



SCHOOLS TO WATCH – TAKING CENTER STAGE

MODEL SCHOOL – VISITOR'S GUIDE



Millikan Middle School



Designated 2005, Re-Designated 2008

Millikan Middle School • Los Angeles Unified School District • Los Angeles County • John Plevack, Principal • 5041 Sunnyslope Avenue, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423 • Tel 818-528-1600, Fax 818-990-7654 •

http://www.lausd.k12.ca.us/Millikan_MS/

2009 School Statistics

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

Community: Large city
Enrollment: 1,947
Grade Levels: 6-8
School Schedule: Six periods with 15-minute nutrition break

Student Demographics

- 48% White
- 35% Hispanic/Latino
- 11% African American
- 4% Asian
- 2% Filipino
- 1% American Indian/Alaska Native
- 0% Pacific Islander

- 42% Free/Reduced Lunch
- 8% English Learners

2008 API Base: 841

2009 API Growth: 846 (up 261 points since 1999-00)

2009 AYP: Met 25 of 29 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

- Rigorous standards-based instruction coupled with ongoing assessment and review of that data play an integral role in instructional planning.
- A team of teachers works together to plan instructional strategies, field trips, activities, and culminating projects that address the content standards.
- Subject-focused academies connect students to rigorous academic coursework, fieldtrips, and projects; academies to which students may belong are Civics, Math, Science, Visual Communications, Performing Arts, or the School of Advanced Studies (SAS).
- Technology is used to facilitate and support learning in a variety of ways, including five computer labs, classroom computers, and LCD projectors.
- The extensive arts program has 10 full-time art teachers with outstanding facilities.

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Developmental Responsiveness

- The school has organized many schools-within-a-school configurations to meet the needs of adolescents.
- A full-time interventions coordinator develops personalized supports to meet student learning needs.
- Both student responsibility and respect are emphasized across campus.
- Many teachers employ instructional strategies that are infused with the arts allowing for innovation for culminating projects.
- An extensive performing arts elective program includes dance, drama, instrumental music, vocal music, Afro-Caribbean drumming, jazz band, costume design, and musical theatre.
- An after-school intervention program provides free homework assistance and/or tutoring six days per week.
- IMPACT, Peer Mediation Team, Rainbow Council, Performing Arts Ambassadors, and other special interest groups provide ongoing socio-emotional support to assist students in developing their own identity and resolving disputes and disagreements through nonviolent means.
- Students donate time to perform at community festivals, elementary schools, nursing homes, and shelters.
- Millikan Student Leadership sponsors a variety of activities and focused community service efforts.

Social Equity

- Collaborative working relationships between special education and regular education students and teachers ensure inclusion that is equitable and successful.
- Students with disabilities have access to the exceptional performing arts and technology programs.
- Daily homeroom period includes a variety of special programs that are accessible to all students.
- Ongoing partnerships with a variety of community arts agencies provide cultural assemblies and special instructional workshops that highlight ethnic groups represented in the Millikan student body.

Organizational Support

- Department cadres and the instructional leadership team collaborate regularly to identify at-risk students and provide focused support in meeting content standards.
- Support teams are designed to provide focused intervention for students unable to reach proficiency in English or math on the California Standards Tests.
- Modified Tuesday schedule provides teachers with weekly professional learning opportunities.