

## East Village High School Offers Students the City College Experience

If Kaitlin and Kristin Deshotel have one regret about their decision to enroll at East Village High School on the San Diego City College Campus, it's that they hadn't made the decision to enroll sooner.

The twins, both star athletes named to *The San Diego Union-Tribune's* 2019-20 All-Academic Team for high school sports when they were at Mira Mesa High School, began looking at their options when the COVID-19 pandemic forced San Diego city schools to stick with an online learning format during the 2020-21 academic year. At East Village High School, the Deshotels found a rigorous and supportive academic program offering numerous college courses that also count toward their high school diploma.



"East Village offers us wider flexibility in regard to high school courses, and with everything going online anyway, we're not missing out on the athletics side," said Kaitlin Deshotel, who, like her sister, is a regional semifinalist for a 2021 Coca-Cola scholarship award with a 4.62 GPA and nearly a dozen AP courses along the way.

East Village High School offers students the ability to earn – at no cost – up to 54 units of college credit during their four years at the campus, a number just short of reaching status as a junior when transferring to a college or university. In addition to an enhanced curriculum, high school students in the concurrent enrollment program also benefit from receiving free tuition, experiencing small classes sizes, saving time and money associated with college, earning similar GPA points as AP classes, and more – all for free!

"Even though all courses are being offered remotely at the moment, there's a distinct difference between being in an online class with college students and with high school students," said the twins' mom, Ticia Deshotel.

"One of the things we've always impressed upon our girls is to be college ready," said their father, Mitch Deshotel, a Navy air traffic control officer who moved with his family to Mira Mesa when he was reassigned to Naval Base San Diego some 18 months ago. "Had we known about this place when we first moved to San Diego, we would have enrolled them at East Village earlier."

Before next fall, Kaitlin and Kristin will be on the move once more. Kaitlin, who played varsity soccer at Mira Mesa High School, is hoping to enroll at Harvard or another one of her top five choices with career aspirations of becoming a surgeon. Kristin, a starter on the varsity basketball team while at Mira Mesa, is aiming for UCLA as one of her top choices and a career as an attorney.

“East Village was a good decision,” Kristin said. “It worked out well for both of us. It’s certainly worth exploring if you’re looking for a high school with great education opportunities.”

*Photo from left: Kristin and Kaitlin Deshotel*

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*Established in 1914, **San Diego City College** serves as the educational cornerstone of downtown San Diego. A 60-acre urban campus, City College serves more than 17,000 students, offering 200 majors and degrees and 1,800 classes. City College is part of the San Diego Community College District (SDCCD), the second-largest of California’s 72 community college districts, which also includes Mesa College, Miramar College, and Continuing Education. For more information, visit [www.sdcity.edu](http://www.sdcity.edu).*

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