



Hillcrest Community School Profile 2012

"I am my community. My community is me."

Our Community

Hillcrest is a multicultural and multilingual elementary school in southeast San Francisco. Our mission is to engage students to become enthusiastic, lifelong learners who will make positive contributions to their families and their communities.

School Population: 485 students; Grades K-5; 86% Free and Reduced-Price Lunch; 65% English Language Learners; 16% Special Needs Students; 11% African American; 30% Asian; 8% Filipino; 44% Latino; 1% Pacific Islander; 3% White; 3% Multiple Race/Decline to State.

Core Services 20011-12

* Rigorous, Inquiry-Based and Literacy-Focused Academic Program

Professional Development

Columbia University's Teachers College
Weekly Teacher Collaboration Meetings
Balanced Literacy Network
Equity Centered Professional Learning Communities

Academic Program

Reading & Writing Workshop
Quarterly Benchmark Reading Assessments
Leveled Classroom Libraries
Literacy Intervention
End of Year 5th Grade Student Portfolio Presentations

* Seamless Day and Year

After School Program

Linked-Day Staff
Serves 220 students for free from 1:50 – 6:00 p.m.
50 student waiting list
Inclusion Program
Project-Based Lessons
Soccer Team
Community Service Projects
Homework Help, 1:1 Tutoring
Clubs: Bicycle, Skateboard, Glee, Art, Poetry, Garden

Summer Program

6 weeks
Serves 150 students from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
70 student waiting list
Project-Based Neighborhood Studies
Partnership with SF Public Library
Middle School Transition Focus
Prevention of Summer Learning Loss

* Parent Engagement

Leadership

Parent Teacher Association
English Language Learner Advisory Committee
After School Parent Group
School Site Council
Leadership Trainings

Supports

Family Resource Center
Food Bank
Family Literacy Workshops
Bi-lingual Parent Outreach Staff - Cantonese & Spanish
Parenting Workshops
Fathers Group
Family Reading Room

* Health and Wellness

Mental & Behavioral

Individual Therapy

Case Management

Behavior and Social Skills Groups

Mental Health Consultation

School Climate Program

Environmental & Nutritional

Garden Coordinator

Harvest of the Month

Nutrition Education Project

Composting & Recycling in Cafeteria

Physical

Dental & Vision Screenings

On-site Nurse

* Program Coordination, Integration and Alignment

Weekly Coordinated Services Team Meetings

Monthly Partner Collaborative Meeting

Tri-annual Community School Council

Parent Teacher Association

School Site Council

English Language Learner Advisory Council

Weekly Community School Leadership Meeting

Bi-weekly Mental Health Collaborative Meeting

Monthly Instructional Leadership Team Meeting

SFUSD Community School Coordinator Cohort

* Community Engagement

Access Institute; AcroSports; Balanced Literacy Network; Coleman Advocates for Children and Youth; Columbia University's Teachers College; Comcast; Cowell Foundation; Edgewood Center for Children and Families; ExCEL; Experience Corps; Instituto Familiar de la Raza; Lick Wilmerding High School; Reading Partners; SCORES; SF Arts Ed; SF Ballet; SF Department for Children; Youth and their Families; SF Ed Fund; SF Food Bank; SF Foundation; SF Green Schoolyard Alliance; SF Symphony; SFUSD Student Support Services Department; Streetside Stories; Support for Families for Children with Disabilities; Zellerbach Foundation

* Evaluation 2011-12

Outputs

1,700+ Volunteer Hours

235 Students in ASP

150 Students in Summer Program

Over 1 million dollars in-kind, leveraged and grant funding

8 Board Certified Teachers

20+ Community Partners

Outcomes

7% increase in 2010-11 CST scores in Reading & Math

15% average gain in 1st – 5th grade reading benchmarks Nov. – March

Staff prioritized Community School services over supplies & computer tech in '12-13 budget

Selected as SFUSD Model for Inclusion Practices

Creation of Collective Impact Survey by Partner Collaborative

Our Story

Hillcrest's families and staff have a shared vision of providing a rigorous, inquiry-based school experience, while also ensuring a consistently caring school climate. At the heart of the Hillcrest philosophy is a belief in the power of relationships.

Hillcrest began its community school journey with a critical mass of like-minded staff and a new administration in 2004. For decades, Hillcrest had followed a traditional educational approach. However, when a gradual demographic shift brought a vibrant, diverse and largely immigrant population to the school, the staff realized that Hillcrest also needed to change its model. We began to focus on our students in a holistic way, including their emotional, social and developmental well-being, in addition to their academic success.

In turn, an emphasis was put on the building, maintenance, and deepening of relationships between students, teachers, families, support staff, and community partners. We knew that engaging teaching and deep learning could take place only once our students and their families felt truly well-cared for and well-known.

In 2006 Hillcrest became a grantee in the last cohort of Healthy Start funding from the California Department of Education. This \$450,000 grant enabled the Hillcrest community to take the time to create even deeper connections among stakeholders and to decide collectively what programs, supports and interventions our school needed to ensure holistic student success.

Six years later we are considered a flagship community school in the Bay Area and have played an integral role in ensuring that the Community School initiative takes hold in the San Francisco Unified School District.