



Canyon Middle School

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Designated in 2007, Re-designated 2010, 2013, 2016

Canyon Middle School • Castro Valley • Alameda County
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[School Web site](#)

2016 School Statistics

(Sources: 2009 API Growth Report; 2010 AYP Report)

Community: Suburban
Enrollment: 1410
Grade Levels: 6-8
School Schedule: Six periods with daily zero periods

Student Demographics

- 24% Hispanic
- 27% White
- 9% African American
- 4% Filipino
- 24% Asian
- 0.4% Pacific Islander

- 21.2% Free/Reduced Lunch
- 6.6% English Learners

2012 Base: 887
2013 Growth: 884 (up 39 points since 2008)
2015 CAASPP Baselines:

- 60% met or exceeded standard ELA
- 47% met or exceeded standard Math

(Visit [HYPERLINK](http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ar/index.asp)
"http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ar/index.asp"
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ar/index.asp> to view this
school's data for prior years.)

School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

Academic Excellence

- California Standards provide the framework for skills and curriculum expectations.
- We have 2 sections of AVID elective for 7th and 8th grade. AVID strategies are implemented across all grades and subjects.
- Zero period offerings include music, Spanish and PE. Students take zero period PE to increase access to other courses during the day.
- Flexible grouping in Math Intervention classes allows students to move in and out of Intervention class while maintaining access to core instruction.
- Modified block schedule (Wednesday/Thursday) is in place.
- Math, Science and Literacy are supported by district TOSAs who guide content and assessments and deliver model lessons.
- 3:1 chrome books support student access to Google for Education and Google Classroom
- Ample opportunities for Professional Development
 - Weekly PLCs
 - Science teachers participating in Science Partnership for Instructional Innovation as well as district provided PD
 - Teachers that work with EL attended GLAD training and ELD/ELA training

- AVID pathways and summer institute open for all teachers
- Math PD provided by district and publisher
- Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Instruction and Management Cohort

Developmental Responsiveness

- Daily advisory period blends student-facilitated broadcast and targeted lesson on social/emotional issues.
- Sixth grade students are grouped into 3 teams to assist their transition.
- WEB (Where Everybody Belongs) assists with sixth grade transition and provides leadership and mentoring opportunities for eighth graders.
- PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Support) program provides a framework for explicit instruction in expectations and create systems to support students based on their needs.
- Teachers use a variety of instructional strategies to respond to student need: projects, games, simulations, group and partner activities, hands-on experiences, field trips both virtual and physical, and student-directed learning.
- There is ample access to various clubs and programs to support student connectedness and growth.
- Teachers implement technology to engage students in collaboration, publishing and challenging their own thinking.
- Our 3 counselors are each assigned to a grade level and follow that class through their years at Canyon.
- Flight School provides targeted, small-group counseling and support on behavioral and social/emotional skills.
- Streamlined SST (Student Study Team) and COST (Coordination of Services Team) to determine specific interventions and supports for students.

Social Equity

- Parent Involvement that is supported by PTA. Parent connection to school is reinforced through our African American Alliance Network, Padres Unidos and ELAC (English Learner Advisory Committee).
- Our Renaissance reward system is designed to value diversity, civility, service, democratic citizenship, good attendance, behavior, team sports, and academics.
- Our teachers incorporate Culturally and Linguistically Responsive methods and procedures in their classrooms.
- Award nights are dedicated to our African American and Latino students to highlight their achievements and contributions to the school community.
- During our student run broadcast, we share Cultural Connections that highlight the various contributions of the many cultures that are represented at Canyon.
- We have strong partnership and support for our African American Regional Education Alliance through their STEM program and educational awards.
- In the spring, in conjunction with PTA, we host a Cultural Talent Show and Food Faire to celebrate the many cultures represented at Canyon.
- Our Gay/Straight Alliance club meets weekly to provide a safe place for our students and they help organize events on campus to raise awareness and support for student issues.

Organizational Support

- The Canyon Leadership team meets monthly to discuss and take action to address school-wide goals.
- Counselors and administration meet weekly to discuss students and families to be proactive on issues as they arise.
- There are many teams that meet regularly to support and advance programs on campus: AVID site team, PBIS site team and Technology Committee.
- Canyon utilizes Aeries and SWIS (School-Wide Information System) to provide data to support our students in meeting their academic and behavioral goals.
- The master schedule provides supports for our English Learners, special needs, at-risk, and other identified students.
- Departments and grade levels meet monthly to align practices and support grade-level needs.

- Several Professional Development and Cross-Site meetings are scheduled throughout to the year to work collaboratively with the other middle school in the district.