

Lynwood Unified School District



2013 Report to the Community

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Superintendent's Message

Dear Friends of the Lynwood Unified School District,

I am proud to present Lynwood Unified's 2013 Report to the Community, which provides an overview of our District and how we are living out our commitment to meet the needs of the children in our community.

In this report, you'll read about Lynwood Unified's educational offerings and academic achievements that are consistent with our District's mission to prepare every student for college and career.

This year, we saw some remarkable academic progress and there's no doubt that this is a result of our Achieving Greatness Initiative, a strategic plan that we began implementing three years ago to effectively focus our efforts so that we're improving the rigor and relevance of the instruction we offer.

Our organization is centered on providing a high-quality and competitive instructional program, with the belief that every child deserves equity and access to the very best educational experience in a safe and nurturing learning environment.

It is through the support of our Board of Education and through collaboration and effective communication between our dedicated parents, administration, educators and support staff, and through meaningful partnerships with our community that we are accomplishing our purpose to create lifelong learners who are equipped to meet the demands of a 21st century global workforce.

Sincerely,
Paul Gothold
Superintendent



Paul Gothold
Superintendent

MISSION

The mission of the Lynwood Unified School District is to prepare every student for success in college and career as a responsible citizen in a global society by guaranteeing equity and access to meaningful learning activities relevant to the 21st Century.

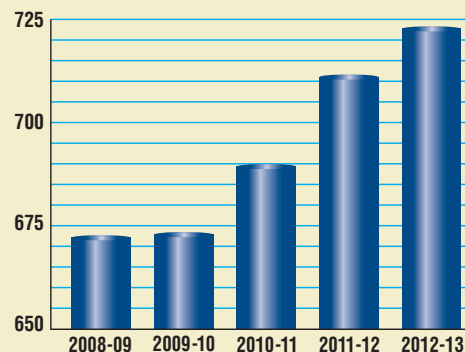
Achieving Greatness Initiative

In 2011, Lynwood Unified brought together a team of administrators, teachers, city officials, parents, students, higher education representatives and community members to develop a plan centered on building a more rigorous curriculum for students attending Lynwood schools. Now in the District's third year of implementation, the initiative enhances coursework to match the Board of Education's commitment to increasing the number of college-bound students while ensuring students have access to a wide range of career technical education courses.

2013 Academic Achievement By The Numbers

■ ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE INDEX

The state's Academic Performance Index (API) measures the academic performance and progress of schools and school districts across California. Over the past five years, Lynwood Unified's dedication to a quality academic program has correlated into a continued rise in API scores, which reached 723 in 2012-13.



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Making The Connection: School To Career Courses

Lynwood Unified continues to build its broad menu of Career Technical Education (CTE) courses to ensure that all students have pathways to college and to 21st century careers. Lynwood Unified in partnership with Los Angeles County Regional Occupational Program-Career Technical Education (ROP-CTE), provides qualified, industry professionals who combine their real-world experiences with a rigorous curriculum that engages our students and prepares them for potential career choices.

FIREBAUGH HIGH SCHOOL

- Film and Video Production 1 and 2
- Medical Assistant – Terminology
- Introduction To Engineering Design – Project Lead the Way (PTLW)
- Web Design

LYNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

- Automotive Technology
- Building Construction
- Culinary Arts
- Commercial Photography
- Dance 1, Dance 2, Dance Ensemble
- Foundations for the Medical Assistant
- Medical Assistant–Administrative and Clinical
- Introduction To Engineering Design – Project Lead the Way (PTLW)–UC 'G' elective
- Principles in Engineering Design – Project Lead the Way (PTLW)

Now Introducing The Microsoft IT Academy

In an effort to offer cutting-edge educational opportunities that will keep students competitive in an increasingly digital age, Lynwood Unified is now offering the Microsoft IT Academy to students in middle school, high school and

adult school.

By offering specialized courses taught by qualified instructors, Lynwood Unified is creating a career pathway in which students can earn Microsoft certifications that will lead them to higher education opportunities, provide them with fundamental technological skills and the ability to obtain positions within information technology (IT), business and other technical career fields.

2013-14 Microsoft Certification courses are available at:

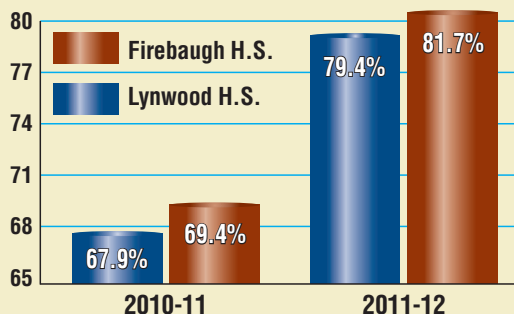
- Lynwood Middle School
- Cesar Chavez Middle School
- Firebaugh High School
- Lynwood Community Adult School



2013 Academic Achievement By The Numbers

GRADUATION RATES

Both of Lynwood Unified's comprehensive high schools – Lynwood and Firebaugh – saw more than 10 percent gains in their 2011-12 graduation rates.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT:

Brenda Melendez

During her first two years at Lynwood High School, Brenda Melendez feared that she would never have the opportunity to go to college. Because of her residency status, her chances of getting a higher education appeared dim and out of reach.

But thanks to the encouragement from teachers and mentors she had while enrolled in Lynwood High's AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) academic program, Brenda is on her way to the University of California, Los Angeles this fall.

"I gave up a couple of times, but my AVID teachers encouraged me and said that even though it'd be harder for me to go to college, it would still be possible," Brenda said. "As long as I kept trying I could make it happen."

Brenda graduated from Lynwood High in June with a 4.4 grade point average, making her the No. 5 ranked student in the 2013 graduating class.

"What helped me the most in the end was AVID," Brenda said of Lynwood Unified's academic program, which is designed to support students and create a pathway to college through workshops, field trips and SAT prep courses. "It was really helpful because they kept me on track in school."



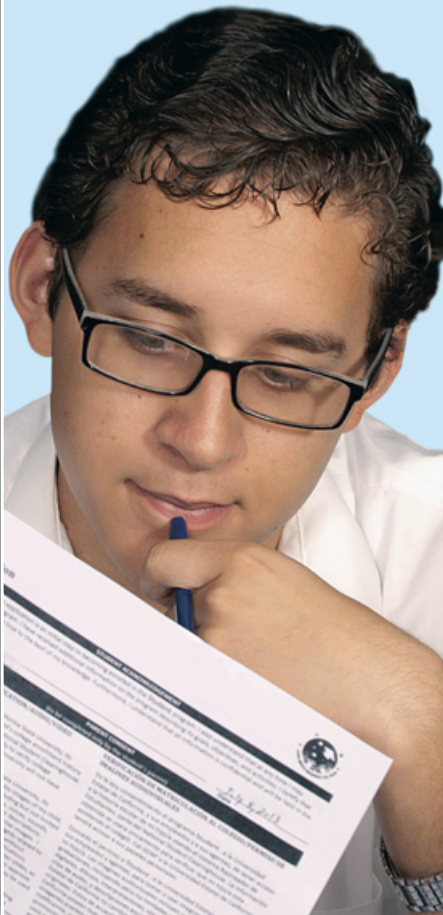
A WORLD CLASS EDUCATION:

The International Baccalaureate Program

In March 2008, Lynwood Unified established the International Baccalaureate Program at Firebaugh High School. The academically-challenging program, which has been recognized by the world's leading universities, aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

Students who successfully complete IB Courses and pass the IB examinations can earn IB Certificates and university credits while obtaining intellectual, social and emotional support that will serve them well as they progress in their education or enter their careers following graduation.

IB courses are available in English, Spanish, Mandarin, History, Environmental Science, Math, Biology, Chemistry and Art and are available to any Firebaugh student between the ages of 16 and 19.

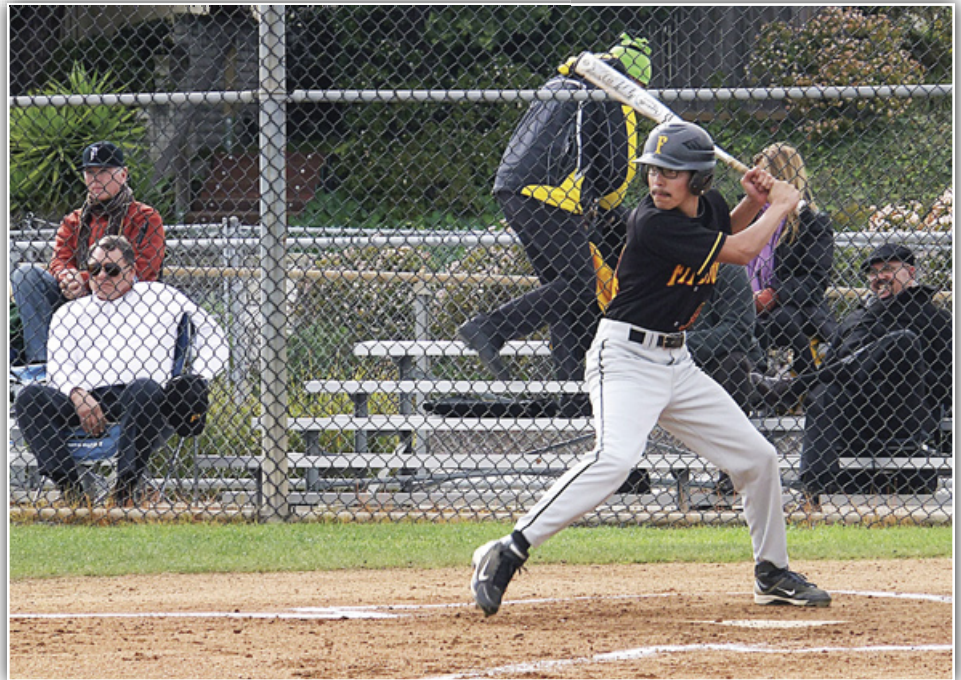


Competitive Athletics Programs

Lynwood Unified strongly believes in creating a learning environment that not only enriches students' lives academically, but also empowers and motivates youths with engaging athletics and performing arts programs and exciting extra-curricular activities.



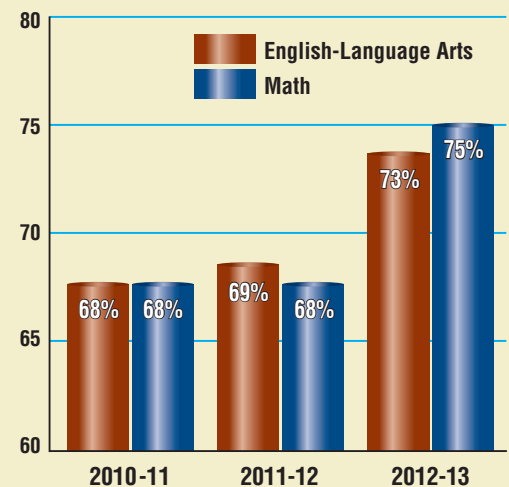
In 2013, two Lynwood Unified sports teams were successful in obtaining CIF Championships. First, the Lynwood High School Girls Basketball Team garnered the State CIF Title in March. This was followed by a CIF Division 7 Championship Title by Firebaugh High School baseball.



2013 Academic Achievement By The Numbers

■ THE CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL EXIT EXAM (CAHSEE) PASS RATES

A requirement to earn a high school diploma, the CAHSEE is designed to ensure that students can demonstrate grade-level proficiency in reading, writing and math. The test is administered in students' sophomore year, however they have multiple opportunities through their senior year to pass the exam. For the last three years, Lynwood Unified has increased student achievement so that more students are passing the CAHSEE on their first attempt in the 10th grade.



BUDGET REPORT:

Approved Budget for 2013-14 School Year

There is no doubt that since the economic downturn in 2008-09, school districts across California have faced financial challenges as a result of reduced funding and support for public education.

Now as the economy begins rebounding and the state legislature increases financial support for school districts, the Lynwood Unified Board of Education has passed a \$95.5 million 2013-14 budget without reductions to programs and services.

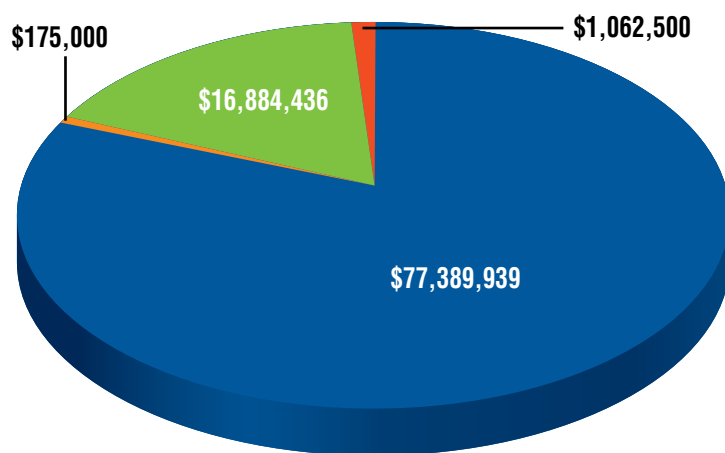
However, similar to Southern California districts, Lynwood Unified's biggest challenge continues to be a continual decline in enrollment, which began in 2008-09, when the economy took a turn for the worst. Over the last six years, Lynwood Unified's student population has dipped by more than 1,800 students, resulting in an approximate loss of \$10 million.

To address this issue, the District continues to work to increase its Average Daily Attendance (ADA) through rigorous instructional programs

that continue to increase student achievement, while also being conservative in spending decisions.

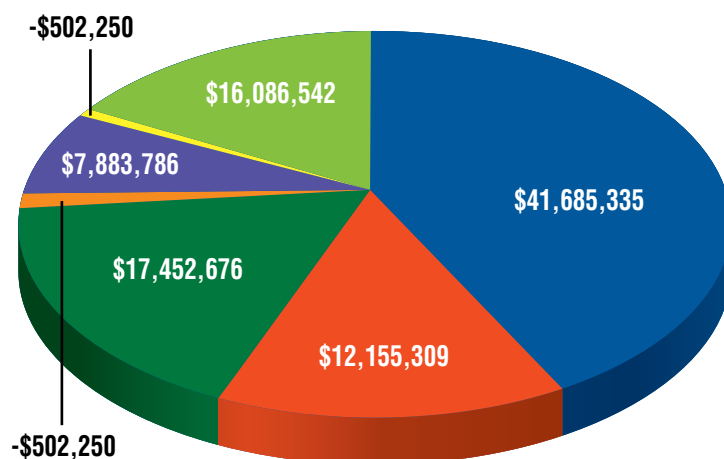
Meanwhile, California this year is beginning to implement a new funding model, the Local Control Funding Formula, which allows districts to address the specific needs of their students. However, the most recent budget was passed based on the prior funding model and will be revised to reflect the Local Control Funding Formula.

2013-14 General Fund Revenue Sources



Revenue Limit
Federal Revenue
State Revenue
Local Revenue

2013-14 Projected General Fund Budget Expenditures



Certificated Salaries
Classified Salaries
Employee Benefits
Books & Supplies
Services & Other
Capital Outlay/Other
Other uses

2013 Academic Achievement By The Numbers

■ ENROLLMENT IN ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

Advanced Placement classes offer challenging college-level coursework so that high school students can gain college credits and get a taste of the rigor of college courses. Lynwood Unified is proud that an increasing number of students are taking advantage of the AP courses available at Lynwood and Firebaugh high schools.

LYNWOOD DISTRICT	GRADE 12 AP ENROLLMENT
2011	1,196
2012	1,269

■ STUDENTS MEETING UC/CSU COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) systems have established a minimum set of courses required for students to be admitted as freshmen. Lynwood Unified has been committed to giving students the support they need to successfully complete these courses, which cover multiple subject areas, so that they can meet admissions requirements upon graduation. In 2012, 37.9 percent of Lynwood graduates completed the required courses, up from 33 percent in 2011.

LYNWOOD DISTRICT	TOTAL GRADUATES	GRADUATES COMPLETING UC/CSU REQUIREMENT
2011	763	33%
2012	875	37.9%

Measure K At Work

In November 2012, more than 57 percent of Lynwood Unified voters supported the passage of the District's \$93 million Measure K facilities bond to perform much-needed repairs and renovations at District schools and facilities. Lynwood Unified is working collaboratively with its Board of Education on a master facilities plan that outlines the needs of Lynwood schools and priorities for future construction to ensure responsible and strategic bond spending, leading to the maximization of Measure K dollars.

■ New Classrooms at Washington & Lincoln Elementary Schools

The work began in summer 2013 to remove

dozens of portable classrooms and replace them with beautiful new classroom facilities at Lincoln and Washington elementary schools. Budgeted at \$26 million, roughly half of that cost will be funded with state matching dollars. The projects are on track to be completed in the Fall of 2014.

■ Next Projects Under Measure K

Lynwood Unified has budgeted \$10 million for the next phase of construction projects under Measure K, some of which were completed over the summer. In making decisions regarding the next projects to be performed under Measure K, the District held site meetings with principals, key site staff, and facilities representatives to develop



a list based on site recommendations and the vision of the Board of Education. Below is an overview of the work being performed to improve our neighborhood schools.



Abbott Elementary School

