



SCHOOLS TO WATCH – TAKING CENTER STAGE

MODEL SCHOOL – VISITOR’S GUIDE



Edna Hill Middle School



Designated 2007; Re-Designated 2010

Edna Hill Middle School • Brentwood Union School District
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2010 School Statistics

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

Community: Suburban
Enrollment: 831
Grade Levels: 6-8
School Schedule: Eight-period with 94-minute core block (language arts-social studies)

Student Demographics

- 43% White
- 39% Hispanic/Latino
- 9% African American
- 3% Asian
- 3% Filipino
- 1% Pacific Islander
- 1% Two or more races
- 0% American Indian/Alaska Native

- 39% Free/Reduced Lunch
- 18% English Learners

2009 API Base: 795
2010 API Growth: 843 (up 166 points since 1999-00)
2010 AYP: Met 23 of 23 criteria

(Visit <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

- Weekly common planning time allows teachers to review students' individual learning plans and data.
- An additional 30 minutes of language arts and social studies is provided on Wednesdays.
- Students needing extended time are assigned to a double block of algebra.
- Academic interventions include: Academic support classes for struggling readers during school, before school, and after school. Math accelerated class has additional pre- and re-teach instructional time.
- Teachers develop and score common assessments aligned to standards and California Standard Test blueprints.

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Developmental Responsiveness

- Welcome Everybody (WEB) program transitions new students to the middle grades.
- Students are grouped into interdisciplinary teams to build relationships.
- Math teachers loop with their students.
- Students create a three-year individual learning plan and conduct student-led conferences.
- Daily advisory period includes a student study of Sean Covey's *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens* which has been effective in reducing suspensions, diversity, and study skills; all students are in a three-year loop with the same advisory teacher.
- Students are offered an array of electives—music, drama, art, health, technology, industrial arts, all levels of band, choir, yearbook, and leadership.
- Lunchtime activities include intramural sports and tournaments.
- After-school activities include cross country, wrestling, softball, basketball, volleyball, soccer, cheerleading, and track.
- After the Bell curriculum, the 40 developmental assets for adolescents are explored.

Social Equity

- Resource officers support and conduct Reduce Adolescent Violence Education (RAVE).
- Declining suspensions and referrals are attributed to alternative discipline methods.
- Home visits by the principal and teachers reach out to Hispanic families.
- Students are heterogeneously grouped across teams.
- There is a “walk-through” coaching process for English language learner classroom teachers.
- The school actively seeks to involve and connect with parents.
- Diversity curriculum is a part of advisory classes.
- Students are rewarded and provided incentives on many levels including positive notes home, PAWS (Positively Awesome Wonderful Students) awards, and student recognition of demonstrated good character traits.

Organizational Support

- All staff members have every opportunity to reach their capacity and cultivate shared leadership through teaching and learning teams, advisory council teams, or team leadership.
- Long-term systemic planning is routine for staff through their professional learning communities.
- School staff members actively gather and analyze data as the basis for the decision-making process.
- Collaborative learning time for teachers is scheduled weekly with established protocols and agendas.
- Most decisions are made through a collaborative decision-making process.
- The school holds itself accountable for the success of each and every student.
- The school enjoys strong connections and partnerships with parents, the greater community, and universities.
- The student center handles all attendance, discipline, counseling, and in-school suspensions.