



CALIFORNIA SCHOOL TO WATCH VISITOR'S GUIDE



Chaparral Middle School



Designated in 2017

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2016 School Statistics

(Sources: 2016 SARC; CDE)

Community: Diamond Bar, Suburban (Los Angeles)
Enrollment: 1212
Grade Levels: 6-8
School Schedule: Traditional Calendar

Student Demographics

- 20% Hispanic
- 11.5% White
- 3.5% African American
- 3.3% Filipino
- 58.6% Asian
- 0.2% Pacific Islander
- 0.2% American Indian/Alaska Native
- 2.7% Two or More Races
- 14.4% Free/Reduced Lunch
- 8.9% English Learners
- 6.6% Students with Disabilities
- 0..2% Foster Youth

2013 API: 929, school-wide (last reported rating)

School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

Academic Excellence

- Student centered lessons designed and implemented weekly with specific attention given to appropriate use of rigor, and appropriate student engagement levels.
- Interdisciplinary units implemented within every grade level and coordinated across learning cores that show relevance between subjects.
- Hands on science labs incorporate experimentation while concurrently reinforcing the need to substantiate claims with evidence.
- Awarded two CSBA Golden Bell awards for outstanding practice in Design Based Learning and Arts.
- One to One Tech Based instruction taking place in every content area, every day.
- Coding has been integrated into the mathematics classrooms and is a part of each students learning in math.
- Varied Assessment methods (traditional, tech based, and authentic) are utilized daily.
- Regularly scheduled, teacher Driven Staff Development has created multiple school wide initiatives, and has afforded teacher the ability to continually learn from one another.
- Outdoor Education is encouraged annually for all students through science camps and field trips.
- Teachers are trained and annually participate in learning walks, "Student Engagement Rounds," which focus on lesson design and the implementation of effective student engagement strategies.
- Mathematics practices and literacy strategies are utilized in all classrooms, and in all disciplines. These protocols compound for students from one year to the next, providing all-campus ownership of literacy and math and allowing students to build upon a common knowledge from one year to the next.

(Continued)

Developmental Responsiveness

- In conjunction with a commitment to the “whole child,” and beyond Academics, the other of the Four A’s are promoted heavily.
 - Activities: In addition to zero period ASB and whole school House of Representatives, over thirty after school club opportunities are available to students to create student connections to school.
 - Athletics: Thirty-two percent of our student participate in athletic programs.
 - Arts: Ninety percent of our students participate in the award-winning arts programs. (NAMM awards, Gold Ribbon Arts Distinction, California Exemplary Arts Education Program)
- Our support staff includes a psychologist, a speech therapist, a part-time nurse and health clerk.
- A Counselor or SSRA (Student/Staff Resource Advisor) represents students in each grade level and acts as a student advocate, as well as liaison between school and home.
- PAWs mentors and Counseling outreach build bridges for transitioning 6th grade students and parents.
- ASB and Leadership provide opportunities for students to have a voice in school decisions.
- Three parent organizations (CAPA, HOPE, and CC) provide a monthly connection between our parent community and the school administration.
- Parents and Community members involve themselves in our school as volunteers for field trips, student science camp, as teachers’ aides, and at school performances, etc.
- Regular ELAC meetings allow parent input in program options, such as after school tutoring support.
- ZAP and Homework Club provide opportunities for daily student tutoring and enrichment.
- Daily Advocacy lessons utilize Character Counts curriculum and inspire students to regularly participate in various character building initiatives, such as Grit Week, Don’t Be a Bystander and Mix it Up Days
- Service clubs on campus, such as Leos Club, Buddy-Up Club, Special Olympics 8th grade mentors, Christian Club, and HUMANitarian Club focus on community service projects, which challenge students to be “larger than self.”

Social Equity

- Foreign language offerings on campus, Spanish and Chinese, remind students of a global perspective.
- International students provide cultural exchange during “extended stay” and one-week “camps.”
- Cultural celebrations, such as Chinese New Year and Dia De Los Muertos, are campus traditions.
- Non-traditional performance tasks (debates, TED talks, original music compositions, art pieces, blogs, etc.) provide all students the opportunity for expression.
- CAPA, HOPE and ELAC exist to make sure that all parents have voice on campus.
- CCNN broadcasts showcase the school’s diversity and talents and are available live to our community.
- Multiple “Cougar Challenge” Days allow a voice to students who are “at-risk”.

Organizational Support

- Our flexible, “Rotating Block” schedule capitalizes on extended periods, and varying learning times for students.
- Our campus Leadership Team ensures teacher leadership and group decision making.
- PLC Days afford weekly staff development opportunities for all staff members.
- All staff are afforded an individual “budget” for personalized “professional development opportunities.”
- An Onsite Technology coach provides assistance and support for developing “techie” teachers.
- Communication with Feeder schools, both incoming/outgoing, provide student and parent “orientations” that allow for smoother transitions for students and parents alike.
- College and Career Day celebrates community partnerships and provides students resources
- Student Study Teams are regularly convened to individualize growth plans for strugglers.
- Campus Communications are enhanced through social media accounts, student planners, monthly Principal’s Newsletters, Email and Phone messaging, and through parent feedback from organizations.
- Data driven curriculum through benchmarks and data capture using *Illuminate*.