

San Francisco Unified School District Model Programs and Practices

District Information

CD (County District) Code: 3810389

County: San Francisco

District (Local Educational Agency): San Francisco Unified School District

Demographics

Enrollment: 56,000

Location Description: Urban

Overview

Mission statement

Every day we provide each and every student the quality instruction and equitable support required to thrive in the 21st century.

Vision of student success

Every student who attends SFUSD schools will discover his or her spark, along with a strong sense of self and purpose. Each and every student will graduate from high school ready for college and career and equipped with the skills, capacities and dispositions outlined in SFUSD's Graduate Profile.

A PreK through 12 core curriculum

To truly prepare students for future success in college and career, classroom learning emphasizes problem-solving, critical thinking, collaboration, and creativity. SFUSD's Core Curriculum aligns with the California Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts and Mathematics, an even more rigorous set of standards that prepare students to be college and career ready for the 21st Century. The curriculum is designed to help students navigate our changing world, to learn and create in various media and to distinguish fact from fiction.

Social and emotional support

Most students face personal challenges at school or at home at some point in their school career, and our school staff and community agencies who work with our schools are there to help. We have school nurses and social workers at least part time at every school and all of our high schools have Wellness Centers.

Parents as partners

As a parent or guardian in SFUSD you can expect to be informed about your child's progress in school and welcomed as a member of the SFUSD learning community. There are many opportunities for you to participate in your child's education both at your child's school and districtwide. In addition to supporting your child's academic growth by making time for homework, attending parent teacher conferences and participating in schoolwide events, we encourage you to consider being a part of a governance group at your school such as the School Site Council or the English Language Advisory Committee. If you're interested in being part of a districtwide parent group to help all students across the city, there are also many options.

Fostering a positive school climate

We believe that it is our role as educators to help children learn how to solve problems, empathize with others and conduct themselves with integrity. At every grade level students learn skills that help them to get along with others and resolve conflicts peacefully. SFUSD schools use restorative practices that promote strengthened relationships and community building, provide meaningful opportunities for students to hold themselves accountable for their actions, and support students to take responsibility for making their school community a safe and nurturing environment.

In a city and world that is constantly changing, SFUSD now has an ambitious vision to ensure that we prepare our graduates to live, thrive, and succeed in San Francisco and beyond. The Graduate Profile serves as the anchor for our vision and identifies the knowledge, skills, dispositions and behaviors required by our 21st century world.

Charting the course toward our vision will require us to both build on the foundational work we are doing through our current strategic plan, Transform Learning, Transform Lives, and to engage in innovative practices to accelerate results for students.

The Board of Education and district leadership are engaging our broader civic and business community to help them understand our bold vision and build the social, political, and financial capital required to make the shifts our vision calls for. Our vision clarifies how SFUSD is taking a leadership role to innovate educational equity and excellence for all our students. The time is right to let our community know that investing in our equity agenda will ultimately help solve one of the key challenges we face today, which is maintaining a diverse and vibrant community in San Francisco.