

Cottonwood High School

Cottonwood High School offers excellent programs and provides extraordinary opportunities to a diverse, tolerant student body from large, stable geographic boundaries. It is the flagship high school for forensics as well as visual and performing arts, and it offers several large, successful advanced placement and Salt Lake Community College concurrent enrollment courses. Educators and students have several opportunities to earn credit from Southern Utah University, Brigham Young University and the University of Utah. Cottonwood was the first high school in the state to offer differentiated diplomas which provides students the opportunity to graduate with honors. Junior and senior students who are preparing to take the ACT examinations are provided with before- and after-school tutorials taught by expert faculty members free of charge. Students may complete career training in the Academies of Teaching and Finance as well as applied technology certification in health sciences, business and marketing, graphic design, drafting, family and consumer science, animal science and automotive technology. Students also enjoy participation in several competitive athletic programs. Each year, counselors meet with every student individually for SEOP conferences which provide both academic and career guidance. Roughly sixty percent of those individual conferences are attended by one or more parents.

In addition, the school provides both successful and struggling students with specialized instruction in integrated mathematics and science courses. Imperiled students are tracked individually in a school-wide program of faculty mentors. They may also earn make-up credit in English, science, mathematics and citizenship during summer school, community school, after-school courses, and retrieval programs during winter and spring breaks. Cottonwood is addressing the needs of its increasing ESL population with professional vigor. The Cottonwood High School faculty is one of only two teams in the Granite School District which is fully trained in sheltered English strategies, and our complete ESL team developed the model which is used throughout the district to monitor the progress of English language learners.

The facility is among the finest in Utah. Cottonwood is a 22-acre building on 55-acres of beautifully landscaped grounds that is both appealing and complex. The community and student body enjoy two gymnasiums, complete swimming pool facilities, a first-rate weight training room, an intimate theater, two auditorium classrooms, several computer labs, chemistry and wildlife biology labs, an art gallery and extensive art studios. The faculty and staff enjoy large, attractive classrooms with foyers as well as several lounge areas and staff offices. Cottonwood provides a parenting and child development program in a newly remodeled, on-campus preschool. The industrial technology department--which includes training in cabinet making, automotive technology, drafting and graphic design--is the largest and best equipped high school facility in the state. The spacious auditorium is available to the student body and the community, and is equipped with sound and lighting systems which make it attractive to performing groups that regularly provide rental income to the school. Complete facilities for several extracurricular activities include track and field courses, dance studios, tennis, basketball and volleyball courts as well as baseball, soccer and football fields. Patrons have access at all times to sophisticated means of communication with administration, faculty and staff which include well-developed web sites, a Parent Link telephone system and Internet access to individual student records of progress and attendance. Equipped with

instructional computer technology, which is state of the art, Cottonwood boasts the highest computer to student ratio in Utah.

Cottonwood High School students benefit from the instruction of a particularly well-educated, experienced administration, counseling department and faculty as well as a large, committed support staff which includes a work-based specialist, mathematics specialist, psychologist, YESS instructor, Youth in Custody coordinator and skilled aides for disabled and challenged students. Several faculty members have earned recognition for their teaching excellence as winners of the Golden Apple award, Excel Academy award and the Granite School District Teacher of the Year. Educators at Cottonwood participate in successful partnerships with Brigham Young University administrative training programs, Westminster College teacher training programs and health services training program directed by members of our faculty at both the HealthSouth Care Center and the Garden Terrace Alzheimer clinical facility. Our career training also includes partnerships with Wheeler Historical Farm. C.H.S. business partners include organizations such as Del Taco. Moreover, the faculty and administration regularly recognize student achievement through several programs including departmental letters, honor roll and Colt Pride awards. The Colt Hall of Fame program recognizes the outstanding achievements of alumni at the annual senior awards banquet. Each year, Cottonwood's senior class consistently earns millions of dollars in scholarships to colleges and universities throughout Utah and the United States.