



EAST MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL

CURIOSITY | COLLABORATION | EMPATHY | INTEGRITY | REFLECTION

• PO Box 340 • 25 La Madera Road • Sandia Park, New Mexico 87047 •
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2022 – 2023 SCHOOL PROFILE

MISSION

A safe, innovative environment, EMHS engages a diverse community of learners through transformative experiences and creative problem solving to shape forward-thinking leaders.

THE SCHOOL

Founded in 1999 as one of the first charter schools in New Mexico, East Mountain High School is currently one of the state's leading public charter schools. EMHS received an "A" grade from the New Mexico Public Education Department for nine years and met Adequate Yearly Progress for eight years prior while the system was in use. EMHS has developed a statewide reputation for educational excellence. Although EMHS celebrates its students' academic achievement as reflected in its test scores, the school is primarily dedicated to the growth in learning of **each** student as it prepares students to succeed in college and in life.

EMHS serves 378 students in grades nine through twelve. The school opened in the fall of 2000 and graduated its first senior class in May 2004. As a school of choice, EMHS is an alternative to the two large traditional high schools in the geographical area. Students are admitted through a lottery process, with an automatic acceptance of siblings of currently attending students.

In order to realize its Mission and Student Goals, the school is committed to creating a culture of effective teaching and learning, ensuring each student's academic knowledge, college and career preparation, progressive skill development, exposure to a rigorous curriculum and connection to the community. EMHS seeks to provide its students with an inquiry-based curriculum that is college-preparatory and based on a liberal arts model. EMHS is on a 4x4 Block Schedule. The College & Career Readiness Counselor, with support from the Assistant Director, work together to provide students and families with academic and college advisement.

From the beginning, the founders of EMHS had big dreams and high ambitions. They saw no reason to accept the mediocrity and apathy that seemed to invade traditional public schools and envisioned a school that would truly challenge students to excel to their highest potential. In order to achieve that goal, EMHS was established as a small school with small class sizes so that each student is recognized as an individual. Teachers design real-world learning experiences so students engage in hands-on opportunities while covering a rigorous college-preparatory curriculum. Parents/Guardians and community members partner with the school and get involved in students' education. Everyone – students, teachers, staff, parents/guardians and community members – is encouraged to put **inquiry** at the heart of learning and to think independently and creatively.

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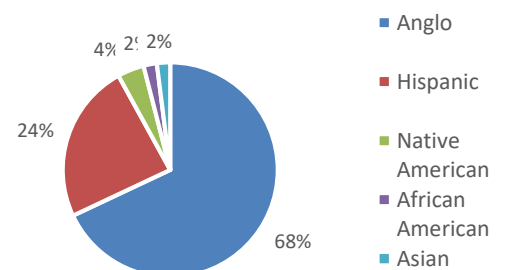
Member of the New Mexico
Activities Association, New Mexico
Coalition for Charter Schools,
National Association for College
Admission Counseling and Rocky
Mountain Association for College
Admission Counseling

THE COMMUNITY

EMHS is located in Sandia Park approximately 30 minutes east of Albuquerque in a rural, mountainous community. The school, on the Turquoise Trail National Scenic Byway, is situated on a 26-acre campus and is home to breathtaking views of the Sandia Mountains.

As a charter school with no traditional boundary lines, the majority of students travel from a large geographic region that includes the following East Mountain communities: Village of Tijeras, Escobosa, Chilibi, Cedar Crest, Sandia Park, Golden, Edgewood, Moriarty, Estancia, Tajiue, Torreon and Stanley. Students also travel to EMHS from Albuquerque.

ETHNICITY



ACADEMIC PROGRAM

❖ COVID-19 IMPACT

Students participated in remote learning from March 2020 through March 2021. Students received Pass or Incomplete grades for the Spring Term 2020 which did not impact their GPA. EMHS implemented a traditional percentage grading scale with a 60% pass rate for SY 20-21 and returned to a 70% pass rate for SY 21-22 and beyond.

❖ CURRICULUM

The curriculum is designed within the 4x4 Block Schedule to help each student master a pool of knowledge and competencies embracing the humanities, mathematics, natural sciences, social sciences, arts and world languages. Students learn to think critically and articulate thoughts clearly through inquiry and discovery based learning.

❖ INQUIRY LEARNING

EMHS uses an inquiry-based model to drive many core projects in our curriculum. Students learn to conduct independent research following their own lines of thinking to form a cohesive understanding of a topic. Their findings are adapted into written, verbal and visual formats to demonstrate understanding.

❖ DUAL CREDIT/EARLY COLLEGE EXPERIENCES

- EMHS has dual credit agreements with Central New Mexico Community College (CNM), Eastern New Mexico University, the University of New Mexico – Main and the University of New Mexico – Gallup.
- EMHS primarily partners with CNM to offer dual credit courses, both online and in person. Prior to the COVID-19 school closures, CNM instructors taught Physics, Chemistry, Intermediate Algebra, College Algebra and Probability & Statistics courses on the EMHS campus. The courses have since moved online due to the pandemic and its aftermath.

❖ HONORS PROGRAM & ADVANCED PLACEMENT CHANGES

- In SY 20-21, EMHS eliminated Advanced Placement classes, except in AP Calculus AB. Through a grant with the National Math & Science Institute, EMHS also offers online AP Computer Science Principles. *All students enrolled in AP courses are required to sit for the AP Exam.*
- Honors humanities courses include: English 10/World Literature, English 11/American Literature, English 12/Critical Written Analysis, World History and US History.
- Honors mathematics courses include: Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2 or dual credit MATH 1210 Intermediate Algebra and Pre-Calculus. AP Calculus AB is the only AP math course offering.
- Most juniors enroll in a 2-credit/full year Environmental Science Honors course unless they received a waiver to complete dual credit Physics and Chemistry in lieu of Environmental Science Honors.
- Spanish 5 Honors Literature & Culture was added in SY 16-17, but not offered in SY 22-23 due to small school scheduling constraints.
- All honors courses are weighted with one additional GPA point for final grades of 80% and above.

❖ WORLD LANGUAGE

EMHS offers Spanish as its primary world language, with a curriculum through Level 5 Honors. French 1 & 2 were added in SY 22-23. Students may also complete their world language requirements through dual credit for other languages.

❖ SENIOR EXHIBITION

In the spring of their senior year, all students organize and present a Senior Exhibition portfolio as a component of Senior Seminar. Through a series of reflective conversations and projects, students will explore the connections between who they are and who they want to become.

❖ DISCOVERY PROJECTS

Discovery Projects are experiential learning projects that take place during the last two weeks of the school year in a particular area of study. Students participate through their junior year. Past projects have included the art of recycling, college explorations, wilderness experiences and the physics of roller coasters. Students earn 0.5 elective credit. Discovery Projects were cancelled in May 2020 and May 2021 due to the pandemic and graduation requirements were adjusted accordingly to account for the cancellation.

CLASS OF 2023 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

HUMANITIES 9.5 CREDITS (5 ENGLISH CREDITS & 4.5 SOCIAL STUDIES CREDITS)	Humanities 9: 1 credit = English 9 1 credit = New Mexico History/ Geography & Research
	Humanities 10: 1 credit = English 10 1 credit = Modern World History /Geography
	Humanities 11: 1 credit = English 11 1 credit = United States History/Geography
	Senior English & Social Studies: 1 credit = English 12/Nonfiction OR Critical Written Analysis 1 credit = English 12/Fiction Writing, Literature OR Philosophy 1 credit = US Government 0.5 credit = Economics
SENIOR SEMINAR 0.5 CREDIT	<i>Includes the Senior Exhibition presented in late April of senior year</i>
MATHEMATICS 4 CREDITS	1 credit = Algebra 2 or higher
SCIENCE 4 CREDITS	1 credit = Integrated Physics & Chemistry
	1 credit = Biology
	2 credits = Environmental Science Honors (or CHEM & PHYS w/ waiver)
FINE ARTS 1 CREDIT	
WORLD LANGUAGE 2 CREDITS	<i>In the same language Must be taken in consecutive terms</i>
PHYSICAL EDUCATION 1 CREDIT	<i>May use the Athletics for PE Waiver with completion of an NMAA sport</i>
HEALTH 0.5 CREDIT	<i>Required course for all sophomores</i>
COLLEGE SUCCESS 1 CREDIT	<i>Required course for all sophomores</i>
DISCOVERY PROJECTS 0.5 CREDIT	<i>Typically required for all freshmen, sophomores and juniors, but adjusted due to the COVID-19 pandemic</i>
ELECTIVES 3 CREDITS	<i>Including the Timberwolf Diploma of Excellence requirement of two credits in a subject area of the student's choice</i>
COMMUNITY SERVICE	<i>Minimum of 80 hours of documented Community Service</i>
TOTAL:	28.5 CREDITS

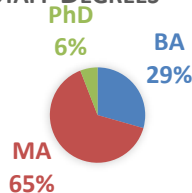
RECOGNITION

EMHS has been recognized six times as a Bronze Star School by *U.S. News & World Report*, which recognizes schools at which student academic achievement outpaces predictive models. The school also was selected by the New Mexico Public Education Department for its New Mexico Best program based on its best practices. In 2014, *Newsweek* announced its list of 500 of America's Top High Schools and EMHS was one of five schools in New Mexico to be recognized. EMHS is one of eight schools (and one of only three high schools) to receive an "A" rating all eight years the NM PED School Grading System was implemented. **EMHS is also very proud to be the only New Mexico high school named a 2018 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education for exemplary achievement in closing the achievement gap.**

FACULTY & STAFF

CERTIFIED FACULTY &

STAFF DEGREES



One teacher holds National Board Certification. EMHS teachers have received some of the highest honors in the profession, including the 2022 AFRL NM High School Excellence in STEM Awards STEM Educator of the Year, ABQ the Magazine's "2022 Above & Beyond Teacher," the American Stars of Teaching Award, the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching State Finalist, the Presidential Award for Innovation in Environmental Education and the 2015 Runner-Up National Speech & Debate Coach of the Year. New Mexico Business Weekly named a faculty member a 2011 Top Forty Under 40. **EMHS is very pleased to have six alumni on staff as teachers or educational assistants.**

Teacher and staff longevity has also contributed to the school's success: six employees have 16+ years, four employees have 11 – 15 years, 12 employees have 6 – 10 years and 20 employees have 0 – 5 years.

SCHEDULE

EMHS is on a 4 x 4 block schedule, in which students enroll in a maximum of four classes each term for a total of eight classes each year. Each class meets for 90 minutes each day, allowing students to focus on a limited number of subjects on any given day which supports the EMHS philosophy of in-depth study and mastery learning. On a 4 x 4 schedule, students earn a maximum of 1.0 credit for each course in the fall and 1.0 credit for each course in the spring. Students in grades 9 – 11 earn an additional 0.5 credit each year for experiential Discovery Projects. Discovery Projects were not offered during the Spring of 2020 and 2021 due to COVID-19. Summer dual credit courses are included with Fall in-progress courses. As such, grades and credit for Summer dual credit courses are awarded in January when Fall grades post to the transcript.

GRADING SYSTEM & COVID-19 IMPACT

EMHS supports the policy of mastery learning, therefore, students must earn a grade of 70% or higher in a class in order to receive credit. EMHS uses percentages to report final grades. Until December 2019, no credit and no GPA points were awarded for final grades of 69% or below. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, EMHS adjusted its grading scale to award credit for final grades of 60% - 69% for SY 20-21.

All honors, AP and core dual credit courses are weighted with one additional GPA point for final grades of 80% and above. Elective dual credit courses do not receive extra weighting.

Grading Scale		
Final Grade %	GPA Points	AP, Honors and Core Dual Credit GPA Points
90% - 100% (A)	4 GPA points	5 GPA points
80% - 89% (B)	3 GPA points	4 GPA points
70% - 79% (C)	2 GPA points	2 GPA points
<= 69% (F)	0 GPA points	0 GPA points

CLASS RANK

Class Rank is based on the cumulative weighted GPA and is determined by final term grades which carry credit. All grades earned while at EMHS are included in the ranking, as are grades earned through correspondence courses, summer school or transfer school(s). Grades earned by dual credit are included on the transcript and included in a student's GPA and class rank. A cumulative weighted GPA and unweighted GPA are included on each student's transcript. Honors, AP and UNM Core Curriculum dual credit courses are weighted. In order to receive the honor of Valedictorian or Salutatorian, a student must have been enrolled at EMHS for a minimum of six consecutive terms, including a full Senior year.

TIMBERWOLF DIPLOMA OF EXCELLENCE

Students in the Class of 2023 are eligible to receive the Timberwolf Diploma of Excellence by earning two additional credits in a subject area of their choice. Additionally, one of the student's four math credits must be Algebra 2 or higher and the student must have experience taking a career, distance learning, honors or college (dual credit) course.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES & ATHLETICS

The Speech & Debate program is ranked in the top five percent of programs in the nation, qualifying many students every year to the National Speech & Debate Tournament. The program has won over a dozen state championships, as well as top awards at the National Tournament each year over the past decade. EMHS is consistently ranked among the top eight debate teams in the world by the International Public Policy Forum. The Youth and Government program is the most dominant program in the state, qualifying more students than any other to the Conference on National Affairs every year. Our National Honor Society logs thousands of hours in service projects each year and the Model UN team has represented EMHS at the UC Berkeley National Conference. In the past, three students were chosen by the New Mexico Human Rights Project to participate in the Model International Criminal Court Mock Trials in Krzyzowa, Poland. Additionally, the New Mexico Mathematics Engineering Science Achievement (NM MESA) program has finished near the top of several robotics and engineering competitions, as well as having participated in an international robotics exchange in the Czech Republic. MESA students won the NM Governor's STEM Challenge in 2019, 2020 & 2021. EMHS started its chapter of the National Honor Society in January 2009. Students are also recognized for their academic achievements through the Dean's List.

Team sports include boys/girls soccer, volleyball, cross country, bowling, boys/girls basketball, baseball, softball, golf and track & field. The Bowling Team is an 11-time A – AAAA State Bowling Champion! The Baseball Team won the 2012 AA State Championship, leading EMHS to be the first charter school in New Mexico to win a state athletic title. The Girls Cross Country Team earned the 2013 AA State Championship.

RECENT TEST SCORES

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In spring 2010, the EMHS Foundation began paying for ALL juniors to sit for the April ACT. Class of 2023 ACT Composite Score: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highest = 32 Lowest = 11 	Average ACT Scores												
	Year	No. of Students Tested		English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite	
		EMHS	NM	EMHS	NM	EMHS	NM	EMHS	NM	EMHS	NM	EMHS	NM
	2023	74	TBD	20.6	TBD	20.3	TBD	22.9	TBD	20.7	TBD	21.2	TBD
	2022*	41	TBD	23.2	TBD	21.3	TBD	23.6	TBD	23.0	TBD	22.9	19.8
	2021	73	TBD	22.5	TBD	21.4	TBD	23.9	TBD	22.1	TBD	22.7	TBD
	2020	81	TBD	24.0	TBD	22.6	TBD	25.1	TBD	22.8	TBD	23.7	19.3
	2019	70	13,196	22.4	18.1	21.1	18.9	23.2	20.0	21.3	19.6	22.1	19.3

* Testing was optional for the Class of 2022 due to the pandemic.

The percentage of EMHS students in the Class of 2022 meeting all four of ACT's College Readiness Benchmarks was 36%, compared to 20% in New Mexico and 22% nationwide.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In spring 2016, the EMHS Foundation began paying for ALL juniors to sit for the March SAT. In 2020, the NM PED began paying for ALL juniors in NM to take the SAT as their demonstration of competency for graduation. Class of 2023 SAT Total Score: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highest = 1420 Lowest = 690 	Average SAT Scores								
	Year	No. of Students Tested		Critical Reading OR Evidence Based Reading & Writing		Mathematics		TOTAL	
		EMHS	NM	EMHS	NM	EMHS	NM	EMHS	NM
	2023	69	TBD	539	TBD	535	TBD	1074	TBD
	2022*	62	TBD	590	TBD	555	TBD	1145	TBD
	2021	67	6,270	561	508	528	488	1089	996
	2020	77	3,883	587	533	548	522	1135	1055
	2019	66	3,705	551	543	534	530	1085	1073

* Testing was optional for the Class of 2022 due to the pandemic.

The percentage of EMHS students in the Class of 2021 meeting both of SAT's College & Career Readiness Benchmarks was 46%, compared to 33% in the state of New Mexico and 46% nationwide.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In SY 16-17, AP Calculus AB and AP English Language & Composition were added. In SY 17-18, we added AP World History: Modern, AP US History and AP US Government & Politics. Prior to SY 16-17, Calculus was offered as an Honors course and the AP Exam was optional. Beginning in SY 16-17, all students enrolled in AP courses are required to sit for the AP Exam. However, due to the pandemic, the AP Exam was optional in Spring 2021. Beginning in SY 21-22, EMHS no longer offers AP courses, except in Calculus AB and Computer Science Principles. 	Year	Advanced Placement		
		EMHS		
		Total AP Students	Number of Exams	AP Students w/ Scores 3+
	2022	5	5	3 (60%)
	2021	44	47	27 (61%)
	2020	68	100	44 (65%)
	2019	64	88	50 (78%)
	2018	73	97	44 (60%)

In the Class of 2021, 11 students earned an AP Scholar Award for receiving scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams. An additional three students earned an AP Scholar with Honor Award for receiving an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. Two students earned an AP Scholar with Distinction Award for receiving an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.

CLASS OF 2023 ACADEMIC PROFILE

GPA Distributions for the 79 Students in the Class of 2023				
>= 4.0 GPA	3.5 – 3.9999 GPA	3.0 – 3.4999 GPA	2.5 – 2.999 GPA	<=2.0 GPA
20 students (25%)	15 students (19%)	15 students (19%)	18 students (23%)	11 students (14%)

CLASS OF 2022 ACADEMIC PROFILE

Number of Graduates: 89

61 graduates (69%) had a final cumulative weighted GPA of 3.0 or higher, 25 (28%) of whom had a final cumulative weighted GPA of 4.0 or higher.

1,114 college credits earned through dual credit and Advanced Placement, with two students earning their Associate's Degrees in Political Science and Liberal Arts and another seven students earning over 30 college credits.

One student was admitted to the University of New Mexico's Combined BA/MD Program.

One student was named a National Merit Recognition Program Scholar Finalist.

Three students are playing college athletics: 2-baseball, 1-soccer.

Postsecondary Plans	# of Students	Institution and Number of Students
Four-year Colleges and Universities (New Mexico)	40	Eastern New Mexico University (1), New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology (2), New Mexico State University (6), University of New Mexico (31)
Four-year Colleges and Universities (Out-of-State)	15	Arizona State University (1), Berklee College of Music (1), Brigham Young University - Idaho (1), Coastal Carolina University (1), Colorado State University (1), Florida International University (1), Fort Lewis College (2), Franklin & Marshall College (1), Minot State University (1), Rochester Institute of Technology (1), Texas A&M (1), University of Alabama Birmingham (1), University of Colorado Colorado Springs (1), University of Maryland (1)
Community or Technical Colleges	21	Aveda Cosmetology Institute (2), Central New Mexico Community College (15), Lamar Community College (1), Luna Community College (1), Western Technical College (1), Western Welding Academy (1)
Other	13	Apprenticeship (1), Gap Year (5), Military Service (4), Workforce (3)