



## Lindero Canyon Middle School



### Designated in 2016

Lindero Canyon Middle School • Las Virgenes USD

- Los Angeles County • Dr. Abbe A. Irshay, Principal
- 5844 Larboard Lane, Agoura Hills, California 91301
- Tel 818-889-2134, Fax 818-889-9432

HYPERLINK "<http://www.lindero canyonmiddleschool.net>"  
[www.lindero canyonmiddleschool.net](http://www.lindero canyonmiddleschool.net)

## 2015 School Statistics

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

Community: Suburban school district serving 4 cities  
Enrollment: 1035  
Grade Levels: 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>  
School Schedule: Traditional

### Student Demographics

- 10.9% Hispanic
- 75.1% White
- 2% African American
- 1% Filipino
- 7.7% Asian
- .1% Pacific Islander
  
- .04% Free/Reduced Lunch
- .03% English Learners

2011 Base: 915

2012 Growth: 924 (up 9 points since 2011)

2010 -11 AYP: Met 13 of 13 criteria

(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)

<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

- LCMS establishes clarity through communication with parents and students
  - Classroom academic and behavior expectations are presented online and by hard copy the first three days of school—signature required
  - All teachers have class web pages on which assignments are posted
- Multiple modalities are used to explain and model assignments
- Across all curricular areas, teachers expect students to complete high quality work using complete and correct sentences.
- Departments are now required to develop cross-curricular projects
- Curricula in all courses develop in a steady progression
- The importance of key concepts is underscored by their application to real world situations
- Teachers use multiple assessment mechanisms
- Rubrics for assignments are clear with self, peer, and teacher review
- Unique Schedule for intervention
  - CAT: a multi-tiered intervention program

- Mandatory Strategies Courses
- Mandatory Study Skills courses
- Drop in before-school tutoring

## **Schools to Watch – California STW—Taking Center Stage Lindero Canyon Middle School**

Page 2

### **Academic Excellence (*continued*)**

- Twice weekly after-school tutoring in English language arts and math
- Zero period physical education class
- Faculty are required to join forces weekly on our shortened day designed for collaboration:
  - Department meetings, grade level meetings, at-risk students meetings
  - Calendar cooperation so major projects have staggered due dates
  - Department meetings, grade level meetings, at-risk students meetings
  - Calendar cooperation so major projects have staggered due dates

### **Developmental Responsiveness**

- Our mantra is: Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Prepared
- Strive to educate the whole child, knowing on any given day, all middle school students may have a special need
- Adults on campus have the responsibility to get to know those we serve
- School Connectedness Groupings: randomly assigned 6th grade activity groups; multi-grade homeroom competitions; interest-oriented groups (chess, guitar, etc.); skills-oriented groups; Pal's lunch club; at-risk teams
- Services for all: educationally, medically, emotionally, financially
- Parents are informed about new programs and social topics at Parent Education Nights
- 97% attendance rate suggests our students want to be at school
- Students engage in group assignments/projects in all subject areas requiring the fine balance of task orientation and social/emotional needs
- Students have opportunities to learn their strengths, weaknesses, and interests
  - Exploratory rotation classes in all grade levels
  - One third of entire student body is enrolled in a performing music class
  - Enrichment classes during CAT
  - School projects to help community

### **Social Equity**

- Regular and high offerings in most core subjects
- Physically handicapped students are accommodated in all class offerings
- Our campus offers Enhanced Day classes (formerly known as classes for Emotionally Disturbed who heretofore attended non-public schools)
- ELD class serves our English Language Learners
- Forward Learning: laptops provided for all students
- Academic Support Classes: A multi-tiered intervention program including CAT, Study Skills, and Strategies classes
- Varied (differentiated) delivery mechanisms of information and multiple options for students to demonstrate mastery of concepts

- Master schedule affords all students a chance to succeed
- Students are not tracked and can move fluidly amongst classes at the semester
- LCMS has an Ability Awareness Fair to promote understanding of physical handicaps
- Positive behavior (monthly BBQ and Cougar Club) is rewarded
- Penalties for poor behavior are clear and applied fairly to all

## **Schools to Watch – California STW—Taking Center Stage** ***Lindero Canyon Middle School***

**Page 3**

### **Developmental Structures and Processes**

- School Site Council is comprised of all our partners: administration, teachers, parents, students, community members
- The principal encourages all to dialogue with her so that communication is not just downward
  - Round table discussions with teachers, counselors and administrators to resolve any site issues
  - Parent Faculty Club meetings
- The principal encourages teachers to try new approaches and projects without fear of failure
- Teachers attend conferences for professional development
- Teachers are supported by the District Office, the School Site Council, and the PFC
- We have transition orientations between elementary schools and between the high school
- Barriers are challenges meant to overcome
- Multiple means of communication with our parents and community-at-large
- Community is supportive: recent bond measure vote passing by 72%