



# MAGNOLIA SCIENCE ACADEMY SANTA CLARA

Annual Charter School Report to the  
Santa Clara County Board of Education  
2011-2012

*“Inspiring students to choose career paths in  
Science and Technology”*



Submitted by Tim Saka, Principal

October 5, 2011

Magnolia Science Academy - Santa Clara (MSA-SC) began its second year of operation on August 15, 2011. This report covers the period beginning with January 12, 2011, and continuing through September 30, 2011.

## Highlights

### 1. Enrollment and Demographics

MSA-SC's enrollment for 2011-12 increased by 120 students, from 102 students in 2010-11 to 222 students in 2011-12. Of these new students, 94 were incoming 6th graders, 15 were newly enrolled 7th graders, and 16 were new MSA students entering 8th grade. Only five students who attended MSA-SC last year, did not return for the new school year. Students on the waiting list have been contacted to fill 28 openings that were made available the first week of school. The tables below illustrate MSA-SC's countywide enrollment, grade-level enrollment, and student demographics.

Home District	Number	Percentage	Grade	Current Enrollment	
Berryessa SD	7	3.1%	6	93	
Campbell SD	1	0.4%	7	60	
Cupertino SD	7	3.2%	8	69	
Evergreen SD	2	1.2%	Total	222	
Milpitas SD	3	1.3%			
Mountain View SD	4	1.4%			
San Jose USD	32	14.4%			
Santa Clara USD	143	64.4%			
Sunnyvale USD	20	9%			
Fremont SD	2	1.2%			
New Haven SD	1	0.4%			
Total	222	100%			

Ethnicity	MSASC 2010	MSASC 2011	MSASC 2011	Santa Clara County Per
African American	12.6%	15	7.6%	2.9%
Indian American	1.9%	2	1.9%	0.4%
Asian	42.7%	82	37%	26%
Latino	13.7%	34	15.4%	38%
White	29.1%	76	34.1%	23%
Filipino	-	8	4%	5.6%
Total	100%	222	100%	96%

Source: California Department of Education (CDE) <http://data1.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/>

MSA-SC maintains an average classroom size of 25 students

Under the countywide charter, MSA-SC has committed to serving students throughout the county. While every effort is underway to accomplish this goal, the location of our first site inhibits its full achievement. As future campuses are added (Milpitas and East San Jose), a student body on a par with the county demographics and targeted student population is more likely. After extensive recruitment efforts, the percentage of Santa Clara Unified School District (SCUSD) students decreased from 75% to 64%, and enrollment from other districts increased.

### Curriculum

MSA-SC provides a comprehensive, standards-based, college preparatory education program. It provides math instruction at various skill-levels for each grade.

Technology classes and technology-integrated instruction are offered daily. This year MSA-SC added electives in art, music, and foreign language. After-school clubs and tutoring in all subjects are part of the extended program.

## 2. Data-Driven Instruction

MSA-SC demonstrated a high level of success on the California Standards Tests (CSTs) in 2011.

Proficient or Advanced Students Percentage						
	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade		7 <sup>th</sup> Grade		AVE	API
<b>MSASC</b>	ELA:67%	M:69%	ELA: 86%	M:74%	<b>74%</b>	<b>892*</b>
<b>PETERSON</b>	ELA: 77%	M:71%	ELA: 77%	M:62%	<b>71%</b>	<b>863</b>
<b>BUCHSER</b>	ELA: 62%	M:67%	ELA: 67%	M:53%	<b>62%</b>	<b>799</b>
<b>CABRILLO</b>	ELA: 49%	M:42%	ELA: 54%	M:50%	<b>48%</b>	<b>756</b>

\*Calculated API Source : CDE <http://data1.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/>

Due to a coding error regarding the date of enrollment of our students in CBEDS, the California Department of Education (CDE) was unable to provide an Academic Performance Index (API) score. We have, however, determined from the API calculator on the CDE website at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ap/> that MSA-SC has an API of 892 and the highest level of students scoring at the Proficient or Advanced levels in the Santa Clara Unified School District (SCUSD). Eighty-six percent of our 7<sup>th</sup> graders were Proficient or Advanced in English Language Arts (ELA). We also achieved eighty-two percent proficiency on the Algebra Test. We have submitted corrected information to the Educational Testing Services (ETS), and CDE will calculate and post the API results to its website by January 2012.

We have identified 18 students who scored at the Basic level on ELA and Math, 7 who scored at Below Basic, and 2 students who scored at Below Basic. These students are receiving targeted intervention instruction and services, including activities provided by teachers and volunteers from Stanford University. We have also identified areas for improvement in our ELA curriculum by analyzing the cluster data provided in CST reports. Specifically, we are providing professional development and strengthening curriculum and instruction in writing conventions, reading comprehension, and evaluating algebraic expressions.

### Measures of Academic Performance

MSA-SC uses multiple assessment measures to identify the best curriculum and classroom instructional strategies for meeting each student's individual needs. In addition to the summative CST assessments, students take the Northwest Evaluation Association's Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) test three times a year. This assessment is closely aligned to the CSTs and provides information for the instructional team to adjust curriculum, instruction, and provide individualized intervention. The results of the three 2010-11 MAP Test assessments showed that seventy-three percent of our students scored at or above grade level in ELA and Math,

which is approximately the same percentage of students scoring at Proficient or Advanced on the CSTs in the same subjects. These results confirm that MAP is a reasonable indicator of student progress and performance on the CSTs.

MSA-SC Math and English Language Arts (ELA) teachers' participated in a regional Magnolia Educational Foundation professional development for MAP on November 12, 2010, at Pacific Technology School in Orangevale, California.

### 3. Home Visits

Home visits are a common practice for Magnolia schools'. MSA-SC conducts home visits annually to cultivate and maintain effective communication among parents, students and teachers. The visits are beneficial in helping families understand the depth of care and support teachers have for their students. For the 2011-12 school year, 80% of MSA-SC's families have already scheduled a date for the home visit. It is our goal to complete all home visits by April 2012.

### School Location and Facility

MSA-SC is located in the SCUSD at 1095 Dunford Way in Sunnyvale, California, the former home of Patrick Henry Elementary School, and adjacent to Peterson Middle School. This location was originally provided under Prop 39. It is not very accessible by public transportation nor is it well situated for easy access using private transportation. Due to an unsuccessful search for a campus, MSA-SC decided to remain in the current location. MSA-SC withdrew its Prop 39 request and entered into a seven-year lease with the district. MSA-SC also subleased an additional classroom from an after-school program that is co-located on its campus.

MSA-SC currently has no gym, library, or cafeteria. The soccer field is used for Physical Education classes.



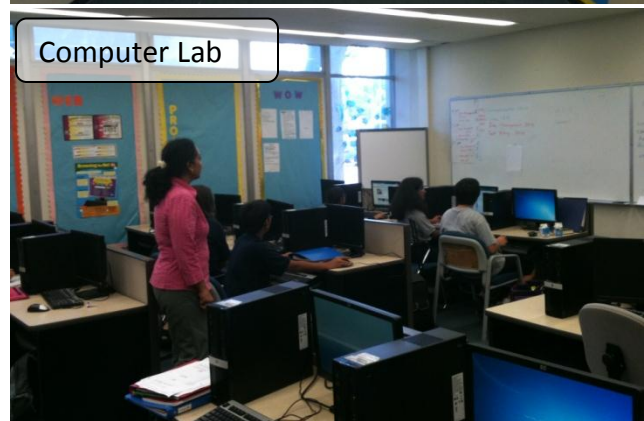
MSASC School Building



MSASC School Building



MSASC School Classroom



Computer Lab

## 2012-13 Recruitment

Recruitment for the 2012-13 school year include the following activities:

1. Direct mailing of 10,000 postcards to households earning less than \$50K annually in Santa Clara County
2. Distribution of admissions information at San Jose Flea Market on a regular basis
3. Distribution of admissions information at the San Jose Cinco De Mayo Festival
4. Distribution of admissions information at Our Lady of Peace Church
5. Hosting Open Houses at the MSA-SC campus
  - September 17, 2011
  - October 15, 2011
6. Information Meetings at libraries throughout Santa Clara County
  - Santa Clara Public Library                      October 1, 2011
  - Milpitas Public Library                              October 15, 2011
  - MLK Library/SJSU                                      November 5, 2011
  - Mountain View Public Library                      December 3, 2011

The lottery for admission to MSA-SC for the 2011-12 school year was conducted on January 13, 2011. At that time 225 students, including the returning students, were selected for enrollment from 393 applications, and 168 students were placed on a waiting list.

Currently, MSA-SC has 32 students on the waiting list for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade and 12 students for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. We have started to accept applications for the 2012-13 school year. The public lottery will be conducted on January 12, 2012.

### Growth Plan

MSA-SC added an 8<sup>th</sup> grade to its grade levels at the beginning of the 2011-12 school year and will add a grade annually until the 2015-2016 school year, when it will offer the full complement of grades (6-12) for which the charter was approved.

The Magnolia Foundation continues its search for a facility in Milpitas, in accordance with its countywide charter, and has begun its facilities search in San Jose's East Union High School District. Schools in both locations are scheduled to open in fall 2012 in accordance with the charter and amendments made to the charter last year. All stakeholders will be informed about the progress toward locating these additional facilities at the regional meetings which will be held in public libraries during the months of October and November.

### Special Education

MSA-SC currently receives Special Education (SPED) services from Santa Clara County Office of Education. SPED services include a part-time Resource Teacher, a Speech Therapist, and a Psychologist. In the 2010-11 school year, 8 students received special education services. In the current 2011-12 school year, 15 students (6.7% of the total

student enrollment) have been identified and are receiving services. Special Education staff are currently reviewing the Cumulative Folders of the newly enrolled students and we expect that the number of students who would benefit from the SPED services will increase.

Wherever possible, SPED students are mainstreamed into the classroom and receive individualized services during the Sustained Silent Reading (SSR) period, elective periods and after school sessions. SPED students benefit from the small classroom size, the online student information system (COOLSIS that helps monitor all academic and behavioral records), and the technology integrated curriculum. The Resource Teacher utilizes the push-in model as the primary intervention strategy and consults with each MSA-SC teacher to meet each student’s individualized needs.

	MSA-SC Enrollment	SPED Students	MSA-SC Percentage	Santa Clara County Percentage in Grades 6-8
2010-11	102	8	7.8%	9.6%
2011-12	222	15	6.7%	9.5%

Source: *The State of Education Report* (Winter 2011, Santa Clara County Office of Education)

[http://www.sccoe.k12.ca.us/newsandfacts/stateofeducation/pdfdocs/State\\_of\\_Education.pdf](http://www.sccoe.k12.ca.us/newsandfacts/stateofeducation/pdfdocs/State_of_Education.pdf)

MSA-SC administered the California English Language Development Test (CELDT) testing in September 2010 to determine the number of the English Language Learner (ELL) students. Last school year fifteen students (14%) who enrolled in MSA-SC either from a private school or had been home schooled and had not taken the CELDT Test were tested. All of these students have been re-designated as Fluent English Proficient (RFEP). CELDT testing has been conducted for the Fall 2011 and the students who were identified as ELLs are receiving services. CELDT Testing and re-designation is ongoing and students are indentified to provide the necessary instruction and academic support.

ELL students benefit from small class sizes and receive individualized instruction during the SSR period. Classroom teachers provide after school tutoring.

### Fundraising

MSA-SC fundraising includes individual donations and fundraising events. MSA-SC’s Parent Club has suggested a voluntary, confidential, donation of one-hundred dollars from each parent. The Parent Club purchased materials itemized on a Classroom Wish List at the beginning of the school year, and launched a campaign to ask companies where parents work to match parent monetary and time contributions to the school. Through the efforts of one MSA-SC parent, Key Point Credit Union donated school furniture and science lab materials. We also received a technology grant of \$10,000

from the Association for Continuing Education (ACE) Network initiated by Stanford University.

Additional Parent Club fundraising activities include a Multicultural Dinner to celebrate MSA-SC's diverse student population and a 5K Run to promote healthy living.

MSA-SC's Student Council organizes bake sales, movie nights, a family fitness night, and an annual talent show. Last year, MSA-SC raised more than \$24,000 for the school. The fundraising goal for 2011-12 is \$100,000.

### **Replicable Practices**

MSA-SC provides free after school and weekend tutoring classes for all students. Each classroom teacher schedules two after-school tutoring sessions weekly which allows students to receive one-on-one instruction. Some students are required to take tutoring classes if they are at risk of failing a specific subject.

MSA-SC utilizes the MAP Test results and monthly progress reports to identify the low achieving students in ELA and math. Based on this information, students are invited to participate in the weekend remediation classes to raise their proficiency and to improve their CST scores. Higher achieving students are also invited to participate in training for Math-Counts competitions held on the weekends.