



Schools to Watch

April 12, 2018



What does it mean to be a *School to Watch*?

- Initiative launched by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grade Reform in 1999
- Identifies high performing middle-grade schools across the country that are:
 - Academically Excellent
 - Developmentally Responsive
 - Socially Equitable
 - Organizational Structures and Processes



Self-Study & Rating Rubric Report

National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grade Reform Schools To Watch® Self-Study and Rating Rubric® Feedback Report: Cerro Villa Middle School, 2016-2017 School Year

Academic Excellence Self Ratings

High-performing schools with middle grades are academically excellent. They challenge all students to use their minds well.

General Criteria	Detailed Example Evidence of Criteria	Self-Rating (1-4)	
1. All students are expected to meet high academic standards.		3.7	Average 3.5
	• Expectations are clear for students and parents.	3.8	
	• Teachers provide students with exemplars of high quality work that meet the performance standard or level so that students know what high quality work should be like.	3.5	
	• Students revise their work based on meaningful feedback until they meet or exceed the performance standard or level.	3.2	
2. Curriculum, instruction, assessment, and appropriate academic interventions are aligned with high standards.		3.7	Average 3.6
	• The vision guides what students should know and be able to do, and it is coherent.	3.7	
	• Students, teachers and families understand what students are learning and why. In any class and at any time, students can explain the importance of what they are learning.	3.4	
	• The curriculum is rigorous, non-repetitive, and moves forward substantially.	3.6	
	• Work is demanding and steadily progresses.	3.6	
3. The curriculum emphasizes deep understanding of important concepts and the development of essential skills.		3.6	Average 3.5
	• Teachers make connections across the disciplines to reinforce important concepts and assist students in thinking critically and applying what they have learned to solve real-world problems.	3.4	
	• Teachers incorporate academic and informational literacy into their course work (i.e., reading, writing, note taking, researching, listening, and speaking).	3.5	

4 = High quality, complete, mature, and coherent implementation – NEARLY PERFECT, LITTLE ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

3 = Good quality, maturing but not fully implemented by all – GOOD QUALITY BUT STILL ROOM FOR REFINEMENT and IMPROVEMENT

2 = Fair quality, mixed implementation, immature practice, sporadic by some – SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT NEEDED

1 = Poor quality, low level of implementation, new program, by a few – CONSIDERABLE STRATEGIC PLANNING, CONSENSUS BUILDING AND IMPROVEMENT NEEDED



Whole Child Approach

PHYSICAL

Self-control, running, balance, surroundings, coordination, confidence, agility, strong bodies

EMOTIONAL

Involves interaction, imitation, expression, experiences, self-recognition, independence, and empathy.

COGNITIVE

Discipline, structure, routines, negative concepts and actions, imagination, and learning skills

SOCIAL

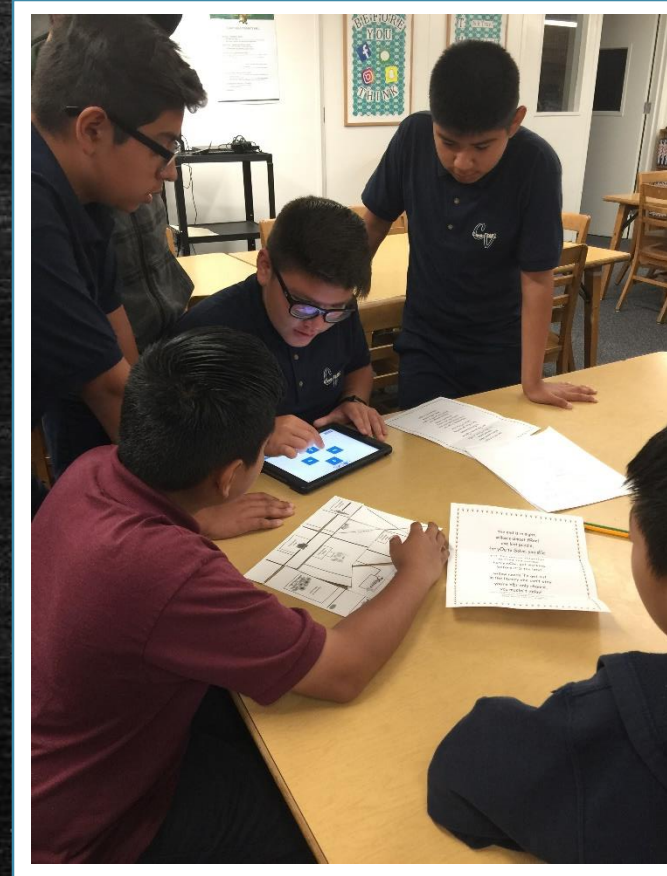
Relationship building, social roles, teamwork, self-control, and self-pride.





Academically Excellent

- Highly qualified teachers
- High academic standards & rigorous curriculum
- Ongoing assessments-RI & MI
- Direct Instruction, Cooperative Learning, Project Based Learning
- Cloud-Based Application Implementation:
Kahoot!, Padlet, Plickers, Class Dojo, Nearpod
- Various strategies to check for understanding:
Think-Pair Share, Cornell Notes, Thinking Maps, Marking the Text
- Electives & Intervention courses:
STEM, Fashion, Theatre, Math/Read 180, Gear N Up, AVID:
- Created ESLOs



Developmental Responsiveness

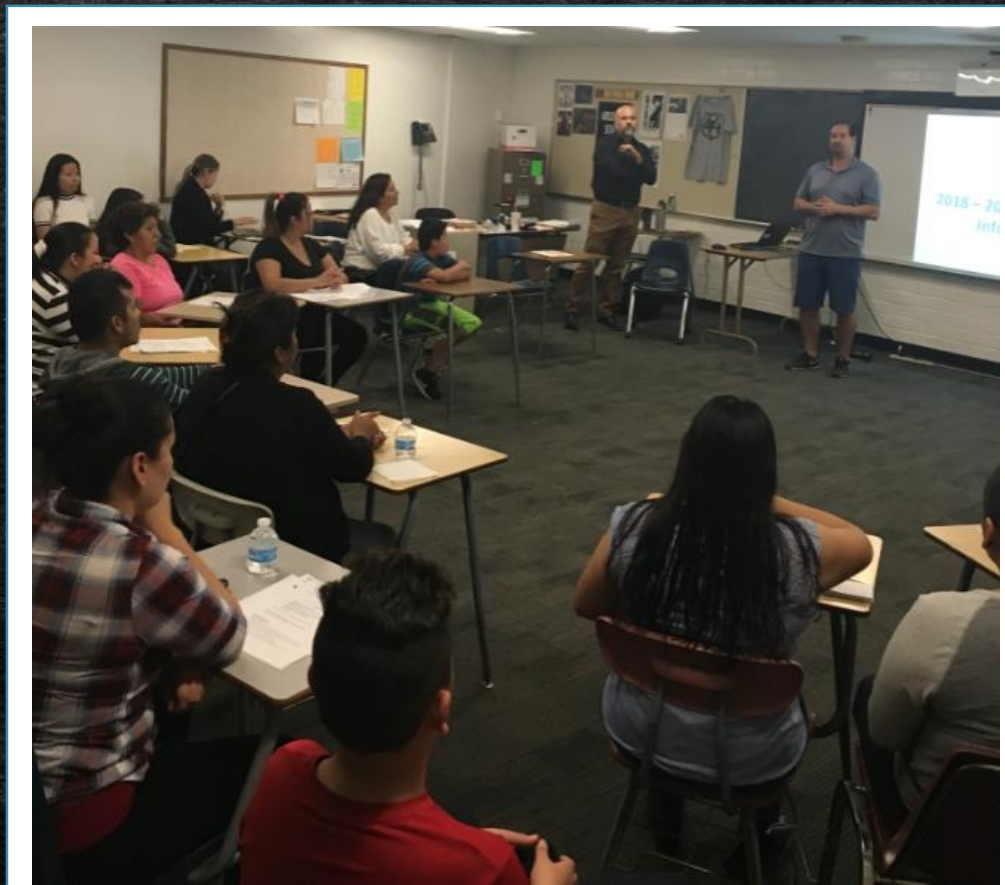


- Intervention courses:
Read 180, ELD
Companion, Gear N Up, Math
180
- Positive Behavior (PBIS)
& HERO program
- WEB. ASB/Leadership to
establish community
- School Moto: Choose
Respect, Value Yourself
and Others, Make it Safe,
Strive for Success
- "Taste of CV"- Fall parent
orientation
- 18 Clubs!



Social Equity

- Honor Society tutoring in math
- AVID to provide students access to honors courses with support
- Collaboration within departments
- Access to technology :
iPad carts, Chromebook carts, and new computer lab
- Respectful welcoming nature of staff and school
- Community Liaison, School Site Council, ELAC (English Learner Advisory Council)
- Information in Spanish
- Low suspension rate



Organizational Structures and Processes



- ESLOs:
- ILT
- Professional Development, PLC and focus time
- Communication: week-at-a-glance, newsletter, website
- 1 to 1 coach- history, math & ELA teachers
- CELDT, ELPAC, CAASPP testing
- Spirit Assemblies for Celebrations



THANK YOU!





National Forum in Washington DC!

- 1 of 22 middle schools recognized in California this year
- 465 total successful schools nationwide
- 17 states participating

