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For more information regarding the content of this material, please contact the Charter Schools Division by phone at 916-322-6029 or by e-mail at charters@cde.ca.gov.

High Tech Elementary Mesa – Academic Memorandum Response

General Information

School Address: 5331 Mt. Alifan Dr. Bldg. 200, San Diego, CA 92111-2622

Website Address: <https://www.hightechhigh.org/htem/>

County-District-School Code: 37 76471 0138776

Charter Number: 0756

Charter Term: July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2025

School Description: Developed by a coalition of San Diego civic leaders and educators, High Tech High (HTH) opened in September 2000 as a small public charter school with plans to serve approximately 450 students. HTH has evolved into an integrated network of 13 charter schools spanning grades kindergarten through grade twelve across three campuses, including nine schools under High Tech High's Statewide Benefit Charter (HTH SBC) and several well-developed programs serving teachers and students across the state of California. All HTH schools, whether at the elementary, middle, or high school level, strive for a common mission: to provide all students with rigorous and relevant academic, civic and life skills, while preparing all graduates for postsecondary success and productive citizenship.

Grade Levels Served: Kindergarten through Grade Five

2021–22 Enrollment: 376

Site Based or Non-Site Based: Site Based

California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) Test Results

The following data represents percentages of students that met or exceeded standards for English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics (Math). This information was obtained from the CAASPP Test Results for California's Assessments web page at <https://caaspp-elpac.ets.org/caaspp/>.

Results for All Grades and Students

High Tech Elementary Mesa opened in 2019–20. As such, no data is provided for 2016–17 through 2018–19.

Year	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19	2019–20 ¹	2020–21 ²	2021–22
School ELA	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data	10 or fewer students tested	36.62%
School Math	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data	10 or fewer students tested	30.99%
State ELA	48.56%	49.88%	51.10%	No Data	49.01%	47.06%
State Math	37.56%	38.65%	39.73%	No Data	33.76%	33.38%

Results for Student Sub-Groups 2021–22

Student Sub-Group	English Learners	Foster Youth	Homeless	Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	Students with Disabilities
School ELA	10 or fewer students tested	No Data	No Data	34.70%	25.00%
School Math	10 or fewer students tested	No Data	No Data	30.61%	7.14%
State ELA	12.47%	20.64%	27.79%	35.24%	15.61%
State Math	9.71%	10.30%	15.90%	21.23%	11.41%

2022 California School Dashboard Data Overview

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, state law allows the 2022 California School Dashboard (Dashboard) to only display the most current year of data (also known as Status). For this year only, performance levels will be reported using one of five Status levels (ranging from Very High, High, Medium, Low, and Very Low) for state measures. Please note that the Status levels associated with the Chronic Absenteeism and Suspension Rate Indicators are reversed (ranging from Very Low, Low, Medium, High, and Very High). Additional information regarding 2022 Dashboard data is available on the

¹ Results are not available due to the suspension of testing as a result of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

² Due to factors surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, testing participation in 2020–21 varied. Care should be used when interpreting results.

Dashboard Communication Toolkit web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/dashboardtoolkit.asp>. The following information was obtained from the Dashboard website at <https://www.caschooldashboard.org/>.

Performance (Status) Levels

Dashboard Indicator	School Performance (Status) Level	State Performance (Status) Level
Chronic Absenteeism	Very High	Very High
Suspension Rate	Medium	Medium
English Learner Progress	Not Reported*	Medium
Graduation Rate	Not Applicable	Medium
College/Career	Not Applicable	Not Reported
ELA	Low	Low
Math	Low	Low

*Due to an error in the report received from Educational Testing Service, English Learner progress data was not accessible as of the date of this report.

Areas of Greatest Progress and Need

Based on the charter school's internal spring and fall 2022 assessments, and the 2022 California School Dashboard (Dashboard), identify the school's areas of greatest progress and greatest need.

1. What internal assessments (not California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress [CAASPP]) are being used to demonstrate the school's areas of greatest progress? Are any of these assessments on the approved verified data list? If so, which ones?

Information regarding the verified data list is available on the California Department of Education, Verified Data Criteria and Adopted Indicators web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/ch/verifdatacrit.asp>.

The school is using NWEA MAP mathematics and reading assessments and YouthTruth school climate survey results to demonstrate the school's areas of greatest progress. YouthTruth is a nationally norm-referenced student and stakeholder survey. NWEA MAP is on the approved verified data list.

2. Identify the school's areas of greatest progress:

The school's areas of greatest progress (aligned to LCAP goals) include:

- Student achievement in mathematics (LCAP goal #2: Improve student centered instruction)
- Family engagement (LCAP goal #3: Nurture a culture of belonging)
- Suspension rates, for all students and for SED students (LCAP goal #3: Nurture a culture of belonging)

3. What data demonstrate these areas of progress? Include any related Dashboard data and internal data.

Area of Progress: Student achievement in mathematics for all students and for SED students

Data: NWEA MAP mathematics assessment shows an increase in student achievement in mathematics

% All Students at or above grade level in mathematics

2022: 37%, 2023: 47%

% SED Students at or above grade level in mathematics

2022: 24%, 2023: 34%

Proficiency levels for all students and for SED students are increasing. However, SED student proficiency rates lag behind the rates for all students.

Area of Progress: Family Engagement

Data: YouthTruth School Climate Survey data shows an improvement in family engagement

% Families responding “agree” or “strongly agree” to the following prompts:

I would recommend my school to parents seeking a school for their child

2022: 73%, 2023: 82%

Families and teachers care about each other

2022: 85%, 2023: 87%

Area of Progress: Suspension rates for all students and for SED students

Data: Suspension data from PowerSchool show a decrease in suspension rates for all students

Suspension rates for all students

2021-22: 1.94%, 2022-23 1.73%

4. Identify the school’s areas of greatest need including references to student sub-groups:

The school’s areas of greatest need (aligned to LCAP goals) include:

- Attendance & Chronic Absenteeism (LCAP goal #3: Nurture a culture of belonging)
- ELA student achievement (LCAP goal #4: Increase support for struggling students)
- Suspension rates for SED students (LCAP goal #3: Nurture a culture of belonging)

5. What data demonstrate these areas of need? Include any related Dashboard data and internal data.

Area of Greatest Need: Student Attendance

Powerschool attendance data shows lower than budgeted attendance percentage and a very high rate of chronic absenteeism.

Attendance % 8/24/22-2/17/23: 92.74%

Chronic Absenteeism: 31%

Area of Greatest Need: Student achievement in ELA for all students and for SED students

Data: NWEA MAP reading assessment does not show an increase in ELA student achievement for all students and shows a decrease in ELA student achievement for SED students

% All students at or above grade level in reading

2022: 60%, 2023: 60%

% SED students at or above grade level in reading

2022: 51%, 2023: 47%

Reading proficiency levels for all students and for SED students are constant or decreasing. SED student proficiency rates lag behind the rates for all students.

Area of Greatest Need: Suspension rates for SED students

Data: Suspension data from PowerSchool shows an increase in suspension rates

Suspension rates for SED students

2021-22: 1.94%, 2022-23: 2.34%

6. How is the school addressing these areas of need? Include references to student sub-groups.

ELA Student Achievement: The school is addressing student achievement in ELA by improving Tier 1 instruction and implementing additional interventions in Tier 2 and Tier 3. Teachers have participated in professional learning related to implementing Wilson FUNdations phonics. Teachers have also participated in professional learning focused on station-based instruction in literacy blocks, in an effort to better differentiate instruction for all students. Academic coaches are working with small reading groups and students are using the Lexia Core5 reading program. Additionally, the school employs a full time English Learner Teacher to support students who are classified as EL and to train teachers on embedding ELD standards into their lesson plans.

Attendance: In early 2023, HTH schools launched a “Spring Into School” campaign, focused on supporting students in attending school. The campaign includes communications to families about the importance of being in school, resources for schools to use to communicate with families, and the sharing of real-time attendance data with each school. During the campaign, HTH will highlight strategies that seem to be working within schools in an effort to spread and amplify best practices.

SED Suspension Rates: The school is continuing to focus on the use of restorative practices and has recently implemented the Second Step socioemotional learning curriculum. Additionally, teachers are trained in positive discipline.

Summary of Performance on Measurable Pupil Outcomes

1. Provide a summary of the performance in Element 2 (Measurable Pupil Outcomes) in the petition:

NWEA MAP Assessments:

Reading: % students at or above grade level (winter 2023): 60%

Mathematics: % students at or above grade level (winter 2023): 47%

CAASPP:

ELA: % students who met or exceed standards (spring 2022) 36.62%

Mathematics: % students who met or exceed standards (spring 2022) 30.99%

Chronic Absenteeism: 31%

Suspension rates: 1.73%%

Student led Conferences: All students have participated in 2 student led conferences during the 2022-23 school year.

2021–22 Local Control and Accountability Plan Progress

1. Provide a summary of progress made in meeting the school's 2021–22 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) goals:

Each of the school's LCAP goals are listed below, with current data related to measuring and reporting results for the goals. The data shows that the school is on track to meet the desired outcomes for goals 1 and 4. The data shows that the school needs to continue to focus on improving student centered instruction in order to improve student achievement in mathematics and ELA. The school also needs to continue focus on addressing chronic absenteeism through interventions and supports that are focused on ensuring that students consistently attend school.

Goal 1: Ensure High Quality Work:

Project Exhibitions: The school has engaged in student project exhibitions that include evidence of reading, writing or mathematical reasoning skills aligned with CCSS. 95% of projects include that evidence.

YouthTruth Survey Results:

76% of families responded positively to the prompt: I believe in my school's mission.

53% of families responded positively to the prompt: I would recommend my school to parents seeking a school for their child

Goal 2: Improve Student Centered Instruction

EL Reclassification Status Indicator (CA Dashboard): Data error

ELA CA Dashboard Status: Low

Math CA Dashboard Status: Low

Goal 3: Nurture a Culture of Belonging
Rate of Chronic Absenteeism: 31%
Suspension Rate: 1.73%
Suspension Rate SED Students: 2.34%

Goal 4: Improve Support for Struggling Students
YouthTruth Survey Results:
84% of families responded positively to the prompt: I feel comfortable approaching teachers about my child's progress.

2. Provide a summary of the ongoing 2022–23 LCAP annual update process, including the school's work to engage community members in the process:

The school is engaging community members, including families, ELAC committee, teachers, and students in the process of annually updating the LCAP through fall and spring meetings for all stakeholders and student surveys.

3. How is the school addressing learning loss from the prior school year?

The school is addressing learning loss by focusing on improving Tier 1 instruction, with a particular focus on structures for differentiation that will support the needs of all learners in the classroom. Additionally, the school is implementing additional interventions such as academic coaches in classrooms, after school tutoring, and online intervention resources that are available to students at school and at home. The school is also providing 6 weeks of additional academic instruction through its ELOP programs. The school is also providing additional professional learning for teachers, particularly in the areas of mathematics and literacy instruction.

2022–23 Plan for Independent Study

1. Inform if the school is providing independent study (IS) in the 2022–23 school year, including the percentage of average daily attendance enrolled in IS:

The school offers short term independent study through the Contract for Independent study process for absences up to 14 days in length. The school is not providing IS for absences exceeding 14 days.