



ARISE High School

Authenticity, Rigor, Inspiration, Success, Empowerment

ARISE SCHOOL PROFILE

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OUR SCHOOL

The mission of ARISE High School is to empower students with the skills and knowledge to pursue higher education and become leaders in the world. ARISE High School will also provide an environment for training educators to become leaders in secondary school reform.

ARISE High School, a new Oakland charter school, opened its doors in August, 2007, serving 110 9th and 10th graders. This fall, ARISE grew to its full capacity with 220 students in grades 9 through 12. The result of a unique partnership with the Mills College School of Education, the Mills College TRIO Programs, Oakland Community Organizations and the Coalition of Essential Schools, ARISE's focus is on preparing students from low income families to be the first in their families to attend college.

ARISE is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

CURRICULUM AND COURSES

ARISE offers a college-preparatory curriculum that includes numerous community college courses offered both on our campus and on the college campuses. Students have a standard academic curriculum with limited options for course selection in their first two years. In our Senior Institute, which encompasses eleventh and twelfth grades, students have more choice in their course selection; however as a small school, our on campus options are still somewhat limited. All of our college-preparatory courses have been approved by the University of California.

ARISE courses include:

English 1, English 2, English 3, English 4, Advanced English: Shakespeare
Multi-Cultural Studies, World Cultures, U.S. History, Government, Economics
Español Para Hispanos 3, 4, 5 and Spanish 1, 2, and 3.
Algebra, Geometry, Advanced Algebra, Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Statistics
Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Advanced Biology, Ecology

Peralta community college courses that our students have taken include:

Community Voices (an English elective), Theater, Stagecraft, Illustration, Dance, Media,
Modern World History, Perspectives on American Racism, English 201B, English 1A,
Japanese Conversation and Culture, Figure Drawing, Figure Sculpture

ASSESSMENT AT ARISE

At ARISE where we are committed to preparing our students for college success, students do not receive credit for a class unless they are able to meet standards and earn a B or higher. If they do

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not, they have the opportunity to redo or complete outstanding requirements in order to meet standards or retake the class if necessary. Our GPAs are unweighted which means that the highest GPA we award is a 4.0, and we do not rank our students.

In addition to the course requirements for graduation, students must also complete performance-based assessments during their tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grade years. At the end of tenth grade, students must present their “Bridge” to move up to the Senior Institute. In order to graduate from ARISE, they must present five “Proficiencies” in the following areas: literary analysis, scientific investigation, mathematical inquiry, and artistic expression. Both Bridges and proficiencies include a written component (usually in the form of a 5-10 page paper) and require lengthy presentations that are defended by the students and then scored by panels that include both faculty and community members.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

ARISE students must complete course requirements that exceed the admissions requirements of the University of California system. In addition to earning B’s or higher and passing the various performance-based assessments, students must complete two summer programs, a “cultural immersion” experience, an internship, and college level classes.

ARISE STUDENTS

Enrollment: 220 students

80% Latino

15% African American

5% Asian/Pacific Islander

85% free and reduced lunch

90% first-generation college-bound

RESULTS

While we are still too young to have the results that we are aiming for, preliminary data is encouraging. Every student in our first graduating class last year, including many who were not on track to graduate when they came to us, received acceptances to four-year colleges. The colleges to which students gained admission include:

Dominican University
Mills College
St. Mary’s College
Santa Clara University
University of Miami
Willamette University
Chico State University
CSU East Bay
CSU Humboldt
CSU Long Beach
CSU Northridge

CSU Monterey Bay
Fresno State University
Sacramento State University
San Francisco State University
San Jose State University
Sonoma State University
University of California, Davis
University of California, Merced
Wesleyan University (waitlist)

Students have received scholarships from a variety of programs and foundations, including the East Bay College Fund, Students Rising Above, Summer Search, Outward Bound, Univision Exito Escolar, Bay Area Council, PG&E, Americorps, and the Questbridge College Prep Scholarship.