



Daniel Gonia

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Last Updated: August 8, 2025

OPEN HOUSE

DISTANCE LEARNING LINKS

OFFICE HOURS AND CLASSROOM LINKS

Classroom Links

[Green Up and Go \(Periods 4, 5, and 6\)](#)

[Principles of Engineering \(Periods 1 and 2\)](#)

Office Hours

Tue & Thur : 3:45pm-5:15pm

Mon - Fri : During Lunch

STAFF BIO

Hello Future Engineers,

I was born and raised in San Diego. I attended West Hills High School, just east on the 52 from Canyon Hills High. My journey to becoming a teacher was far from a linear path. However, I believe it has given me a unique passion and perspective on the subject.

When I was your age, attending high school, the only thing I wanted to do was surf and keep my grades high enough to be eligible for sports. No classes really spoke to me, this caused school to feel more like an obligation than a resource. I didn't have the grades or the money to attend the college of my choice, but I did want to continue running track and xc. I attended San Diego Mesa Community College and signed up for a couple entire level engineering course. I fell in love with the subject. School started to make sense and with the perspective of becoming a better engineer, I started actively participating in classes rather than passing through them.

I was able to get a scholarship to my dream college, Cal Poly SLO, and continue my engineering education. At Cal Poly I saw some moderate success with running and after graduating with a degree in engineering I decided to see how far the sport could take me. After a couple of years and a handful of failed attempts at the marathon, I made the decision to move back to SD and use my engineering degree. I got a job as a project

engineer for a HVAC mechanical contractor and had the opportunity to work on dozens of amazing projects.

After 3 years of office work, I needed a change and the opportunity to teach engineering at Canyon Hills High presented itself. This has been one of the best experiences of my life. It is an absolute joy to wake up and teach a subject I am passionate about to a wonderful community of young engineers.

SYLLABUS

 [Green Up Course Syllabus 2025-2026 CanyonHills.pdf](#)

 [Honors Principles of Engineering 2025-2026.pdf](#)

EDUCATION

Cal Poly, SLO

2008 - 2012

Bachelor of Science, Mechanical Engineering

CANYON HILLS HIGH SCHOOL



ABOUT CANYON HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

VISION

Canyon Hills High School is a diverse community of active learners, inclusive of all people and voices, committed to preparing our students to be lifelong independent learners ready for the complexities and challenges of tomorrow.

MISSION

We embrace our diverse community and promote equity, inclusion, respect, and self-advocacy. We achieve academic success, without feeling the pressure of conformity, by engaging in complex issues with creativity and collaboration to support our growth and learning.

Core Values (How do we live our mission to achieve our vision?)

Equity

We create and learn in our culturally responsive and inclusive classroom communities.

We empower students to express their ideas and voice.

We celebrate and raise up unique ways of learning.

We open access and provide equitable support through our systems to promote success for all.

We do not exclude or create barriers for some by ensuring our systems and policies are inclusive.

Belonging

We embrace diversity in a multiethnic world.

We feel valued, seen, and included.

We welcome all in a safe environment.

We model respect and place relationships at the forefront.

We support our students' emotional and academic needs in partnership with families and the community.

Thriving

We hold high expectations for ourselves and our students.

We teach relevant academics and skills that promote success beyond high school.

We create student-centered, academically challenging environments.

We promote self-advocacy and ownership of learning.

We provide multiple pathways to success.

We measure our growth and success over time as a means of continuous improvement.

HELPFUL LINKS

[Canyon Hills High School's Home Page](#)

<https://www.sandiegounified.org/schools/canyonhills>

Principal Renfree's Blog

<https://serrahighschool.wixsite.com/blog>

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