



Achievement. Integrity. Perseverance. Critical Thinking. Leadership and Community.

## The Sci High “Elevator Speech”

*What makes Sci High Special?*

	<b>Sci High</b>	<b>A typical public high school</b>
Counseling Services	1/130 = counselor / student ratio	1/300 - 1/500 = counselor / student ratio
Nursing Services	LSU School Based Health Clinic w/ access to 2 doctors, 3 nurses, a dentist, and an additional Social Worker.	One school nurse
Tutoring Services	Offered twice weekly by each teacher for free and Tulane students provide 80 hours a week of data-driven tutoring to students throughout the school day.	At the will of a teacher, sometimes free sometimes charging up to \$50 per hour.
After school Enrichment	Based on student interest, currently offering 15 different options ranging from robotics and debate to basketball and cheer/dance.	Fairly set and standard offerings.
Class Sizes	18-26 students per class	25-40 students per class
Food Service	3 meals provided daily - Part of the Healthy School Food Cooperative - no high fructose corn syrup, fresh fruit at every meal, whole grain pasta, bread, & rice.	Meals are available with varying levels of quality.
Internships	Paid summer (and some school year) internships give students experience and exposure in a variety of growing industries.	N/A
Peer Mediation	Ideally before, but sometimes after, a disagreement takes place trained mediators help their peers learn to respect one another and become a more supportive and positive community.	In the absence of a peer-mediation program either the issues would go unaddressed or an administrator would run the meeting between disputants.
Freshmen Transition Camp	80% of incoming 9 <sup>th</sup> grade participate in a week-long introduction to high school. Sessions are run by Sci High teachers and focus on topics such	The majority of NOLA schools do not offer this. The few that do are not as



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	<p>as organization, high school credits and g.p.a. calculations, visioning the future, goal setting, and team building. 9<sup>th</sup> grade begins a day early with team building with faculty and students, practice transitioning between classes, and preparing for the first day with upper classmen.</p>	<p>expansive or targeted on high school transition. These programs are usually targeted at lower scholastic students and take the format of a basic skills review summer school.</p>
Senior Launch	<p>Students spend 3 days in the Louisiana woods reflecting on their past, their struggles, their success, and prepare to “launch” into life after high school. It is a very touching and inspirational experience.</p>	<p>Students often take trips to Mexico or Disneyland to have fun with friends.</p>
College Tours	<p>Students visit every college in New Orleans as well as many across the state. Many school events take place on Tulane’s campus.</p>	<p>Some schools take students on a once yearly college trip while many others leave that to the parents to coordinate.</p>
Advisory	<p>Same gender, same grade students in small groups do projects that teach/reinforce social &amp; emotional skills such as the Sci High Pillars (achievement, integrity, perseverance, critical thinking, leadership &amp; community) and the Advisor serves as a liaison between the family and the school.</p>	<p>Typical homeroom for announcements.</p>
Academic Literacy Initiative	<p>9<sup>th</sup> grade course for all incoming students in addition to English that teaches reading techniques. Coaching for content area teachers (science, math, social studies) and training on the non-fiction and analysis techniques taught in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Teachers work to develop rubrics that support literacy development in science labs, document analysis essays, chart and graph analysis, research, and analysis. All teachers teach reading and writing skills that are aligned with their discipline.</p>	<p>Students are traditionally taught reading techniques for literary texts and teachers in other subject areas are not considered teachers of reading and writing. .</p>
Science Labs and Materials	<p>Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Anatomy and Physiology, AP Biology, AP Env. Science, and AP</p>	<p>Many schools do not have science labs. Those who do</p>



The New Orleans Charter  
**SCIENCE &  
 MATHEMATICS  
 HIGH SCHOOL**

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	<p>Chemistry all have spend the weekly longer class period on Thursday/ Friday doing hands on experiments. Students participate in the science fair in 9<sup>th</sup> grade and design their own experiments in all grades. Sci High spends ~\$10,000 on hands on science experiments.</p>	<p>are not equipped and many don't expose students to lab science weekly.</p>
<p>"College Readiness" requirements for Early Release</p>	<p>In order to qualify for early release, students must demonstrate college readiness via the TOPS Opportunity scholarship qualifications in order to earn early release (20+ on the ACT, 2.5+ gpa) Students may also interview and apply to attend half- day college courses at Delgado Community College (if they meet TOPS Tech. requirements), Xavier University, and the Bard Early College program.</p>	<p>Early release after students meet their 24 required credits for graduation. No stipulation on what qualifies a student for a partial day school other then credits.</p>
<p>Extra Mathematics</p>	<p>Students double up on math at least once and take a combination of one of the following math courses over 4 year:          Algebra I and A1 companion class, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Calculus, AP Probability and Statistics, AP Calculus.          Four remediation courses to help students get on track to achieve this goal by the end of high school. Most students graduate with <b>six or more math credits</b> and <b>80% earn high school credit in an AP math course.</b></p>	<p>LA students are required to enroll in four credits of math for a Core Four Diploma:          1. Algebra I          2. Geometry          3. Algebra II          4. A fourth math. Some schools offer advanced math, but most offer something less advanced. On average most students graduate with <b>four math credits</b> and <b>~15% earn high school credit in an AP math course.</b></p>
<p>Extra Science</p>	<p>Double science is an expectation in 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Some students take up to nine science courses if they take extra as elective credit.          9<sup>th</sup> grade: Physics          10<sup>th</sup> grade: Biology and Environmental Science          11<sup>th</sup> grade and 12<sup>th</sup> grades: Chemistry, Physics II,</p>	<p>LA core four diploma requires four science credits: Physical Science or Physics, Biology, Chemistry, and another science.          Most schools have <b>less than</b></p>



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	<p>Astronomy, Anatomy and Physiology, AP Environmental Science, AP Biology, AP Chemistry. ~ <b>90% of students graduate with five or more science credits.</b></p>	<p><b>10% earn 5 or more science credits.</b></p>
<p>Open-Enrollment Advanced Placement Program</p>	<p>We offer 10 Advanced Placement courses and our students have outscored all other open enrollment AP programs in NOLA for the last four years. Sci High was recognized as a finalist for the College Board <i>Spotlight on Success</i> award highlighting the strategies schools across the country use to help underserved students succeed in rigorous course work and develop the content knowledge and critical thinking skills they will need in college. <b>90% of Sci High graduates have taken and passed an Advanced Placement course in high school.</b></p>	<p>Sci High is the <b>only non-selective school that teaches AP Calculus, AP Chemistry.</b> Sci High is one of two schools offering AP World History and one of two schools offering AP Government. <b>Elsewhere, 0- 30% of graduates enroll in an AP course.</b></p>
<p>Technology Certification Programs</p>	<p>Sci High students can take IC3, a globally recognized computer certification exam. Students can also enroll in "Microsoft IT Academy" to become certified as a Microsoft Office Specialist and Microsoft Technology Associate. Completion of these certifications is linked to Delgado Community College credit in these courses.</p>	<p>Most schools have no technology programming beyond basic computing and word processing. We are not aware of a similar program in a non-selective school in NOLA.</p>