools
- CO Department of Education ICAP Awards for Career Exploration Program and Senior Project Capstone

UNIQUE TO OUR SCHOOL

LINK Internships: *Leading Internships for New Knowledge*

As a graduation requirement, all juniors participate in a 3-week, 90-hour fulltime internship in the field of their choosing. In preparation, students learn “real world” skills as they explore various career paths, refine their resumes, write cover letters, and engage in mock interviews.

Senior Project: Senior Project is a semester-long, in-depth study of a self-selected research topic. Students craft a college-level research paper, deliver a professional TED-style talk and thesis defense in front of a live audience, and complete an action project that connects their research topic to the larger community. As the capstone project of their time at AHS, Senior Project allows students to synthesize their learning and pursue their individual passions, all with the support of senior faculty and a Faculty Advisor.



Class of 2019 & 2020 College Acceptances List

Academy of Art University	Northwestern University
Adams State University	Oklahoma City University
American University	Oregon Institute of Technology
The American University of Rome	Pacific University
Arizona State University	Palm Beach Atlantic University
Barnard College	Portland State University
Bates College	Pratt Institute
Boston University	Pitzer College
Bowdoin College	Quest University Canada
Brevard College	Regis University
Bryant University	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Cabrillo College	Rochester Institute of Technology
California Polytechnic State University-San Luis Obispo	Rocky Mountain College of Art + Design
California State University-Monterey Bay	Rocky Mountain College
Champlain College	San Francisco State University
Clarkson University	Seattle Pacific University
College of the Atlantic	Skidmore College
Colorado College	Southeastern University
Colorado Mesa University	St. Olaf College
Colorado School of Mines	Stetson University
Colorado State University	Stevens Institute of Technology
Drake University	Tulane University
Drexel University	The University of Arizona
Eckerd College	Unity College
Elon University	University of Alaska Anchorage
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University	University of Colorado Boulder
Emerson College	University of Colorado Colorado Springs
Emory & Henry College	University of Colorado Denver
The Evergreen State College	University of Denver
Fairfield University	University of Lynchburg
Fort Lewis College	University of Maryland, College Park
The George Washington University	The University of New Mexico
Goshen College	University of North Carolina, Asheville
Goucher College	University of Northern Colorado
Grand Canyon University	University of Nottingham
Humboldt State University	University of Oregon
Indiana University Bloomington	University of Portland
Ithaca College	University of Puget Sound
John Cabot University	University of Redlands
Johnson & Wales University	University of Richmond
Kalamazoo College	University of Rochester
Lewis & Clark College	University of San Francisco
Lindenwood University	The University of Tampa
Loyola University New Orleans	The University of Utah
Macalester College	University of Vermont
Massachusetts Maritime Academy	University of Virginia
Metropolitan State University of Denver	Vanderbilt University
Michigan State University	Virginia Commonwealth University
Middlebury College	Western Colorado University
Minerva Schools at KGI	Western Michigan University
Montana State University	Western Washington University
Montreat College	Westminster College
Naropa University	Whitman College
Northeastern University	Willamette University
Northern Arizona University	Worcester Polytechnic Institute