LEAD Elementary School

LEADing Gains in Achievement with Technology-based Learning

Under the guidance and leadership of Principal Pattie Dullea, LEAD is emerging as a new K-5 magnet school with a focus on Literacy and the Digital arts—an emerging field of study that uses technology to facilitate literacy, writing and creative arts through recording, video production, graphic design, coding and other mediums. LEAD will officially transition from Horrall Elementary in the 2015-2016 school year. Full-day Kindergarten was implemented in 2014-15.

The Benefits of a LEAD Education

• Through a new partnership with California State University (CSU) East Bay, LEAD teachers will explore, create and incorporate best teaching practices with a focus on literacy. LEAD instructors will have access to Cal State professors and experts.

• Lunchtime and after school enrichment programs will enhance learning by offering students of all age levels classes in coding, reading practice and other digital arts.

• Students will benefit from increased and expanded instructional strategies for teaching reading and writing as well as increased use of technology with the Common Core Standards curriculum.

• Students will also benefit from tablet and chrome book-based learning opportunities enabling them to learn at their own pace and level – techniques proven to be especially helpful for English Language Learners.

Why literacy?

Research shows that reading and writing proficiency is directly linked to student success. Children who do not read proficiently by the end of third grade are four times more likely to leave school without a high school diploma¹. At LEAD, our goal is to empower students by prioritizing literacy and ensuring that all students graduate with the reading and writing skills needed to be successful throughout their education.

¹ Early Warning Confirmed: A Research Update on Third-Grade Reading (The Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2013).
http://www.aecf.org/resources/early-warning-confimed/
Empowering the students and families of LEAD Elementary is our mission, and we as teachers and role models are passionate about and committed to doing whatever it takes to effect change. We are proud to introduce LEAD as an innovative center for learning and an incubator for this region's future talent.

**Pioneering Change**

The curriculum and instructional practices at LEAD are aligned with Common Core State Standards, recommendations for quality schools and with the District's Standards of Excellence, educating all students to achieve their potential through a rigorous program that builds a solid academic foundation and challenges students to think critically and communicate effectively.

LEAD's balanced literacy program of listening, speaking, reading, and writing is based on best practices of Early Literacy, Guided Reading, and the Readers' and Writers’ Workshop model. Mathematics and science instruction are activity and communication-based and promote investigation and higher level thinking skills.

The Structured English Immersion Program promotes English language development of English Language Learners. LEAD boasts a dedicated, well-trained staff with a wealth of knowledge in Language Arts, Technology, English Language Development, and Differentiated instruction. Along with their dedication to academic excellence, the LEAD community believes in the development of active, well-rounded, socially responsible citizens who positively impact today and the future.

LEAD's team of dedicated educators is working hard to close the achievement gap.

- API score increased by 38 points in 2013 from 710 to 746 (most current year for API)
- LEAD is the only school in San Mateo-Foster City to increase performance in all three sub groups:
  - English Language Learners
  - Socioeconomically Disadvantaged
  - Students receiving Special Services through Individual Education Plans