



Cross Middle School
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Amphitheater Governing Board
FROM: Andy Heinemann
RE: Principal's Governing Board Presentation
DATE: September 28, 2015

Cross Middle School

Vision

Cross Middle School is a safe and caring place where focus is placed on developing the whole child, a place where parents want to send their child, and faculty and staff are committed to excellence and high academic achievement.

Mission

Preparing students for living, learning, and leading in the 21st century.

Core Values

Accountability, Continuous Improvement, Collaborative Spirit, 21st Century Skills, Respect, Culture of Kindness, Positive Outlook, Student Learning

We Believe ...

- All students can learn and achieve
- Every child has the right to learn in his or her most effective way to achieve academic success
- Everyone has unique strengths and talents that should be recognized and celebrated
- Developing the whole child
- All students become positive contributing members of society
- Education requires commitment, cooperation and respect among students, parents, staff, and community
- Providing a safe, caring and kind learning environment
- Learning is a life-long process

Cross Middle School is nestled at the base of Pusch Ridge in the Catalina Mountains. Cross has high academic and behavioral expectations for students and promotes a variety of opportunities for students. We offer accelerated courses such as Algebra 1, Geometry and Spanish 1 for high school credit. Our athletic programs have a rich tradition of excellence and we also have a very strong fine arts program offering band, orchestra, choir and Musical Theater. A great deal of teacher, parent, student and community involvement adds to the Cross educational experience. Our staff at Cross believes that the students we educated today can and will be the leaders of tomorrow.

Cultural and Demographic Data:

- Enrollment: 655 Students
- Open Enrollment: 176 Students which is 27% of the total enrollment.
- Feeder Elementary Schools: Copper Creek, Donaldson, Harelson, Mesa Verde
- Cross has a very small ELL population (1.3%) – 2014-2015 school year.
- 19.2% of our student population is identified gifted in at least one area in the 2014-2015 school year.
- Students identified Special Education make up 16.5% of our school population
- Average Daily attendance rate in 2014-2015 was 93.4%
- Student Mobility Rate in 2014-2015 was 16.3%.
- On the Cross campus we have a self-contained classroom for students identified with severe social/emotional/behavioral disabilities and there are 6 students in that program.
- 36% of students at Cross Middle School qualify for free and reduced lunch.
- There are six churches surrounding Cross Middle School and they are very active members of the community. The churches donate materials and supplies to the school and have volunteers that are active on our campus. They also allow us to use their parking lots before and after school to accommodate parking.
- Cross Middle School has many active partnerships with the surrounding business community.
- The school was built in 1974-1975 and many members of the parent population were students here or long time members of the Amphitheater district.
- Cross has a great reputation for developing the whole child. We have strong academics, outstanding fine arts and competitive athletic teams.

Instructional Programs:

- REACH Program (Humanities) for Gifted and Talented Advanced Students
- Special Education Services
- Advanced Language Arts
- Inquiry-based Science (Earth, Space, Biology, Chemistry, Physics)
- Intervention Courses (Math Lab, Writing Lab, Blended Learning Model with i-Ready)
- W.E.B. (Where Everybody Belongs) 8th Grade Leadership/Mentor Class
- Amphi Academy – Online Blended Learning
- Full Time Certified Librarian

Extra-Curricular Activities:

- Athletics
- Student Council
- Odyssey of the Mind
- Future Problem Solving
- National Junior Honor Society
- Debate Club
- Marching Band

To enrich the educational environment and provide for many diverse student interests, a wide variety of special events/activities are provided for Cross students. Many of these groups are directed by volunteer teachers and parents and/or are supported through the Cross PTO.

- Parent Information Night/Orientation
- Fall Festival
- Catalina Island Trip for select Science students
- School Dances
- Fine Arts Night
- Musical Theater Productions
- Orchestra, Band, Choir concerts
- Band, Orchestra and Choir Competitions in California
- Intervention in Reading and Math
- After School Tutoring
- Ben's Bell Kind School
- Geography Bee
- Spelling Bee
- Partnership with Northwest Bible Church

AIMS 8th Grade Science:

74% of Cross 8th Grade students met or exceeded the AIMS Science test.

The chart below shows the NWEA (MAP) scores from 2014-2015 comparing Cross scores to the National Norm.

	6th	7th	8th
Language	215.6/N=215.3	220.5/N=217.6	223.7/N=219.0
Math	227.6/N=225.3	234.3/N=228.6	236.7/N=230.9
Reading	215.9/N=215.8	219.3/N=218.2	224.6/N=220.1

Academic Goals for the 2015-2016 School Year:

1. As measured by the 2015-2016 fall to spring MAP test, 100% of our continuously enrolled students will make at least one year's growth in the area of math.
2. As measured by a Pre and Post writing assessment 100% of continuously enrolled students will increase their average of all 6 traits by one point as measure on the 6 traits of writing rubric.
3. As measured by the 2015-2016 fall to spring MAP test, 100% of our continuously enrolled student will make at least on year's growth in the area of reading.
4. As measured by Tyler Student Management System, Cross Middle School will have at least a 95% attendance rate.