

Learning Post High School
The Post vs. Hart@Home

Learning Post High School is the Wm. S. Hart District's independent study school. It was opened in 1980 – 39 years ago. It is WASC accredited & NCAA approved just like the other high schools in the Wm. S. Hart District. Dr. Pete Getz is the Principal of Learning Post High School and Academy of the Canyons.

Learning Post High School offers two independent study options. The first being The Post, and it is located on the COC-Valencia campus in the University Center. The second option is Hart@Home, and it is located on Spirit Court in the annex building adjacent to the district office.

The two options, The Post & Hart@Home, have their unique features between them which are described below.

The Post is the original independent study format for our district. It offers enrollment for grades 9 – 12, and it uses both online Apex curriculum and district textbooks as sources for some of its elective curriculum. At The Post, students meet with their supervising teacher once a week. This is a standing one hour appointment each week with their supervising teacher – ex: Tuesdays at 10:00am. At that appointment, the student will turn in all completed assignments given to them from the prior week's meeting, discuss any curriculum questions they may have, take any chapter tests – if applicable that week, and go over their new week's assignments for their courses. Their weekly appointment is generally an hour long but can be longer depending on how many chapter tests might be needed. The Post facility has available to the students work/study stations, student computers, student printer, & classroom set of textbooks. Therefore, students are welcome and encouraged to use The Post facility as a place to come and study – to get away from the distractions of life & focus on their course work. Many students do take advantage of this by coming to The Post three or four days a week for several hours each day – to study & complete assignments; however, this certainly isn't a requirement, and there are also many students who show up only once a week for their regular weekly appointment. Due to the nature of independent study, The Post students are free to come & go from the school site as they choose – it is an open campus.

The Post uses a variable credit system which means students are earning their credits at their own variable rate. When a student completes a course, the credits are posted to the transcript, and the student can immediately move on to the next course of study. For example, if a student finishes English 10A in early November, the credits are posted and the student can immediately begin English 10B course work. The variable credit system is ideal for students who are credit deficient and need to work at a more rigorous pace in order to catch up & stay on pace in order to graduate on time. Variable credits is also ideal for students who have a goal of graduating early and are motivated to work at a more rigorous pace in order to meet their early graduation goal.

Because of the nature of a variable credit system, The Post is generally able to enroll students at any point in the school year.

The Post does not offer foreign language, honors, or AP level courses; however, there are options available to fulfill this level of course work, if desired. Those options will be highlighted after summarizing Learning Post High School's second independent study option - Hart@Home.

In 2011, Learning Post High School opened an additional independent study option which is referred to as Hart@Home. The Hart@Home option offers enrollment for grades 7 – 12, and it uses online Apex software for all its curriculum. Many assignments and tests are done online, but there are some assignments which are turned in directly to the teacher and some tests which must be taken on site. The student meets with the Hart@Home supervising teacher a minimum of bi-monthly appointments. Generally, students begin with weekly meetings and progress to bi-monthly meetings if student proves to be a successful independent learner. At the appointment, the student & supervising teacher will discuss curriculum pacing & develop goal plans if not on pace. The Hart@Home facility has available to the students work/study stations, student computers, & printers. Therefore, students are welcome and encouraged to use

the Hart@Home facility as a place to come and study – to get away from the distractions of life & focus on their course work. Many students do take advantage of this by coming to Hart@Home three or four days a week for several hours each day – to study & complete assignments; however, this certainly isn't a requirement, and there are also many students who show up only for their regular appointments. Due to the nature of independent study, Hart@Home students are free to come & go from the school site as they choose – it is an open campus.

Hart@Home is a semester based credit system. At Hart@Home grades/credits are earned at the end of each semester for high school courses and at the quarter for the junior high school classes. Therefore, Hart@Home is not ideally suited for credit deficient students or students with goals to graduate early.

Because of the nature of a semester based system, Hart@Home generally must close its enrollment 2-3 weeks into each semester.

Hart@Home offers foreign language, honors, and AP level courses via the online Apex curriculum, each supported by the specific subject matter teaching staff through small group instruction, labs, and one-on-one meetings.

All Learning Post High School students – The Post and Hart@Home, have the option of dual enrollment at their residence area school. Students are allowed to take one or two classes at their dual enrollment school. Class requests are arranged by the Learning Post High School academic counselor and are based on space availability. If a student is participating in a CIF level sport at their residence area school, there is a district policy requirement of taking two classes for dual enrollment – PE/sport and one additional class. CIF participants must meet all CIF/district requirements for participation.

Students attending The Post who wish to participate in foreign language, honors, or AP level courses may do so via dual enrollment at their residence area school. Another option for this level of course work is taking classes at College of the Canyons (COC) beginning in 11th grade. All high school students are eligible to enroll in COC classes beginning in 11th grade. COC tuition is free to high school students.

Learning Post High School students are encouraged to participate in their Associated Student Body (ASB) Club. Students and Club teacher meet weekly for fun, peer building activities as well as planning school activities such as school dances, holiday-themed events, talent show, fundraising, as well as community service activities. Students are also able to qualify for and participate in California Scholarship Foundation (CSF) activities and honors.

Learning Post High School offers a unique and personal graduation ceremony where the supervising teachers speak briefly about each of their students. Families rave time and time again about how much they appreciated the personal, up close ceremony for their Learning Post High School graduate. If a Learning Post High School student has dual enrollment during their final semester, they have the option of requesting to participate instead in their residence area school's graduation ceremony.

The process for enrollment at Learning Post High School begins with an application. A choice of The Post or Hart@Home is selected on the application. A transcript must be included with the application unless the applicant is currently enrolled in one of the Wm. S. Hart District schools.