

# CALIFORNIA



## DOTY MIDDLE SCHOOL



### 2018-2019 SCHOOL STATISTICS

Designated in 2019

Re-Designated in

Community Size - Suburban

School Enrollment - 1397

Grade Levels - 6-8

School Calendar - Traditional

Free & Reduced Lunch - 70%

English Learners - 18%

Students with Disabilities - 14%

Downey Unified School District

10301 Woodruff Ave., Downey, CA 90241

Tel 562-904-3586

Principal - Brent Shubin

[www.dusd.net/doty](http://www.dusd.net/doty)

### 2018-2019 School Demographics

- African American - 2%
- Asian - 4%
- Caucasian - 7%
- Filipino - 0%
- Hispanic - 87%
- Native American - 0%
- Pacific Islander - 0%
- Other - 0%
- Two or More - 0%

### School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

#### Academic Excellence

Doty's vision statement is "Developing Opportunities for Today's Youth through building strong foundations for success in high school, college, and life." This foundation begins with a standards-based college prep curriculum to prepare students for the University of California's A-G courses, a high school graduation requirement.

Our SWIF goal, "Read Critically - Read It All" by annotating text and citing evidence, unifies instruction among all disciplines with a consistent set of academic practices.

Google Classroom is used for collaborative feedback where students trace peer and teacher comments and track improvement in online portfolios.

Our AVID program is also expanding school-wide, sharing WICOR strategies and a college-going mentality.

Through the English 3D curriculum, which scaffolds academic reading and writing similarly to ERWC, Doty's EL students reclassify at exceptional rates, meriting our 2015 California Gold Ribbon Award.

Doty Project Lead the Way classes use CAD software to design and print 3D objects; the Robotics Team competes in regional challenges. In the Green Architecture class, students use professional software to design sustainable homes and build wooden sheds. Our Mock Trial students present cases to judges in Downtown Los Angeles courthouses. Every day, the DTV crew broadcasts a ten-minute live student-produced show over closed-circuit TV.

Doty's master schedule includes interventions to help all students meet rigorous academic standards while addressing their social-emotional needs. Previously, Support classes targeted Math or English; now they include organizational and motivational strategies from "Capturing Kids' Hearts." Two credentialed Interventionists also assist students in Math and Language Arts. Beginning EL students receive an additional support period as they work towards reclassification.

Using tools such as Q, Illuminate, and formative classroom assessments, teachers monitor and adjust lessons and pacing to meet their students' needs. PLC teams conduct targeted data analysis most often to identify overall trends in student achievement and to gauge how well students learned standards-based objectives.

At Saturday Academic Academies, teachers present special topics requiring extended time. For example, Band, Drama and Mock Court held rehearsals; Art students worked on gallery projects. Doty offers support within and beyond the instructional day to extend learning to all.

Doty teachers collaborate formally on early-release Wednesdays, with PLC meetings 3 times per month. ILT, faculty, department, and committee meetings rotate through our schedule. Site based PD occurs after Faculty meetings. PLCs meet at the district for vertical teaming. Doty teachers make the most of ample opportunities to work with colleagues on campus and throughout the district.

## **Developmental Responsiveness**

Across campus, Doty murals reflect the intellectual, ethical, social, and physical traits expected of our students. Class posters include Knights of Integrity; our principal offers weekly Words of Wisdom on DTV.

In addition to our Vice Principal, Doty's Dean manages positive behavior incentives as well as disciplinary consequences.

Instead of following one group from 6th through 8th grade, each counselor focuses on the specific needs of one grade level, giving each student 3 trusted advisors who collaborate to ensure student success.

WEB (Where Everybody Belongs) pairs 6th graders with 8th grade mentors, leading small group activities and larger social events throughout the year. WEB is an integral part of 6th grade orientation.

Doty offers 11 sports teams for boys and girls at each grade; since 2014, Doty has earned the District Middle School Championship trophy every year. In addition, boys and girls also join lunch intramural sports in 6 seasonal tournaments. Achievements are celebrated at our Rallies for Success.

The "Doty Family" provides stability for our students, offering many supports for students and families. Students receive grade-specific counseling, easing the transition from elementary school and the adjustment to adolescence, and preparing them for greater independence in high school.

For student who have lost loved ones, the JFCP provides on-campus Grief Counseling. For families who are struggling financially, agencies including the TLC Center provide comprehensive resources and supplies including health care referrals and homeless support. Our counselors host "A Very Doty Christmas" with community donations to provide a banquet and presents from Santa to a few families who are going through tough times.

Project Respect is an inviting area outfitted with awnings, life-size games, and a specific set of accepted behaviors. Other lunch groups include Lunch Bunch, matching Special Ed students with student leaders. In its 7th year, Power Up boosts self-esteem to girls through crafts and a positive curriculum. RSP and EL teachers both host resource rooms, and our library is open for extended hours as well as during snack and lunch.

Family Math Night, Family Language Arts Night, College Night, and other parent education events, are often scheduled before PTA meetings to encourage parent participation.

Doty began the PBIS program whereby teachers and staff award positive referrals to students based on Character Counts Pillars of Character, with prizes given through motivating contests.

All students have representation at school and many opportunities for leadership, particularly through clubs and sports. Daily DTV broadcasts celebrate daily birthdays, encourage participation in school events, and run contests and shows reflecting student interests. Student Senate approves all ASB spending and organizes regular social events.

Families are included in campus leadership decisions through our ELAC and School Site Council. LCAP survey participation has increased from 58 to 417 parents whose votes help determine priorities for our school plan.

## **Social Equity**

Most Doty students access the Common Core through heterogenous classes. Students are clustered in core classes for GATE and AVID to enrich instruction with depth and complexity. RSP students are integrated in science and social studies.

SDC classes are departmentalized, mirroring the general ed program. The Life Skills class follows the standards-based Unique Learning Systems program for students with disabilities. This class

thrives under the dedication of its teachers and 1:1 aides.

EL students receive scaffolding through English 3D; reclassified students are in TL clusters with support from Interventionists.

Our Support classes, revised to reach the "whole child," provide an extra period of intervention for students not in special programs. It's not a remedial track; these classes have flexible entry and exit criteria. Classes are adjusted as needed.

Through our PLC model supported by ongoing PD, Doty teachers continually adapt curriculum and instruction to meet changing needs. Teachers revise lessons through PLC data analysis of FCA results.

Equal access to valued knowledge in all classes has improved with greater implementation of the 21CLC initiative; every core class has 20 laptops per room in addition to our many laptop carts. Blended Learning makes this core content more accessible to all, including TL and RSP students, through small group differentiation.

Interventionists assist in the regular classroom with our TL students; less proficient students still have access to the general curriculum in classes other than EL Support.

Our expanded CTE/STEAM electives add rigor and real-world practices; these and all of our interest-based electives are available to more students through Zero Period. 139 students benefit from this option.

Doty students have opportunities to learn about their own and other cultures. DTV students create biography segments for each Student of the Week; the recipient submits personal photos and interview answers, and the broadcast features the student's family background, friends, travels, and interests. Readings in class subjects reflect diverse cultures. Different cultures are honored with music selections in Band and Guitar Club. The cafeteria manager selects menus from many cultures. Library materials also represent many languages and cultures.

WEB, Character Counts, Kindness Week, Project Respect-- so many of our initiatives are there to make each child feel individually valued on campus. At Doty, we expect everyone-- students, teachers, and staff-- to treat each other with respect. It's mirrored in signs and murals all over campus.

Spanish translation is available at events; Blackboard auto-dialer messages are in English and Spanish. Doty has offered Parent Ed events at different times of day (morning, after school; night; before PTA meetings) to accommodate parent schedules.

School Awards Assemblies recognize academics, artistic merit, attendance, athletics, citizenship, leadership, and service. Special Ed and EL students receive awards for their achievements; PE awards are not just for athletic skill but also for outstanding participation. Students who read from 500,000 to 1,000,000 words and more earn Accelerated Reading medals.

## **Organizational Support**

Our SWIF goal, Read Critically, is taught explicitly in every classroom, with standards posted for every lesson. Teachers administer pre and post tests on our SWIF goal; uneven growth confirms that critical reading is still our priority.

Our PLC and ILT Distributed Leadership model drives decision making. Last year, ILT revised our Vision and Mission statements to make them more direct.

Constant improvement is monitored by data analysis through Q, Illuminate, SBAC, STAR, and SWIF results, PLC FCAs, and new ELPAC scores.

The SPSA and the LCAP Action Plan are revised yearly based on data to prioritize areas of improvement.

Early-out Wednesday meetings are scheduled in advance for the entire year. PLC leaders submit minutes, conferring with administration to validate each team's goals. A printed hierarchy informs stakeholders of the responsibilities of each administrator and counselor, who plan in regular Cabinet meetings.

The Faculty Liaison Committee resolves issues before they become conflicts; the Safety & Discipline Committee addresses topics from disaster drills to dress code.

Our SWIF goal, motto, symbol, and assessments were created through a lengthy process among PLCs, ILT, and vertical articulation. Three teachers had different suggestions for improving the lunch environment, as many 6th graders were eating in teachers' rooms. In ILT they merged their ideas to form Project Respect, increasing funding and easing implementation.

At least 25% of our staff attended DUSD schools; others came to Doty after working as student teachers, aides, or substitutes. Such loyalty shows a commitment to our school and community.

Learning, experimentation, and reflection occur within the classroom, among PLCs, and in ILT. PLCs have autonomy in creating pacing guides and adjusting instruction after examining data from Q, Illuminate, and work samples. Each PLC authored its section of the SWIF assessment and revisited it after analyzing test data to improve its clarity.

Our district prioritizes professional development; Doty teachers participate in many programs to improve student achievement. In-services are not single events for individuals but ongoing team commitments spanning months if not years. Our district revises PD based on teacher evaluations of each event.

WEB leaders help our counseling team welcome our incoming 5th graders for the spring campus tour as well as 6th Grade Orientation, which includes students and their families. Our 8th graders tour Downey High; their counselors register students at our campus.

The Illuminate program allows teachers to analyze test data by student, class, grade level, and standard. PLC pacing guides and assessments are revised after data analysis.

Doty Middle School covets support from our families and community. The Doty website, Q Parent Connect, and Remind.com regularly communicate goals to our parents. School Site Council parent representatives meet regularly to help implement our SPSA, including spending priorities. ELAC meetings include student presentations and parent education; Title 1 parents complete surveys to assess parent education programs. PTA supports the school in many ways, including fundraisers and appreciation events.