

MISSION

LA's Promise, a nonprofit organization, is working to radically shift the education, health and social outcomes for thousands of youth in one South Los Angeles community. This will accomplish a "neighborhood turnaround" in an area we call LA's Promise Neighborhood.

LA's Promise Neighborhood is an enrollment zone that includes two large South LA high schools and one middle school operated by LA's Promise on a first-of-its-kind performance contract with LAUSD. Within this zone, LA's Promise transforms chronically failing public schools, opens new schools and remakes schools into community hubs that offer comprehensive support services for students and families. By doing this, LA's Promise will prepare every child in LA's Promise Neighborhood to be college-ready, healthy and successful in life. LA's Promise also screens and manages more than 50 partners who support these school communities by providing over 200 wraparound services.

Over the coming years, LA's Promise will adopt feeder schools to build a K-12 educational pipeline serving over 20,000 children. LA's Promise will also open charter schools to relieve overcrowding that results from increased retention at the flagship high schools and to serve the most academically disadvantaged students of LA's Promise Neighborhood.



1035 S. Grand Ave, 2nd Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90015

213.745.4928

info@laspromise.org

laspromise.org

SCHOOLS

LA's Promise now operates two large high schools and one middle school, serving nearly 8,000 students.



MANUAL ARTS High School

CONTACT INFO:

4131 S. Vermont Ave,
Los Angeles, CA 90037
(323) 846-7300
www.mahs.org

PRINCIPAL:

Robert Whitman
rdw5302@lausd.net

AT A GLANCE:

- Year opened: 1909
- Year joined LAP: 2009
- Grades served: 9th–12th
- Students enrolled: 3,577
- Student demographics:
 - 82% Latino
 - 18% African American
- Free/reduced lunch: over 96%
- Attendance rate: 92%



WEST ADAMS PREP High School



CONTACT INFO:

1500 W. Washington Ave,
Los Angeles, CA 90007
(323) 373-2500
www.westadamsprep.org

PRINCIPAL:

Dr. Jose Iniguez
jose.iniguez@lausd.net

AT A GLANCE:

- Year opened: 2007
- Year joined LAP: 2007
- Grades served: 9th–12th
- Students enrolled: 2,635
- Student demographics:
 - 89% Latino
 - 10% African American
 - 1% Asian
- Free/reduced lunch: over 96%
- Attendance rate: 94%

JOHN MUIR Middle School



CONTACT INFO:

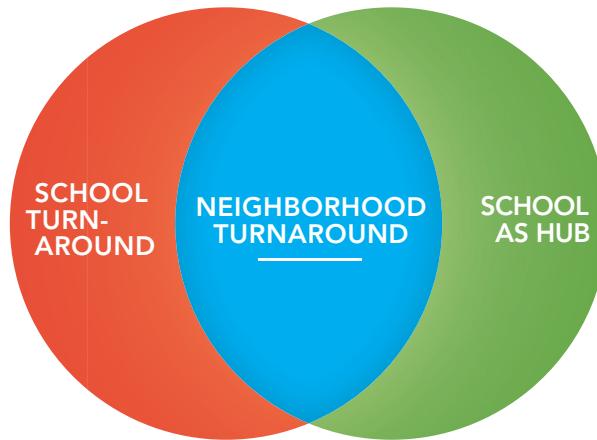
5929 S. Vermont Ave,
Los Angeles, CA 90044
(323) 565-2200
www.muirmiddle.org

PRINCIPAL:

Dr. Nisha Dugal
nisha.dugal@lausd.net

AT A GLANCE:

- Year opened: 1922
- Year joined LAP: 2011
- Grades served: 6th–8th
- Students enrolled: 1,818
- Student demographics:
 - 76% Latino
 - 23% African American
- Free/reduced lunch: over 96%
- Attendance rate: 95%



APPROACH

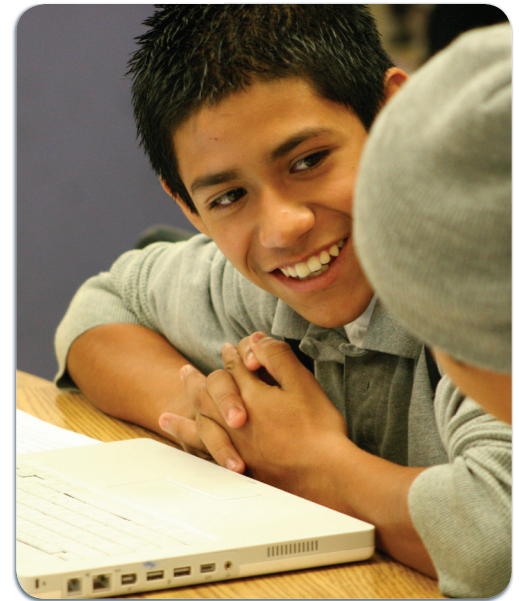
Neighborhood Turnaround

One of the most impacted communities in South Los Angeles, **LA's Promise Neighborhood** is an 8.2 square-mile enrollment zone that includes two high schools and one middle school operated by LA's Promise on a first-of-its-kind performance contract with LAUSD.

LA's Promise Neighborhood is undergoing transformation, anchored by LA's Promise, a non profit with a deep connection to the children, families and history of this community. At the center of this transformation is one of the city's oldest schools, Manual Arts High School. Two miles north on Vermont Avenue, West Adams opened in 2007 to relieve decades of overcrowding at Manual Arts. Just a mile and a half away, sits John Muir Middle School, the primary feeder to Manual Arts High School. Together these three schools and their feeders represent the promise of a college-ready education and a successful life for every child who lives nearby.

There are approximately 150,000 residents in **LA's Promise Neighborhood** and slightly over 20,000 youth between the ages of 12-18. The average student population is approximately 80% Latino and 20% African American. Over 96% are enrolled in the free lunch program; virtually all of them would qualify if they applied. More than 55% of the area's adults never earned a high school diploma.

In short, this is one of the communities with the highest poverty levels and lowest educational attainment in all of Los Angeles.



- Median household income is \$29,904
- More than 34% of families have an annual income less than \$15,000
- 5% of residents 25 and older have a four-year college degree
- Estimated 45% of students graduate in 4 years
- Estimated that single parents head 27% of families
- 18.6% of children in the Manual Arts School community are in out-of-home care through the County's foster care system
- Student transiency rate is 37%
- Over 80% of families in LA's Promise Neighborhood rent their homes
- 43% of students are overweight or obese
- 7.8% of children age 0-17 have asthma

SCHOOL TURNAROUND Personal, High-performing and College Ready K-12 Schools

LA's Promise manages and turns around traditional LAUSD schools, creating a cohesive K-12 family of personal schools to serve every child in LA's Promise Neighborhood. LA's Promise transforms chronically underperforming schools into high-performing and college ready environments.

INITIATIVE

School Culture Transformation

Before any academic improvements can take root, the school culture must be transformed. LA's Promise, in collaboration with community stakeholders, relies upon a handful of key strategies to ensure the safety of its campuses and to promote a proper learning environment for all students. A trained school safety team, implementation of school uniforms and enforced policies reduce behavioral and other disciplinary issues. Facilities are clean and graffiti-free, directly enhancing learning.

HALLMARK PROGRAM

Innovative Education

LA's Promise schools are known for their hallmark academic programs and cutting-edge lesson design. LA's Promise connects students and teachers with the best resources the private sector has to offer and transforms the public school classroom into a place of excitement and inspiration. Small school design, adaptive computer-based learning and large scale interdisciplinary projects and events, emphasize personalized school environments. LA's Promise's Innovative Education Initiative breaks down the walls of the traditional classroom to bring valuable resources, people and experiences directly to students at LA's Promise schools.

INITIATIVE

College Preparedness

A college preparatory education for every neighborhood child is the fundamental mission of LA's Promise. Through an enormous network of leading colleges, businesses and other partners, LA's Promise ensures every students' access to life-changing opportunities. As a focus inside and outside of the classroom, LA's Promise provides students the motivation and support necessary to attend college and pursue a promising career.

HALLMARK PROGRAM

Go for College

Go for College is for the sole purpose of exposing the student body to an array of 2-year, 4-year, public and private colleges and universities. LA's Promise College Access Administrator works daily with each school's college counselor to navigate students through the college process, sharing necessary tools that reinforce this option for all. From college trips for every 9th grader to college counselor training for every teacher, Go for College creates a culture where college prep is the norm and every student has equal access to a higher education. Through events such as an annual college fair and the incorporation of student College Ambassadors, students and families receive the support needed to prepare for and get through the college admission process. Every student is encouraged to apply to – at minimum – one college, regardless of their future plans.

INITIATIVE

Efficient School Management

As our schools continue to face millions in budget cutbacks, LA's Promise has played a critical role in ensuring that every dollar spent is devoted to increasing student outcomes. LA's Promise has formed an operations team that works closely with the principal, business and operations manager, and school stakeholders to develop budgetary priorities and construct budget models to meet student needs. In order to maximize school staff time, LA's Promise assists every step of the way, from working directly with the district to developing budget modeling tools. LA's Promise focuses on strategic planning that is relevant and meaningful.

HALLMARK PROGRAM

Teachers and Leaders

Building the capacity of its workforce is a primary objective of the LA's Promise approach to sustaining real reform and efficiency at schools. LA's Promise works to expand career pathways for teachers and support the full potential of school leaders. Teachers and Leaders provides the resources and support necessary for public school educators to become entrepreneurial, strategic and visionary thinkers.

SCHOOL AS HUB Community Beacons for Physical, Mental and Social Services

LA's Promise turns neighborhood schools into community hubs that offer services and opportunities all day long. LA's Promise manages and screens partners who provide a vast array of wraparound services to students and families. To accomplish widespread access to thousands, LA's Promise and its partners integrate these services into and throughout the school day facilitating universal access to fundamental services for all students.

INITIATIVE

Integrated Services

Integrated Services is a coordinated, holistic approach to addressing the needs of children – particularly the complex, interrelated problems of at-risk children – by providing a comprehensive range of educational, health and social services. LA's Promise schools are the hub of a coordinated network of service providers and the link between these service providers and children and their families. Integrated services focus on prevention, promoting health and wellness for children and their families, and providing services that overcome barriers to school readiness and academic success. These services include gang-diversion programs, health care, counseling, tutoring and remedial education, mentoring, literacy training, parent education, mental health services, child abuse programs, recreation, programs to reduce intergroup tensions and student conflict, and programs for students in foster care. Integrated services are school-based to ensure use of the long-term contact with the majority of students.

HALLMARK PROGRAM

7 to 7

LA's Promise schools are open from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm and beyond, utilizing the services of partners and structuring those services into special classes and programs that are intertwined into the regular school day. 7 to 7 classes are offered in multiple areas, from tutoring programs to fitness classes to financial counseling. 7 to 7 courses are provided by dozens of LA's Promise partners, including Asian Pacific American Legal Center (APALC), Get Fit Go, Children's Bureau, Street Poets, Los Angeles Child Guidance Clinic, St. Johns Well Child and Family Center and many others. In its first full year, 7 to 7 attracted more than 1,400 West Adams students.

Health & Wellness

Mental, physical and emotional well being is the focus of a large scale initiative to ensure students are well nourished, active, and supported. LA's Promise believes that an effective education means paying attention to the full spectrum of a child's development. LA's Promise's Health and Wellness program empowers students to evaluate their current habits and make informed choices through a holistic approach.

INITIATIVE

Resource Management

LA's Promise pioneered its Resource Management System (RMS), a coordinated method for weaving together external partners to public schools and communities. Our RMS mitigates the common problems of community-school partnerships by establishing service agreements, performing screens for program quality, and using a sophisticated web-based database to increase access to services.

HALLMARK PROGRAM

Partners

LA's Promise partners with over 50 nonprofit organizations who collectively provide over 200 services to students and families in LA's Promise Neighborhood. LA's Promise rigorously screens all potential partners and manages partners to clear service agreements. Each partner must sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). As a result, partners deliver the highest quality programs to students and families in LA's Promise Neighborhood.

INITIATIVE

Parental Engagement

LA's Promise believes that parents, families, guardians and other school stakeholders are key partners in achieving a school's vision. Because of the importance of parent engagement in our schools' success, LA's Promise staffs every school with a full time Associate Director of Parent and Community Engagement. This position works closely with community representatives and parent volunteers.

HALLMARK PROGRAM

Promise Parents

Promise Parents was created to implement three key engagement activities:

- Ongoing Parent Support Courses
- Volunteer and Leadership Opportunities
- Consistent and OnGoing Parent Communication



RESULTS

ACADEMIC GOALS LA's Promise sets aggressive and transparent academic goals

RETENTION

Student Behavior/Safety
Daily Attendance
Extra-Curricular Activity Rate
Dropout Rate
4-Year Graduation Rate

COLLEGE-READINESS

Proficiency in ELA & Math
A-G Completion
API Score/Gains
Qualitative Measures

COLLEGE MATRICULATION

Application Completion
Matriculation to College
SAT/ACT Test Taking

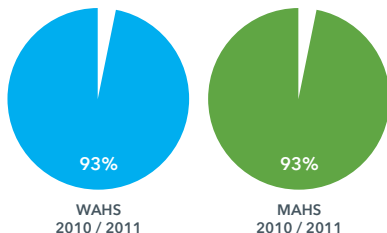
GAINS

LA's Promise has produced early and dramatic gains at both of our high schools.

"HIGH" ATTENDANCE

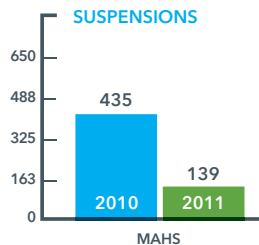
Some of the highest attendance rates in LAUSD:

West Adams High School 93%
Manual Arts High School 93%



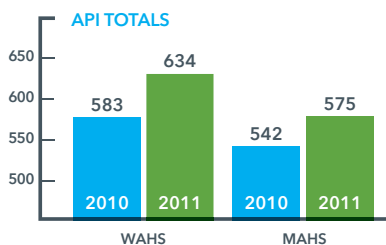
STUDENT BEHAVIOR

Incidents of violence and disruption reduced by more than 60% at Manual Arts



API GAINS

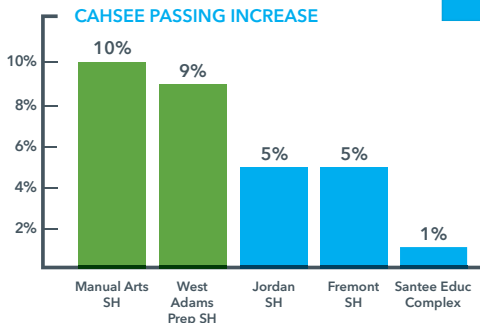
West Adams High School:
113 point API gain in three years
Manual Arts High School:
33 point API gain in one year



CAHSEE GAINS

10th graders at West Adams experienced an 8% increase in proficiency in both English Language Arts (ELA) and Math on California High School Exit Exam

Number of 10th graders passing California High School Exit Exam increased by a dramatic 10% in one year



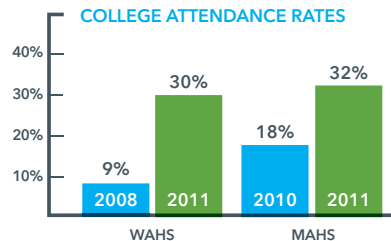
COLLEGE ATTENDANCE

West Adams tripled 4-year college attendance rate

9% – 30% over four years

Manual Arts nearly doubled 4-year college attendance rate

18% – 32% in one year



Seniors attending colleges and universities to include:

California Institute of Technology
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Berkeley
Colby College

CALIFORNIA STANDARDS TEST (CST)

Number of students scoring proficient or advanced in math on the CST:

- West Adams more than quadrupled over four years
- Manual Arts doubled in one year

LA's Promise has also:

- Accelerated Manual Arts move from three tracks to one track, 22 additional instructional days.
- Implemented a new data and assessment structure ensuring all teachers and administrators have access to meaningful student data all the time.
- Applied a new intervention structure to ensure students performing below basic proficiency are receiving support during the school day.
- Reorganized and restructured school faculty.
- Hired new principals to lead students, staff and stakeholders through periods of transformative change.
- Implemented a health pilot program, providing over 200 health screenings for 9th graders at Manual Arts.

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Jose Ramos • Children's Bureau

Kandee Lewis • The Positive Results Corporation

Maggie Pablo Vasquez • West Adams Prep parent

Nancy Rubaicava • West Adams Prep parent

Nomsa Khalfani • St Johns Family Well Child Center

Barbara Shields • Team Heal

Lisa Ramirez • Manual Arts teacher & parent

Irma Galvez • Manual Arts parent



PARTNERS

LA's Promise places emphasis on meeting each student's academic, social, physical and emotional needs. Schools in the LA's Promise family serve as the hub of wraparound services to support the whole child and family. Over 50 specially screened partners providing over 200 services work together to address the comprehensive needs of the school community. LA's Promise rigorously screens all potential partners and manages partners to clear service agreements. As a result, partners deliver the highest quality programs to students and families in LA's Promise Neighborhood.



LA's PROMISE ONLINE DIRECTORY



The LA's Promise Online Directory is an internet portal of services that connects students and families in LA's Promise Neighborhood to all LA's Promise Partners. The LA's Promise Online Directory inventories a variety of resources in one central location, helping students and families easily access valuable services. Additionally, this online directory features a universal referral system that enables LA's Promise Neighborhood residents to easily connect to LA's Promise's service providers. To explore the directory, visit www.laspromisedirectory.org.

PARTNER SNAPSHOT

- 826LA
- A Place Called Home
- American Heart Association
- American Red Cross of Greater LA
- The Amgen-Bruce Wallace Biotech Program
- Asian Pacific American Legal Center
- Archdiocesan Youth Employment Services
- Bresee Foundation
- Brotherhood Crusade
- California Conference for Equality and Justice
- Children's Bureau
- Community Coalition
- Facing History
- First Robotics
- FOX Journey to Excellence
- Fulfillment Fund
- Get Fit Go
- Health Corps
- Infrastructure Academy
- Invent for Life
- Jamie Oliver Food Foundation
- Koreatown Youth and Community Center
- LA Community College Upward Bound
- Los Angeles Child Guidance Clinic
- Manual Arts High School Adult School
- Mexican American Legal Defense Ed Fund
- National Health Foundation
- Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship
- One Voice
- Operation Hope
- Our House
- Parent Institute for Quality Education
- Peace Over Violence
- Peer Health Exchange
- Reach LA
- Root Down LA
- Ryman Arts
- Sound Body Sound Mind
- South Central Scholars
- St. John's Well Child & Family Center
- Street Poets
- Team Heal
- UCLA EAOP
- USC Community Computing Center
- USC Jazz Reach
- USC Joint Education Project
- USC Math & Sciences Upward Bound
- USC Med Core
- USC Mesa
- USC NAI
- USC Street Law
- USC Talent Search
- USC Theater Resource Network
- USC Trio
- USC Upward Bound
- WestEd
- West Adams Adult School
- Woodcraft Rangers
- youTHink
- Youth Orchestra Los Angeles

