



# School Accountability Report Card Reported for School Year 2007-08 Published During 2008-09

## Executive Summary School Accountability Report Card, 2007-08 High Tech Middle School

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Principal: Janie Griswold Grade Span: 6 - 8

This executive summary of the School Accountability Report Card (SARC) is intended to provide parents and community members with a quick snapshot of school accountability. The data presented in this report are reported for the 2007-08 school year, except the School Finances and School Completion data that are reported for the 2006-07 school year. For additional information about the school, parents and community members should review the entire SARC or contact the school principal or the district office.

### About This School

High Tech Middle is a new approach to public education. Launched by an industry and educator coalition, High Tech Middle is designed to immerse students in a rigorous learning environment that engages their interests in the fields of math, science, and technology. High Tech Middle provides students with rigorous and relevant academic and workplace skills, preparing its graduates for rewarding lives in our increasingly technological society. High Tech Middle is founded on three design principles: personalization, adult-world connection, and a common intellectual mission. Innovative features include performance-based assessment, daily shared planning time for staff, state-of-the-art technical facilities for project-based learning.

### Student Enrollment

Group	Percent
African American	13.13 %
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.31 %
Asian	9.38 %
Filipino	5.31 %
Hispanic or Latino	27.19 %
Pacific Islander	0.31 %
White (not Hispanic)	44.38 %
Multiple or No Response	%
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	22 %
English Learners	%
Students with Disabilities	9 %
<b>Total Number of students</b>	<b>320</b>

## Teachers

Indicator	Teachers
Teachers with full credential	11
Teachers without full credential	4
Teachers Teaching Outside Subject Area of Competence	0
Misassignments of Teachers of English Learners	0
Total Teacher Misassignments	0

## School Facilities

### Summary of Most Recent Site Inspection

High Tech Middle is located in a 26,000 square foot building formerly used by the Navy as a technical training center. The facility underwent approximately \$3 million in improvements in 2002, including new mechanical, plumbing, and electrical systems. This major renovation also gave the school its unique classroom neighborhood layout specifically designed to support project-based learning. The school has 14 classrooms and labs grouped by grade-level along a daylit Gallery. In-house Facilities staff adequately maintain the building systems, and the custodians follow rigorous cleaning standards for all spaces. High Tech Middle shares a common lunch area with other High Tech High schools on-campus, as well as recreational areas where students participate in formal and informal recreation activities. Maintenance of the common outdoor space occurs daily and all students participate in an after lunch outdoor clean up.

### Repairs Needed

None Needed

### Corrective Actions Taken or Planned

None Needed

## Curriculum and Instructional Materials

Core Curriculum Areas	Pupils Who Lack Textbooks and Instructional Materials
Reading/Language Arts	0%
Mathematics	0%
Science	0%
History-Social Science	0%
Foreign Language	0%
Health	0%
Visual and Performing Arts	0%
Science Laboratory Equipment (grades 9-12)	0%

## School Finances

Level	Expenditures Per Pupil (Unrestricted Sources Only)
School Site	\$7,850
District	\$ 6,772
State	\$5,300

## Student Performance

Subject	Students Proficient and Above on California Standards Tests
English-Language Arts	66%
Mathematics	67%
Science	67%
History-Social Science	65%

## Academic Progress

Indicator	Result
2008 Growth API Score (from 2008 Growth API Report)	847
Statewide Rank (from 2007 Base API Report)	9
2008-09 Program Improvement Status (PI Year)	Not in PI



## 2007-08 School Accountability Report Card Report (SARC)

The School Accountability Report Card (SARC), which is required by law to be published annually, contains information about the condition and performance of each California public school. More information about SARC requirements is available at the [SARC](#) Web site. For additional information about the school, parents and community members should contact the school principal or the district office.

### I. Data and Access

#### DataQuest

DataQuest is an online data tool that contains additional information about this school and comparisons of the school to the district, the county, and the state. Specifically, DataQuest is a dynamic system that provides reports for accountability (e.g. Academic Performance Index [API], Adequate Yearly Progress [AYP]), test data, enrollment, graduates, dropouts, course enrollments, staffing, and data regarding English learners.

#### Internet Access

Internet access is available at public libraries and other locations that are publicly accessible (e.g., the California State Library). Access to the Internet at libraries and public locations is generally provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Other use restrictions include the hours of operation, the length of time that a workstation may be used (depending on availability), the types of software programs available on a workstation, and the ability to print documents.

### II. About This School

#### Contact Information (School Year 2008-09)

This section provides the schools contact information.

School		District	
School Name	High Tech Middle	District Name	San Diego Unified
Street	2291 Truxtun Rd.	Phone Number	619-725-8000
City, State, Zip	San Diego , CA 92106	Web Site	www.sandi.net
Phone Number	619-814-5060	Superintendent	Terry Grier
Principal	Janie Griswold	E-mail Address	pturnbull@sandi.net
E-mail Address	jgriswold@hightechhigh.org	CDS Code	37-68338-0101204

#### School Description and Mission Statement (School Year 2007-08)

This section provides information about the school's goals and programs.

High Tech Middle is a new approach to public education. Launched by an industry and educator coalition, High Tech Middle is designed to immerse students in a rigorous learning environment that engages their interests in the fields of math, science, and technology. High Tech Middle provides students with rigorous and relevant academic and workplace skills, preparing its graduates for rewarding lives in our increasingly technological society. High Tech Middle is founded on three design principles: personalization, adult-world connection, and a common intellectual mission. Innovative features include performance-based assessment, daily shared planning time for staff, state-of-the-art technical facilities for project-based learning.

## Opportunities for Parental Involvement (School Year 2007-08)

This section provides information about opportunities for parents to become involved with school activities.

The High Tech Middle Parent Association has been instrumental in improving communication with parents and getting more parents involved in making decisions that positively affect student learning outcomes. The Parent Association holds monthly meetings second Thursday of each month at the school site. Parents have an active voice at the school, and ample opportunities to volunteer in classrooms, plan and coordinate fundraising efforts to give money back into school programs by way of a grant program, foster a positive social environment for students from all communities, and communicate to all members of the HTM community on an on-going basis to discuss student achievement. HTM parents also communicate via e-newsletter and weekly news blasts to HTM parent, students, and teachers. The parent website can be found at [www.parentpage.org](http://www.parentpage.org)

## Student Enrollment by Grade Level (School Year 2007-08)

This table displays the number of students enrolled in each grade level at the school.

Grade Level	Number of Students
Kindergarten	0
Grade 1	0
Grade 2	0
Grade 3	0
Grade 4	0
Grade 5	0
Grade 6	104
Grade 7	109
Grade 8	107
Ungraded Elementary	0
Grade 9	0
Grade 10	0
Grade 11	0
Grade 12	0
Ungraded Secondary	0
Total Enrollment	320

## Student Enrollment by Group (School Year 2007-08)

This table displays the percent of students enrolled at the school who are identified as being in a particular group.

Group	Percent of Total Enrollment
African American	13.13 %
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.31 %
Asian	9.38 %
Filipino	5.31 %
Hispanic or Latino	27.19 %
Pacific Islander	0.31 %
White (not Hispanic)	44.38 %
Multiple or No Response	%
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	22 %
English Learners	%
Students with Disabilities	9 %

## Average Class Size and Class Size Distribution (Secondary)

This table displays by subject area the average class size and the number of classrooms that fall into each size category (a range of total students per classroom).

Subject	2005-06			2006-07			2007-08					
	Avg. Class Size	Number of Classrooms			Avg. Class Size	Number of Classrooms			Avg. Class Size	Number of Classrooms		
		1-22	23-32	33+		1-22	23-32	33+		1-22	23-32	33+
English	25.1	3	11		27.1		12		26.6		12	
Mathematics	25.6	1	13		27.1		12		26.6		12	
Science	25.6	1	13		27.1		12		26.6		12	
Social Science	25.1	3	11		27.1		12		26.6		12	

### III. School Climate

#### School Safety Plan (School Year 2007-08)

This section provides information about the school's comprehensive safety plan.

High Tech Middle updates its safety practices yearly and the safety plan is on file at the front desk and in each classroom. All students practice evacuation procedures multiple times each year. School evacuation maps are strategically located throughout the school. The safety plan includes addresses prevention, response, and recovery related to emergencies.

**Prevention:** Prevention programs are the first component in an integrated school safety plan. The purpose of the program is to create a safe school environment that supports academic achievement. These programs address a variety of issues to include violence/substance abuse and threat assessment. High Tech Middle's primary goal is to prevent emergencies.

**Response:** Some emergencies or disasters cannot be prevented. In those cases the second component, emergency response and emergency operations plans in place to insure an effective response. HTM school will minimize the impact of an emergency or disaster. It is important for all involved response entities to coordinate and plan their activities in advance. This will minimize confusion and enhance the response.

**Recovery:** HTM is prepared to assist students and staff in their emotional recovery from an emergency or disaster. Recovery procedures are practiced and discussed regularly throughout the school year.

HTM combats the alienation of adolescence and the anonymity of most urban schools with a culture of community and personalization. We recognize that students with different learning needs, family backgrounds and personal interests require individually crafted support and planning. High Tech Middle has three main design elements: personalization, common- intellectual mission, and adult world connections. The student-faculty ratio at High Tech Middle is 23:1, and each student has an advisor who remains constant throughout the four years of school. High Tech Middle's curriculum is built upon real project work by situating students directly in workplaces, by bringing industry specialists into the school, and by fostering relationships between students and mentors. A coherent intellectual mission is reflected in the emphasis on the use of technology as a tool and the relationship of learning to careers. High Tech Middle believes that all students and adults should be treated with dignity and respect. This culture embraces and promotes a positive learning environment where all students abide by a code of conduct.

High Tech Middle will regard suspension and expulsion as a last resort. Criteria for suspension and expulsion of students shall be consistent with all applicable federal statutes and state constitutional provisions. All related hearings will conform to applicable state and federal laws regarding discipline, special education, confidentiality, and access to records.

The following represent typical grounds for suspension and expulsion:

- The threat, causation or attempted causation of physical injury to another person, including sexual assault.
- Possession of a weapon (e.g., firearms, knives or explosives) or possession of a replica firearm.
- Unlawful possession, use, sale, offer or being under the influence of any controlled substance, alcoholic beverage or any intoxicant.
- Theft or attempted theft of school or private property.
- Destruction or attempted destruction of school or private property.
- Extortion.
- Obscene or offensive acts or habitual profanity or vulgarity.
- Disruption of school activities or willful defiance of valid school authorities.
- Violation of a policy or procedure by a student and/or parent as set forth in the student handbook.

A student suspension or expulsion may only be applied with the approval of the Site Director.

## Suspensions and Expulsions

This table displays the rate of suspensions and expulsions (the total number of incidents divided by the total enrollment) at the school and district levels for the most recent three-year period.

Rate	School			District		
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Suspensions	NA	.03	.031	0.0	9.7	8.2
Expulsions	0	0	0	0.0	0.3	0.2

## IV. School Facilities

### Facility Conditions and Planned Improvements (School Year 2008-09)

This section provides information about the condition of the school's grounds, buildings, and restrooms, and a description of any planned or recently completed facility improvements.

High Tech Middle is located in a 26,000 square foot building formerly used by the Navy as a technical training center. The facility underwent approximately \$3 million in improvements in 2002, including new mechanical, plumbing, and electrical systems. This major renovation also gave the school its unique classroom neighborhood layout specifically designed to support project-based learning. The school has 14 classrooms and labs grouped by grade-level along a daylight Gallery. In-house Facilities staff adequately maintain the building systems, and the custodians follow rigorous cleaning standards for all spaces. High Tech Middle shares a common lunch area with other High Tech High schools on-campus, as well as recreational areas where students participate in formal and informal recreation activities. Maintenance of the common outdoor space occurs daily and all students participate in an after lunch outdoor clean up.

### School Facility Good Repair Status (School Year 2008-09)

This table displays the results of the most recently completed school site inspection to determine the school facility's good repair status.

Item Inspected	Repair Status			Repair Needed and Action Taken or Planned
	Good	Fair	Poor	
Gas Leaks	X			
Mechanical Systems	X			
Windows/Doors/Gates (interior and exterior)	X			
Interior Surfaces (walls, floors, and ceilings)	X			
Hazardous Materials (interior and exterior)	X			
Structural Damage	X			
Fire Safety	X			
Electrical (interior and exterior)	X			
Pest/Vermin Infestation	X			
Drinking Fountains (inside and outside)	X			

Restrooms	X			
Sewer	X			
Playground/School Grounds	X			Grass replaced as needed
Roofs	X			
Overall Cleanliness	X			

### Overall Summary of School Facility Good Repair Status (School Year 2008-09)

This table displays the overall summary of the results of the most recently completed school site inspection.

Item Inspected	Facility Condition			
	Exemplary	Good	Fair	Poor
Overall Summary		Good		

## V. Teachers

### Teacher Credentials

This table displays the number of teachers assigned to the school with a full credential, without a full credential, and those teaching outside of their subject area of competence. Detailed information about teacher qualifications can be found at the [DataQuest Web site](#).

Teachers	School			District
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2007-08
With Full Credential	8	13	11	6569
Without Full Credential	10	3	4	756
Teaching Outside Subject Area of Competence	NA	0	0	N/A

### Teacher Misassignments and Vacant Teacher Positions

This table displays the number of teacher misassignments (teachers assigned without proper legal authorization) and the number of vacant teacher positions (not filled by a single designated teacher assigned to teach the entire course at the beginning of the school year or semester). Note: Total Teacher Misassignments includes the number of Misassignments of Teachers of English Learners.

Indicator	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Misassignments of Teachers of English Learners	0	0	3
Total Teacher Misassignments	0	0	4
Vacant Teacher Positions	0	0	0

### Core Academic Classes Taught by No Child Left Behind Compliant Teachers (School Year 2007-08)

This table displays the percent of classes in core academic subjects taught by No Child Left Behind (NCLB) compliant and non-NCLB compliant teachers at the school, at all schools in the district, at high-poverty schools in the district, and at low-poverty schools in the district. More information on teacher qualifications required under NCLB can be found at the [NCLB Web site](#).

Location of Classes	Percent of Classes In Core Academic Subjects	
	Taught by NCLB Compliant Teachers	Taught by Non-NCLB Compliant Teachers
This School	76.9	23.1
All Schools in District	97.7	2.3
High-Poverty Schools in District	96.8	3.2
Low-Poverty Schools in District	99.6	0.4

## VI. Support Staff

### Academic Counselors and Other Support Staff (School Year 2007-08)

This table displays, in units of full-time equivalents (FTE), the number of academic counselors and other support staff who are assigned to the school and the average number of students per academic counselor. One FTE equals one staff member working full time; one FTE could also represent two staff members who each work 50 percent of full time.

Title	Number of FTE Assigned to School	Average Number of Students per Academic Counselor
Academic Counselor		
Library Media Teacher (Librarian)		N/A
Library Media Services Staff (paraprofessional)		N/A
Psychologist		N/A
Social Worker		N/A
Nurse		N/A
Speech/Language/Hearing Specialist		N/A
Resource Specialist (non-teaching)	1.0	N/A
Other		N/A

## VII. Curriculum and Instructional Materials

### Quality, Currency, Availability of Textbooks and Instructional Materials (School Year 2008-09)

This table displays information about the quality, currency, and availability of the standards-aligned textbooks and other instructional materials used at the school, and information about the school's use of any supplemental curriculum or non-adopted textbooks or instructional materials.

Core Curriculum Area	Quality, Currency, and Availability of Textbooks and Instructional Materials	Percent of Pupils Who Lack Their Own Assigned Textbooks and Instructional Materials
Reading/Language Arts	Yes- Curriculum includes several novels and textbooks	0%
Mathematics	Yes- We offer a variety of mathematical texts	0%
Science	Yes- We offer a variety of scientific texts	0%
History-Social Science	Yes- Curriculum integrates history and social science	0%
Foreign Language	Yes-We offer textbooks in Spanish	0%
Health	We do not offer health	0%
Visual and Performing Arts	Yes-We offer textbooks and resources for drama and art	0%

## VIII. School Finances

### Expenditures Per Pupil and School Site Teacher Salaries (Fiscal Year 2006-07)

This table displays a comparison of the school's per pupil expenditures from unrestricted (basic) sources with other schools in the district and throughout the state, and a comparison of the average teacher salary at the school site with average teacher salaries at the district and state levels. Detailed information regarding school expenditures can be found at the [Current Expense of Education](#) Web page and teacher salaries can be found on the [Certificated Salaries and Benefits](#) Web page.

Level	Total Expenditures Per Pupil	Expenditures Per Pupil (Supplemental)	Expenditures Per Pupil (Basic)	Average Teacher Salary
School Site	\$8,740	\$926	\$7,814	\$51,250
District	N/A	N/A	\$6,772	\$55,123
Percent Difference – School Site and District	N/A	N/A	14%	-7%
State	N/A	N/A	\$5,300	\$65,008
Percent Difference – School Site and State	N/A	N/A	38%	-24%

### Types of Services Funded (Fiscal Year 2007-08)

This section provides information about the programs and supplemental services that are available at the school and funded through either categorical or other sources.

High Tech Middle offers elective courses, known as x-block where students have opportunities to get involved with activities such as technology and multimedia, botball, football, soccer, rock climbing, exploring other cultures, and yoga. Students are also able to go on field trips and camps. High Tech Middle also offers a comprehensive before and after school program.

### Teacher and Administrative Salaries (Fiscal Year 2006-07)

This table displays district-level salary information for teachers, principals, and superintendents, and compares these figures to the state averages for districts of the same type and size. The table also displays teacher and administrative salaries as a percent of a district's budget, and compares these figures to the state averages for districts of the same type and size. Detailed information regarding salaries may be found on the [Certificated Salaries and Benefits](#) Web page.

Category	District Amount	State Average For Districts In Same Category
Beginning Teacher Salary	\$37790	\$40721
Mid-Range Teacher Salary	\$57422	\$65190
Highest Teacher Salary	\$76834	\$84151
Average Principal Salary (Elementary)	\$104884	\$104476
Average Principal Salary (Middle)	\$106912	\$108527
Average Principal Salary (High)	\$112437	\$119210
Superintendent Salary	\$210769	\$210769
Percent of Budget for Teacher Salaries	37.2 %	39.9 %
Percent of Budget for Administrative Salaries	5.0 %	5.5 %

## IX. Student Performance

### California Standards Tests

The California Standards Tests (CSTs) show how well students are doing in relation to the state content standards. The CSTs include English-language arts (ELA) and mathematics in grades 2 through 11; science in grades 5, 8, and 9 through 11; and history-social science in grades 8, and 10 through 11. Student scores are reported as performance levels.

Detailed information regarding CST results for each grade and performance level, including the percent of students not tested, can be found on the [Standardized Testing and Reporting \(STAR\) Results](#) Web page.

### CST Results for All Students - Three-Year Comparison

This table displays the percent of students achieving at the Proficient or Advanced level (meeting or exceeding the state standards).

Subject	School			District			State		
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
English-Language Arts	77	68	66	44	45	47	42	43	46
Mathematics	68	66	67	39	39	41	40	40	43
Science	54	48	67	26	31	42	35	38	46
History-Social Science	52	59	65	31	31	34	33	33	36

*Note: Scores are not shown when the number of students tested is 10 or less because the number of students in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or privacy protection. In no case shall any group score be reported that would deliberately or inadvertently make public the score or performance of any individual student.*

### CST Results by Student Group – Most Recent Year

This table displays the percent of students, by group, achieving at the Proficient or Advanced level (meeting or exceeding the state standards) for the most recent testing period.

Group	Percent of Students Scoring at Proficient or Advanced			
	English-Language Arts	Mathematics	Science	History-Social Science
African American	49	43	27	36
American Indian or Alaska Native	*	*		
Asian	85	91	*	*
Filipino	67	67	*	*
Hispanic or Latino	52	49	62	54
Pacific Islander	*	*	*	*
White (not Hispanic)	75	81	71	71
Male	57	68	68	70
Female	75	67	65	60
Economically Disadvantaged	40	41	44	31
English Learners	*	*		
Students with Disabilities	41	43	*	*
Students Receiving Migrant Education Services				

*Note: Scores are not shown when the number of students tested is 10 or less because the number of students in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or privacy protection. In no case shall any group score be reported that would deliberately or inadvertently make public the score or performance of any individual student.*

## California Physical Fitness Test Results (School Year 2007-08)

The California Physical Fitness Test is administered to students in grades 5, 7, and 9 only. This table displays by grade level the percent of students meeting the healthy fitness zone on all six fitness standards for the most recent testing period. Detailed information regarding this test, and comparisons of a school's test results to the district and state levels, may be found on the [Physical Fitness Testing Web page](#).

Grade Level	Percent of Students Meeting Healthy Fitness Zones
5	0
7	39.8
9	0

*Note: Scores are not shown when the number of students tested is 10 or less because the number of students in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or privacy protection. In no case shall any group score be reported that would deliberately or inadvertently make public the score or performance of any individual student.*

## X. Accountability

### Academic Performance Index

The Academic Performance Index (API) is an annual measure of the academic performance and progress of schools in California. API scores range from 200 to 1,000, with a statewide target of 800. Detailed information about the API can be found at the [API Web page](#).

### API Ranks – Three-Year Comparison

This table displays the school's statewide and similar schools API ranks. These ranks are published when the Base API is released each March. The statewide API rank ranges from 1 to 10. A statewide rank of 1 means that the school has an API score in the lowest 10 percent of all schools in the state, while a statewide rank of 10 means that the school has an API score in the highest 10 percent of all schools in the state. The similar schools API rank reflects how a school compares to 100 statistically matched "similar schools." A similar schools rank of 1 means that the school's academic performance is comparable to the lowest performing 10 schools of the 100 similar schools, while a similar schools rank of 10 means that the school's academic performance is better than at least 90 of the 100 similar schools.

API Rank	2005	2006	2007
Statewide	10	10	9
Similar Schools	9	10	8

"N/A" means a number is not applicable or not available due to missing data.

"\*" means this API is calculated for a small school, defined as having between 11 and 99 valid Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program test scores included in the API. The API is asterisked if the school was small either in 2007 or 2008. APIs based on small numbers of students are less reliable and therefore should be carefully interpreted.

"A" means the school or subgroups scored at or above the statewide performance target of 800 in 2008.

"B" 0101204

"C" means the school had significant demographic changes and will not have any growth or target information.

"D" means this is either an LEA, an Alternative Schools Accountability Model (ASAM) school, or a special education school. Target information is not applicable to LEAs, ASAM schools, or special education schools.

"E" indicates this school was an ASAM school in the 2007 Base API Report and has no target information even though the school is no longer an ASAM school.

### API Changes by Student Group – Three-Year Comparison

This table displays by student group the actual API changes in points added or lost for the past three years, and the most recent API score. Note: "N/A" means that the student group is not numerically significant.

Group	Actual API Change			Growth API Score
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008
All Students at the School	11	-21	0	847

African American				
American Indian or Alaska Native				
Asian				
Filipino				
Hispanic or Latino	2	-41	28	792
Pacific Islander				
White (not Hispanic)	5	-12	-2	882
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged			-46	753
English Learners				
Students with Disabilities				

- "N/A"** means a number is not applicable or not available due to missing data.
- "\*\*"** means this API is calculated for a small school, defined as having between 11 and 99 valid Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program test scores included in the API. The API is asterisked if the school was small either in 2007 or 2008. APIs based on small numbers of students are less reliable and therefore should be carefully interpreted.
- "A"** means the school or subgroups scored at or above the statewide performance target of 800 in 2008.
- "B"** means the school did not have a valid 2007 Base API and will not have any growth or target information.
- "C"** means the school had significant demographic changes and will not have any growth or target information.
- "D"** means this is either an LEA, an Alternative Schools Accountability Model (ASAM) school, or a special education school. Target information is not applicable to LEAs, ASAM schools, or special education schools.
- "E"** indicates this school was an ASAM school in the 2007 Base API Report and has no target information even though the school is no longer an ASAM school.

### Adequate Yearly Progress

The federal NCLB act requires that all schools and districts meet the following Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) criteria:

- Participation rate on the state's standards-based assessments in English-language arts (ELA) and mathematics
- Percent proficient on the state's standards-based assessments in ELA and mathematics
- API as an additional indicator
- Graduation rate (for secondary schools)

Detailed information about AYP, including participation rates and percent proficient results by student group, can be found at the [AYP](#) Web page.

### AYP Overall and by Criteria (School Year 2007-08)

This table displays an indication of whether the school and the district made AYP overall and whether the school and the district met each of the AYP criteria.

AYP Criteria	School	District
Overall	Yes	No
Participation Rate - English-Language Arts	Yes	Yes
Participation Rate - Mathematics	Yes	Yes
Percent Proficient - English-Language Arts	Yes	No
Percent Proficient - Mathematics	Yes	No
API	Yes	Yes
Graduation Rate	N/A	No

### Federal Intervention Program (School Year 2008-09)

Schools and districts receiving federal Title I funding enter Program Improvement (PI) if they do not make AYP for two consecutive years in the same content area (English-language arts or mathematics) or on the same indicator (API or graduation rate). After entering PI, schools and districts advance to the next level of intervention with each additional year that they do not make AYP. Detailed information about PI identification can be found at the [AYP](#) Web page.

Indicator	School	District
Program Improvement Status	Not in PI	Not In PI
First Year of Program Improvement		
Year in Program Improvement		
Number of Schools Currently in Program Improvement	N/A	58
Percent of Schools Currently in Program Improvement	N/A	27.0

## XII. Instructional Planning and Scheduling Professional Development

This section provides information on the annual number of school days dedicated to staff development for the most recent three-year period.

HTM received approval of its initial charter in 2003 and its organizers have successfully operated the school, incorporating all High Tech High's design principles. The goal of High Tech Middle is to offer technologically-rich project-based learning to 6-8 grade students, as well as to afford a seamless transition from elementary school to middle school to high school, particularly to High Tech High. High Tech Middle demonstrates how the public middle school experience can be redesigned to enhance student engagement and learning and overcome the traditional middle school hurdles so aptly documented in the classic *Caught in the Middle* (California Department of Education, 1987). Early on, the founders and staff of High Tech High realized that incoming ninth graders exhibited a wide range of experience, achievement, and readiness for the High Tech High program. Many of these students experienced a difficult transition from traditional middle schools to High Tech High. While many elementary schools have long employed hands-on, project-based approaches to learning, these approaches often disappear as middle schools attempt to prepare students for the typically fragmented high school curriculum and schedule. This just makes the transition to a school like High Tech High more difficult, since High Tech High asks its students to embrace independent learning, individual responsibility, and team learning. High Tech High holds the view that every student should be prepared for both the world of college and meaningful careers when they exit K-12 programs. Thus High Tech High offers all students rigorous, college-preparatory curriculum and real-world work experience which prepares them to be successful citizens in 21<sup>st</sup> century America.

The mission of High Tech Middle is to provide students with rigorous and relevant academic and workplace skills in order to prepare students for a rewarding future in our increasingly multicultural society and global economy. Teachers work with students on specific, real-world projects to develop analytical thinking and technical skills, and to foster each student's sense of accomplishment. Class sizes are small, with a preferred student/teacher ratio of 25 to 1. Teachers work in cross-disciplinary teams to increase the integration and depth of subject matter, as well as to increase the communication between instructors and students. Staff also participate in on-going professional development and collaboration. High Tech Middle believes learning best occurs according to the educational program described herein.

### **Design Principles**

High Tech Middle is guided by three design principles:

**Personalization** High Tech Middle cultivates academic excellence by encouraging each student to personally invest in her or his education. By knowing students well, the High Tech Middle faculty and support staff encourage students to develop strengths and interests. Each student has an advisor who remains constant throughout his or her years at High Tech Middle. Students pursue their interests through projects and prepare personal digital portfolios to document their achievements.

**Adult World Connection** High Tech Middle students engage in real world projects that enable them to learn while working on problems of interest and concern to adults in the community. Students have opportunities for field trips throughout the year and guest speakers are routinely brought in to help students with projects.

**Common Intellectual Mission** Centered on the five High Tech Middle *Habits of Mind* (see Learning Areas, next), the curriculum is engaging and rigorous. Assessment is performance based. Students create products, solve problems, and present their work to both students and adults. In addition to traditional letter grade and standardized test

assessment, faculty assesses students learning through digital portfolios and verbal presentations of learning ("POLs").

High Tech Middle's Director, Janie Griswold, works to ensure the highest instructional quality at the school. Mrs. Griswold graduated from the University of Puget Sound with a bachelor's degree in history and a minor in biology. She then attended the University of Washington where she earned a master's degree in teaching. Mrs. Griswold began working at High Tech High when it opened its doors in September, 2000. She taught humanities at High Tech High for three years and then moved to High Tech Middle when it opened in 2003.

Mrs. Griswold works under the guidance of High Tech High CEO Larry Rosenstock who brings broad experience as an educational innovator to High Tech Middle. Mr. Rosenstock's most recent post was as Chief Executive Officer of Price Charities, where he directed substantial funding to innovative public school reform projects in San Diego. Prior to joining Price Charities, Mr. Rosenstock directed the New Urban High School Project for the U.S. Department of Education, was CEO for vocational programs for the Cambridge Public Schools, a lecturer at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, and a staff attorney for the Harvard Center for Law and Education. He also has eleven years experience teaching in urban public schools. Mr. Rosenstock consults with the U.S. Department of Education, the U.S. Department of Labor, and urban school districts nationwide. Faculty members at High Tech Middle will participate in ongoing professional development. This will normally include

- Regular meetings, 45 minutes per day, without students, for collaboration and program development
- 3 weekly student/faculty team meetings
- Weekly all-staff meetings
- Various development workshops throughout the year
- Two-week long teacher preparation session in August before the opening of school
- A week-long session during winter break
- Several day-long professional development sessions throughout the year