

The Preuss School at UC San Diego Named Sixth Among Nation's Top 10 High Schools by Newsweek

UCSD's charter school moves up three ranks from last year's announcement

May 20, 2008

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The Preuss School at the University of California, San Diego, ranks sixth in the nation on *Newsweek* magazine's second annual listing of the 1,300 top U.S. high schools.

The school bounced up three ranks from its listing in 2007 as 9th among 1,200 high schools in the U.S. regarded as the best of the best.

The listing was developed by *Newsweek* using a "Challenge Index" scale which divides the number of Advanced Placement (AP) tests taken by all students at a school divided by the number of graduating seniors. The magazine took the total number of AP tests, plus International Baccalaureate (IB) and Cambridge tests, and divided by the number of graduating seniors "so that big schools would not have an advantage over small schools."

Jay Mathews, *Newsweek* editor, said that "Many Americans have never heard of AP or IB, the only two international high school programs that consistently demand wide reading and rigorous thoughts. The list of high schools shown in our listing ranks schools that try the hardest to involve students in these courses and tests, very different from the way schools are usually measured by test scores and college acceptances. AP and IB programs have evolved into proven devices for inspiring first rate academic work by even disadvantaged teenagers."

This June's graduating class at the Preuss School totals 97, with 93 members (or 96 percent) admitted to a four year college. And of these, 72 percent were admitted to UC campuses. Some of the other prestigious venues to which Preuss students were admitted this year included Mills College, Lewis and Clark College, Stanford University, Georgetown University, Barnard College, Temple University, Oberlin College, Reed College, Harvard University and Dartmouth College.

The Preuss School is a middle and high school dedicated to providing an intensive college preparatory education for motivated low-income students who will become the first in their families to graduate from college. The school is jointly chartered by the San Diego Unified School District and the University of California, San Diego.

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