



Accelerated Achievement Academy

A California Distinguished School

**Parent & Community
Informational Meeting**

**Calaveras School Campus
Hollister School District
Hollister, CA**

April 26, 2017

The Highest Achieving School in San Benito County!



Accelerated Achievement Academy

WELCOME to the Home of the Gators!

Agenda

- Introductions
- Commendations
- Focus
- Our History
- Vision
- Accelerated Achievement Academy
 - Organization and Location
 - Administration
 - Program Highlights
 - Teaching Staff
 - Admission Requirements
 - Parent and Student Expectations
 - Uniforms
 - Application Process
 - Responding to *YOUR* questions!



Introductions

Mrs. Diana Herbst, Principal

Mrs. Christine White, Principal of Calaveras School

Teaching Staff: Ms. Bessette, Ms. Ito, Mrs. Lentz, Ms. Escandon, Mrs. Turpin, Mr. Haggett, and Mr. Della Maggiore



Commendations

- A California Distinguished School in 2013
- Ranked 20th Middle School in the state in 2015
- Ranked 14th Middle School in the state in 2016
- 2016 CA Honor Roll School Award



Focus

- Project Based Learning
- Concentration on Professional Learning Communities
- High Parent Involvement
- Preparation for Honors Level Classes at the high school level
- Presentation skill development incorporating technology



Our History

- To provide parents choice of school theme and grade level configuration
- To broaden educational offerings for all students
- To enhance student learning and achievement



Vision

- The Accelerated Achievement Academy provides a rich learning environment in which high-achieving and gifted students are challenged to reach their fullest potential.
- To go deeper into the standard curriculum
- Strategic focused workload in the classroom
 - Engaging Project Based Learning
 - Student-Led Conferences
 - Gator Gathering
- Building relationships in the classroom



Organization and Location

- Separate public school for 4th-8th grade students in the county
- A school for gifted and high achievers
- Five classrooms located on the Calaveras campus
- Shared PE and music teachers
- Shared office staff
- Shared library
- 100+ chromebooks for 132 students
- Shared playground access
- Shared drop-off/pick-up areas



Enrollment

- 4th grade - 24 students (Bessette)
- 5th grade - 31 students (Ito)
- 6th grade - 28 students (Lentz)
- 7th grade - 25 students (Escandon)
- 8th grade - 24 students (Turpin)

The goal is to grow to 30 students in each grade level.



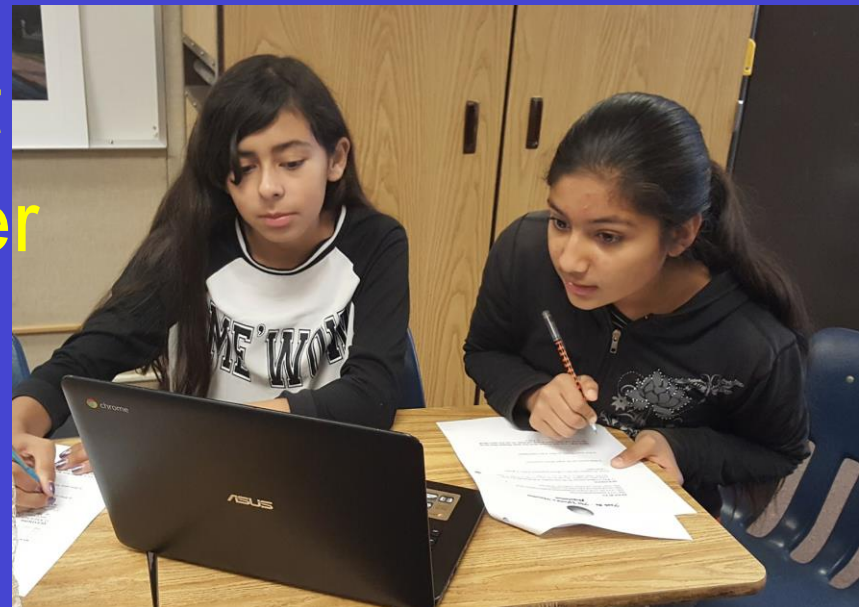
Program Highlights

- Based largely upon the Joseph Renzulli model of “schools for talent development”
- Through curriculum compacting, students move at a faster pace and dig deeper into the grade level curriculum using thinking maps as a tool
- Emphasis on the Common Core State Standards
- Activities are designed to challenge students’ critical, logical, and creative thinking skills based on Bloom’s Taxonomy



Technology

- 70-inch television projection system in all classrooms
- Document cameras
- Google Classroom
- Chromebooks
- Coding enrichment
- Accelerated Reader





Accelerated Achievement Academy

• Admission

– All students in the Hollister School District as well as within San Benito County are welcome to apply! Admission to the Accelerated Achievement Academy is based primarily on the following criteria:

- District Benchmark Scores
- SBAC
- Teacher Recommendation
- Interview
- Task Commitment
- Report Cards
- Writing Sample
- Non-verbal Intelligence Test





Accelerated Achievement Academy

- **Parent and Student Expectations**
 - An agreement detailing teacher, parent and student expectations will be signed each year
 - Summer assignments
 - Parents are asked to volunteer at least 20 hours a year to the school
 - Students are required to complete community service hours
 - Parents must provide their child's transportation to school
 - Students wear uniforms to school



School Uniforms

- Black/Khaki Pants, Capris, or Skirts
- Black, White, or Green Polo Shirts
- Black or White Sweaters or Sweatshirts with no logo
- Academy Shirts or Sweatshirts
- Black or Brown Belts
- White, Brown or Black Sneakers for Physical Activities



Accelerated Achievement Academy

• Application Process

- Applications may be obtained in the school office throughout the year or online at aaa.hesd.org
- Completed applications are requested by May 5 for the next school year and are accepted year-round
- The principal will review the applications and panel interviews will be held
- Parents will be notified by phone of application acceptance or denial



Accelerated Achievement Academy

- **For more information...**
 - **Please contact Diana Herbst:**
 - **(831) 636-4460**
 - **dherbst@hesd.org**
 - **Hollister School District
Educational Services Department
(831) 630-6300**



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Questions

