

Welcome Aboard!

2024-25

Tyler Haglund - Dean of Students



I am Tyler Haglund, and I am honored to be serving as the Dean of Students at Santa Maria High School for the 24/25 School Year! I was previously serving as a High School Science Teacher in the High Desert of CA, and recently just moved to the Central Coast. I graduated from Fresno State (Go 'Dogs!) with my BA in Physics and received a Master's in Instructional Design from Cal State Fullerton. When I am not 'goofing off' in classrooms and around campus, I love to enjoy the outdoors with my family, watch movies with a lap full of snacks, or play video games with friends. I very much look forward to getting to know the staff and students of Santa Maria High, and wish you all a very enjoyable school year. Go Saints!"

Antonio Canongo - Math Teacher



Hey Saints! My name is Tony Canongo. I graduated from SMHS and I am thrilled to be back! I have a degree in computer science and worked as a software engineer for a couple of years. While working in the industry I volunteered as a math tutor which led me to the educational field. Recently I wrapped up my math credential program. My goals as a teacher are to help our students grow, challenge them to be curious, and help them become lifelong learners. I like to stay busy but when I have some downtime I enjoy hiking, playing handball, skateboarding, and spending time with my family! I could write an essay on my tech hobbies but more on that later. I am looking forward to getting to know you, Go Saints!!

Jenna Amireh - English Teacher



Hello Santa Maria High School! My name is Jenna Amireh, I am a Fresno, California native and certified foodie! I love teaching narrative writing, poetry, and helping students spark a love for literature. My favorite author is George Orwell because reading his novel "1984" in high school helped me realize the power of storytelling and made me fall in love with reading again. I love traveling the world and any time I can sit by the ocean and read, I'm a happy camper! My aim is to be your students favorite teacher and be remembered as someone who enhances your students unique abilities and talents while challenging them to discover new skills and knowledge. Hope to see you all soon!

John Sachs - English Teacher



My name is John Sachs. I am proud to be one of SMHS's new English teachers. It has been a long and winding road to get here, but I finally made it to my first year of teaching. I could not be happier to have fulfilled this dream of mine here at the home of the Saints! My educational background includes a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Arts degree in English from California Baptist University. I was born and raised in Southern California, but in my almost forty years, I have traveled to many countries, including Thailand, India, and New Zealand. I have two beautiful, rambunctious children named Eli and Zelda; they are my moon and stars. In my ever-diminishing free time, I love to read, watch movies, play board games, hike, and meditate. I consider it a great privilege to call both the Central Coast and SMHS my new homes. GO SAINTS!

Barrie Greeley - English Teacher



Hi everybody! My name is Barrie Greeley and my family has been in Santa Maria for four generations. I am a graduate of UC Santa Cruz and hold a BA in Literature. After obtaining my BA, I continued my education at Mills College where I earned my MFA in English. After working as a classified employee of the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District for three years, I decided to go back to school for my teaching credential. As a teacher, I hope to inspire students to make deeper connections with their peers and the world around them. In my free time I enjoy reading, cooking, working on puzzles, and painting. My family is famous for our "Sunday Night Dinners" and I look forward to them each week.

Moriah Rodriguez - Speech/Language Pathologist



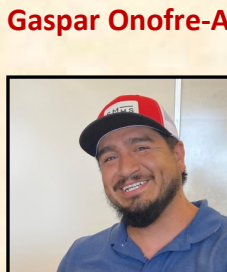
Hello everyone! My name is Moriah Rodriguez and I'm a Bilingual Speech Language Pathologist! I made the move from the Central Valley to the Central Coast in the summer of 2020! I received my B.S. degree in Speech Language Pathology from University of the Pacific in 2018. I went on to work as a Speech Pathology Assistant before returning to school to complete my Master's degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders from Baylor University. I take pride in being a part of the Hispanic community and always look forward to finding ways to give back. Aside from speech therapy, I also enjoy playing the piano, the beach, traveling, and spending time with family and friends. I enjoy being a part of my church where I play the piano and attend international church events. I look forward to being part of the SMHS community!

Savanna Sustaita - Counselor



I am honored to be serving as this year's College & Career Counselor. As a product of this district, having been born and raised in Santa Maria, I am excited to continue to give back to the community that shaped me. This will be my third year as a school counselor, having previously worked at Righetti High School. I graduated from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo with a BA in Liberal Studies and an emphasis in Biology while my Master's is from Concordia University Irvine. When I am not serving students, I devote a lot of my time to nonprofit work with Be Strong You're Loved Inc., baking sourdough, and enjoying the outdoors with my husband and two doxies. I look forward to working with you as we support our students and wish you all an awesome school year. Go Saints!

Gaspar Onofre-Almanza - Teacher, Extended Learning Opportunity



I am Gaspar Onofre-Almanza, and I am thrilled to be a part of the best high school ever! I graduated from Santa Maria High School, and I made it a mission to return to this amazing city to be a part of the best profession in the world: education. In my educational journey, I was the Art teacher at Coalinga Middle School and then transferred to Washington Union High School, both located in Fresno County. I truly got my feet wet in education in Long Beach, teaching in private art studios. I received my bachelor's degree in Studio Art and my Art teaching credential at CSU Long Beach. On another note, I was born and raised in Santa Maria and am no stranger to agriculture. I started working in the fields at the age of 12, and my hands didn't stop working the Santa Maria strawberry lands until the age of 23. As the Extended Learning teacher, I will use my knowledge to help young minds prosper. See you around, SAINTS!

Jose Vivar - Math



Hello Saints,

I am Jesus Vivar Torres, an alumnus of Santa Maria High School. I received my bachelor's in computer science from Cal Poly and my master's degree from Grand Canyon University. After six years working at Righetti High School and working with students, I am passionate about teaching and supporting students in my community. Throughout my academic career, educators have encouraged and believed in me, and these educators have directly contributed to my academic success. Now, I feel I can use my background and experiences to encourage students in my community.