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Learning Works Charter School

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2019 - 20 School Accountability Report Card

Published in the 2020-21 School Year

Letter from the Founder

Learning Works Charter School is an innovative secondary model that targets students who did not succeed in the traditional school setting. We are completing our twelfth year and we are WASC accredited. Our school provides a FRESH START to middle and high school students who have dropped out of school, are credit deficient, have had a baby or are struggling with discipline challenges at school or in the community. Our school takes students where they are, provides unconditional love and tolerates no excuses in order to get them to graduation. We believe all students deserve and can earn a high school diploma.

Our staff is amazing and works tirelessly for our students. The two distinct features of our school are the Chasers® and our Principles. Every teacher has a Chaser and, therefore, every student has a Chaser. Chasers come from the same conditions of the youth we serve. They find dropouts and continue to engage and re-engage them in school. The Chaser is the bridge back to school and the promise of a fresh start. They work with the most disenfranchised youth in our area, motivating, tutoring, coaching, and chasing them through school. They transport students to services such as probation appointments or health services, and whatever they need to achieve the goal of a high school diploma.

Our school practices a set of PRINCIPLES with staff and students. All adults and students are to practice and model our principles which include: FRESH START, FORGIVENESS & UNCONDITIONAL LOVE, SAFE HAVEN, REALITY & POTENTIAL, DESIRE TO GIVE BACK AND BE HEARD, HONESTY, JOY & FUN, and IRRATIONAL COMMITMENT TO STUDENTS. The personal assets we hope to achieve in our students include: improved decision-making, time management, race relations and positive participation in the community. Graduates demonstrate these skills by the time they receive a diploma.

Welcome to Learning Works! We would be happy to have you join us in our mission. The curriculum is very academically rigorous because we know students can do it. We have many supports along the way. We want to know you and help you or your child. Your success and happiness is important to us.

About This School-Dropouts into Graduates

The mission of the Learning Works Charter School (LW) is to provide a personalized, rigorous academic program and relevant life skills to traditionally underserved students in grades 6 – 12 who have withdrawn or are in danger of withdrawing from mainstream education without attaining a high school diploma. To clarify, the youth we serve would inaccurately be called "at-risk." They are, in fact, "in crisis" or have already demonstrated a behavior or condition that exceeds "at-risk" such as becoming pregnant, dropping out of school or entering the juvenile delinquency system. Our students are trying to get back on track. And they can!



Our format provides the widest range of flexibility in terms of designing an instructional program that works for our target population. We are structured more like an early college program where students attend the lectures, labs, tutoring and experiences that are required in the classes they need. LW is best described as an alternative education setting with multiple hour requirements for each class that focuses on textbook, projects and experiences.

Our primary and most important school outcome goal is ensuring that every LW student attains a high school diploma. LW student outcomes include student progress towards graduation, measuring the acquisition of academic and social/interpersonal skills necessary for success in the outside world and preparation for life after high school.

Our target population is in-school and out-of-school dropouts, probation youth who are credit deficient, students who are expelled from school, and pregnant teens/teen mother students. Our school enrolls approximately 350-400 students annually who are 12-20 years old who have been re-engaged and are working toward a high school diploma.

Within our school, we have multiple programs and activities:

- In addition to our main campus, LW has multiple programs within the school including our Pregnant and Parenting Teen (PPT) program serving teen mothers and their children; a small middle school program for students who have been struggling or have been expelled from their regular schools; and a resource center in Boyle Heights at Homeboy Industries serving reentry youth and others from the community.
- Our wrap-around services to support and assist students in attaining a high school diploma not only include the Chaser program, but a wide array of counseling services including mental health, health clinic, Baby and Me, parenting, postsecondary preparation, job/career support, infant care management, and more. All probation youth are assisted in tracking their probation conditions and LW staff attends court appointments. Students complete a senior project and we have also offered digital storytelling for students to script, tell, and produce a video related to their lives.
- LW started artWORKS in partnership with the Armory Center for the Arts as a teen art
 center designed to facilitate the development of artistic expression for Pasadena youth
 and our students. It offers workshops in a variety of arts; provides space for performances
 and exhibits; develops youth skill sets that are transferable to the workplace and school;
 and connects youth to a multitude of community arts resources.
- GroWORKS is a school garden located on a vacant lot in donated space next to artWORKS, which is used to teach middle and high school students about caring for an inner-city garden. GroWORKS is integrated into the school's mission by teaching the benefits of nutrition, enhancing career opportunities and inspiring a connection to the environment.
- Hope Works is a drop-in center for homeless youth and young adults to take a shower, wash their clothes and get a meal, which is operated by Learning Works. It is open from 4-7 p.m. Monday - Thursday.

Community & School Profile

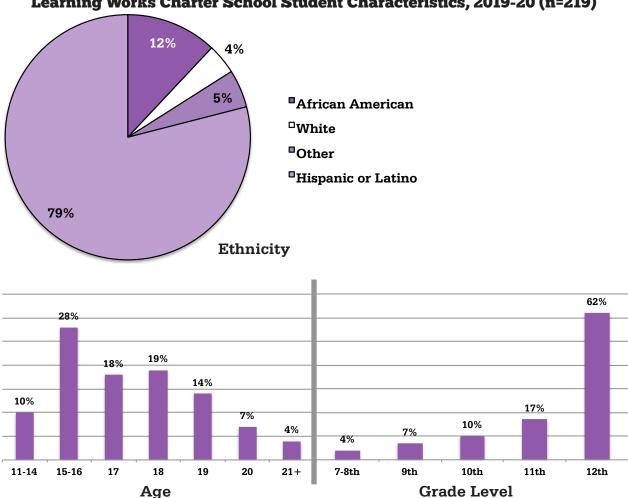
LW is located in the eastern part of the city of Pasadena, but most students reside in Northwest Pasadena/Altadena, an area characterized by very high percentages of families in poverty and immigrant and minority youth. Nearly all of our students qualify for the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), the standard measure used to determine participation by low-income households. About one-in-three of our students are pregnant or parents, on probation and/or expelled. Our resource center began at the Homeboy Industries main site located adjacent to Chinatown, just north of downtown Los Angeles. In Fall 2011, Homeboy and Learning Works jointly decided to re-locate the school to Homeboy's original site at 1916 East 1st Street. This area is almost entirely Hispanic/Latino and low-income, with a long-term gang presence and high rates of youth on probation and teen pregnancy.



Student Characteristics

Since the mission of the school is to give students second chance opportunities to succeed, a majority of the students are upperclassmen (eleventh and twelfth graders), which comprised approximately 84% of the school in 2019 - 20. The middle school and early high school programs (i.e., grades 6 – 9) are smaller and typically serve students who have faced discipline or expulsion from their regular schools. Most LW students were Hispanic (76%) in 2019 – 20. African Americans made up 13% of the school's population. Nearly all the students come from low income or poverty backgrounds, with almost all eligible for NSLP (92%). English Learners and Special Education students comprised 18% and 20% of students, respectively. In 2019 – 20, LW enrolled 9% foster and 6% homeless youth.

Learning Works Charter School Student Characteristics, 2019-20 (n=219)



A. Conditions of Learning

Teacher Credentials

LW is designated as an independent study school so no teachers are instructing outside of their credential areas. When there is a class-based component, it is taught by a credentialed teacher in that subject area. Over the past three school years, LW has had no mis-assigned teachers to English Learners or other student groups and has had no vacant teacher positions. Each student has an individualized plan developed for them upon enrollment, which ensures that English Learners or other student groups are not mis-assigned and that students are placed with the teacher who can best support them to reach their educational goals and graduate from high school.



Textbooks and Instructional Materials

LW students are required to complete 180 credits for graduation, thereby exceeding the state diploma (175 credits). A – G course completion aligned to the state diploma is required. There are not two levels of academic classes—it is all college bound coursework. At minimum, curriculum offerings and requirements include:

Required:

- · 4 years of English/language arts,
- · 2 years of Math (including passing Algebra)
- · 2 years of Science (including passing Biology)
- · 3 years of History/social studies
- · 2 years of Physical education
- · 1 year of Fine Arts (Visual Arts & Performing Arts)
- · 20 credits of Required Electives: (Computer Technology, 2.5; Environmental Science, 5; Financial Literacy, 5; Health, 2.5; Writing, 5)
- · 20 credits of Electives: Semester classes include Driver's Ed, Work Experience, Career Exploration, Spanish, Multi-media Art, and Parenting (for PPT students).

Our elective options are designed to provide students with life skills and necessary knowledge for career transition. If the student has enrolled with 20 elective credits, he or she is only required to complete the 20 credits of Required Electives and not required to complete elective credit at LW.

The curriculum and experiences at LW are designed around Rigor, Relationship and Relevance to ensure that the students connect school to life, now and later. One of our curriculum strengths is the fact that students participate in labs and fieldtrips related to social studies, arts and science, which are described in the next section. Each course is designed to include five modules, which incorporate all assignments and experiences, additional reading material and any other information required. In addition, students are assigned textbooks for the courses listed in the following table.

Alternative Education in an Independent Study Format				
Rigor	Relationship*	Relevance		
Standards-based Instruction	Individual Learning Plans	Senior Project		
State-Adopted Textbooks	Small groups	Projects for each course		
A-G Curriculum Path	Teacher	Fieldtrips for each course		
Science Labs	Social Worker	Visual and performing arts		
Required Tutoring	Chaser	Community Service		
	Tutor	Work Experience		
		Health		

^{*} One of these relationships will emerge as their mentor/advocate

LEARNING WORKS

Textbooks (2020 - 21)

Subject	Textbook	Publisher, Year
8th Grade Math High School Math	Big Ideas Math Course 3 (Math 8) Integrated Math I, II and III Algebra 1, Geometry and Algebra 2 Accelerate Education Online Course	Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 2017, 2014 2016 2015 Accelerate Education, 2012
English 9	Globe Fearon Literature, Purple Level	Globe Fearon Inc., 2001
English 10	Globe Fearon Literature, Green Level	Globe Fearon Inc., 2001
English 11	Globe Fearon Literature, Silver Level	Globe Fearon Inc., 2001
World History	World History	Pearson Education, Inc., 2008
US History	United States Fourth Edition	Pearson Education, Inc., 2004
Gov/Economics	American Government/Economics	Pearson Education, Inc., 2001
Physics Biology Environmental Science Chemistry	Conceptual Physics Biology Environmental Science Chemistry	Pearson Education, Inc., 2009 AGS Publishing, 2004 Pearson Education, Inc., 2007 Pearson Education, Inc., 2007
Spanish I	Realidades	Pearson Education, Inc., 2004
Spanish II	Accelerate Education Online Course	Accelerate Education, 2012

School Facility Conditions and Planned Improvements

Overall, our facilities are good to exemplary across the various components that contribute to high quality educational settings. LW's main campus is housed in a 12,000 square foot facility owned by Public Works, a 501 (c) 3 not-for-profit corporation that runs the charter school. Prior to opening the charter in 2008, Public Works upgraded the facility from commercial to educational zoning. Construction at that time included upgrading the fire system and bringing the facility up to American Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance including installing an elevator. Other facility features include a childcare room, classroom space for pregnant teen moms, dedicated classroom space, welcoming reception area, registrar office, textbook storage and distribution space, student store and a science lab and instructional room with a sink and other lab equipment. These spaces include access to technology (Apple computers, Chromebooks, overhead screen, 3-D printer, LCD projector, DVD player and white boards). The building has also been upgraded with 6 new HVAC units, a Kool Roof and upgraded lighting through a Prop 39 grant in 2015.

Our Pasadena science lab includes locking cabinets for all materials as well as a dedicated chemical cabinet. Each semester of Biology, Physics, and Environmental Science includes hands-on, inquiry-based laboratory activities that incorporate safe and ethnical experimental practices and account for 20% of required coursework. LW uses donated space from Victoria Rusnak one block from LW in Pasadena for artWORKS, our robust art program including silk screening, recording studio and digital storytelling facilities, and for our school garden, GroWORKS.

Our resource center, LW@Homeboy, utilizes space in Boyle Heights at the original First Street location for Homeboy Industries. This space has also undergone renovations and upgrades in order to replicate all programming available in Pasadena for students attending at the resource center. Upgrades to furniture, technology, HVAC and other systems have occurred since this center opened in 2010. An extensive renovation in 2020 further improved the site and was made possible through an Everychild Foundation grant to jointly operate and open a Youth Reentry Center. Renovations and upgrades to our facilities have been supported by grants from the Pasadena Community Foundation, the Weingart Foundation, Parsons Foundation, and other individual donors.

LEARNING WORKS

B. Pupil Outcomes

Student Achievement

LW participates in the Dashboard Alternative School Status (DASS) program. LW understands the importance of required state testing and consistent measures for student achievement under California Assessment of Student Progress and Performance (CAASPP) and the California Dashboard.

As an alternative education program, we also track completion of learning modules in a learning period (persistence), credit completion for long-term LW students (credit accumulation) and graduation rates of credit-eligible long-term students (norm day graduation rate) to provide our school with important information about how we are doing.

Persistence Rate. The percentage of students completing three or more learning modules per trimester decreased 13% over the three-year period 2017 - 18 to 2019 - 20, with 72% of students completing 3 or more modules per trimester in 2019 - 20 down from 85% in 2017 - 18.

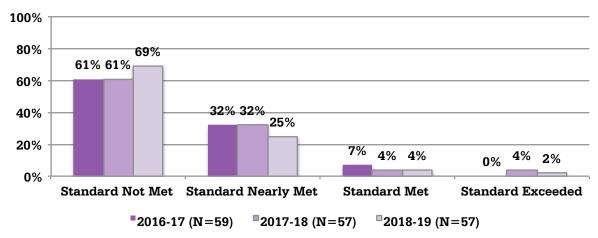
Credit Accumulation. The median credit completion rate among long-term LW students (i.e., students enrolled for 90 days or more consecutively) decreased slightly from 29 to 26 credits earned in the past three years.

Norm Day Graduation Rate. The graduation rate of credit-eligible, long-term students decreased from 51% in 2017 – 18 to 38% in 2019 – 20.

California Assessment of Students Performance and Progress (CAASPP)

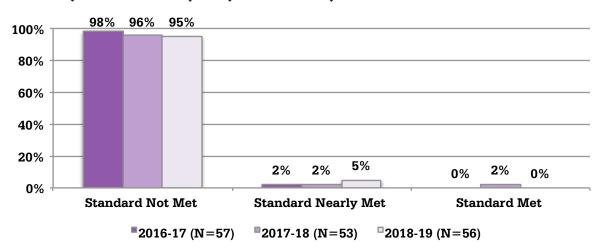
Learning Works has implemented a program to administer all required state testing under the CAASPP system. Our student population is particularly challenged by the process involved in standardized testing and is usually reluctant to take tests with no individual incentive for completion. However, our school continues to develop strategies to maximize participation under the state testing system and our staff is committed to helping more students be prepared to sit for the tests. However, the level of content continues to post significant challenges for our students. In 2019, just a fourth of students tested (25%) "nearly met" the standard for ELA, 4% met the standard, and 2% exceeded the standard. For math, 5% of the students tested nearly met the standard, while 95% of students did not meet the standard. No students met or exceeded the standard in Math. Our school does not have enough students taking the tests to provide information for individual subgroups. Overall results available for the past three years are reported in the following figures for English language arts and mathematics. CAASPP was suspended in 2019-20, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and Executive Order N-30-20.

CAASPP, ELA (2017, 2018 & 2019)

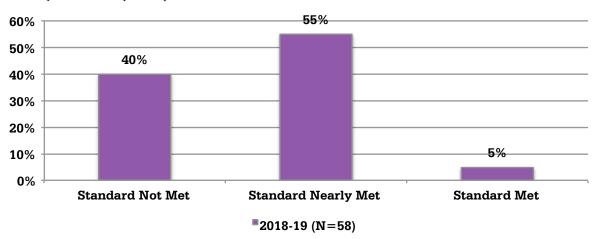


LEARNING WORKS

CAASPP, Mathematics (2017, 2018 & 2019)



CAST, Science (2019)



Career Technical Education

Career and College Preparation: Learning Works participated in the CTEIG grant program through the 2018 – 19 school year in order to develop career and employment counseling services and to enhance programming with our individualized alternative education format. Relationships with local postsecondary institutions and other community partners continue to be developed by the school to emphasize experiential learning, college and workplace readiness, and transition to postsecondary education after graduation. We also offer extensive field trips, a career and college center staffed by one counselor, hands-on science labs offered on a weekly basis and through experiences such as artWORKS and GroWORKS.

Experiences: LW provides elective options designed to provide students with life skills and necessary knowledge for career transition including field trips in the arts and sciences: the California Science Center, Griffith Observatory, Natural History Museum, Long Beach Aquarium, Los Angeles Zoo, Cal-Tech, The Los Angeles County Arboretum, Ronald Reagan Library, Pasadena Museum of History, Richard Nixon Library, Autry National Center, Plaza Olvera, The Getty Museum, Getty Villa, Pantages Theatre, Pasadena Playhouse, A Noise Within, Huntington Library, La Mirada Playhouse and Norton Simon Museum. Students have opportunities for artistic expression in our space artWORKS, where students make art in a variety of media including screen printing, graphic design, print design, photography, studio recording, video editing, spoken word/poetry and other visual and performing arts. Through other partnerships, we also offer frequent hikes for students and a summer camping trip.



Student Activities: LW has a student council that plans student events including movie nights and barbecues. Juniors and Seniors participate in a prom, with Seniors participating in Grad Night and a Graduation ceremony. There are two annual parties for the Pregnant Teen/Teen Parent program with their children. We have regular activities like a blood drive, Fall & Spring BBO, Halloween costume contests for staff and students, and others suggested by students and staff.

Incentives: If students complete five modules in a learning period, they earn a bus pass. Each teacher also awards a \$25 gift card to the Highest Achieving and Most Improved student each learning period. LW also has the Star system. When a student is "caught" doing something good, they are given a star to redeem at the student store.

Courses for University of California and/or California State University Admission

All of our students are enrolled in A – G coursework including all students participating in our handson physics class, which is A – G approved along with our math courses. While we offer them, most of our students do not attempt to complete Algebra II or Spanish 2. Because the students enroll in our school with deep credit deficiencies, they focus on the goal to graduate and transition to a two-year college or other postsecondary option. We encourage all of our students to enroll in a community college, trade school or employment and help them with their transition plans before they graduate. If they are eligible for Cal State/UC, we are committed to making this possible. In addition, our counselors work with all students to complete the FAFSA, provide information about financial aid and other opportunities available to them, and take students on field trips to community colleges, trade schools and four year universities.

California Physical Fitness Test Results

The California Physical Fitness Test (PFT) is administered to 7th and 9th grade students at LW. In 2019 - 20, a total of 10 students were tested, which is too small a number to report to protect student privacy. The California PFT was suspended in 2019-20 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and Executive Order N-56-20, waiving the required administration.



Local Assessments

The following is a chart that outlines how each of LW student outcomes are assessed by multiple measures at the school site in addition to statewide measures, which is necessary for us to truly monitor and help students along the path to a diploma.

Indicators	Measurement/Assessment	Curriculum/Instructional Strategy
At Intake: Academic Assessment Level of student performance: below, at or above grade level Level of credit deficiency based on conditions, performance, or student population (special education or EL)	Prior performance on statewide tests Prior performance in coursework MDTP Math Assessment Writing assessment	 Individualized Learning Plan (ILP) Assignment of first academic course Placement in tutoring and small group instruction Pedagogical assessment
At Intake: Social Assessment Assessment of level of barriers to education attainment based on conditions Assessment of personality and learning style strengths	40 Developmental ASSETs Student Survey Complete National School Lunch Program (NSLP) paperwork	 Assignment of Teacher/ Chaser MHT provides student supports Assigned to a course based on interest
Ongoing Academic Assessment Assessment of the attainment of academic content in each course	End of unit/course projects Credit accumulation/attainment Grades Senior Project	 Teacher-student work Tutoring & Small-group instruction ILP monitoring Cooperative group work and projects Engagement in experiences of school & community
Ongoing Academic Assessment Proficiency in core academics	Statewide tests End-of-course projects Credits/Grades	Teacher-student workTutoring & Small-group instructionCourse completion
At Exit Assessment and plan for future	Senior Project Graduation Enrollment in postsecondary Job Placement Exit Survey Alumni/Graduate Follow-up Survey	 Engagement & Caring Adult in their life Enrollment in postsecondary through English 12A Module 5 Career Center Follow-up Study

C. Engagement

Community and Parent Involvement

Parents are encouraged to participate in the life of the school and their student's education. We host luncheons for parents with teachers. Given the high needs and supports our students demand, LW has a number of partnerships with community organizations to provide education, services, and more including Homeboy Industries, Armory Center for the Arts, the Flintridge Center, Families Forward, Just Keep Livin', The Advot Project, Planned Parenthood, and Pasadena Mental Health.



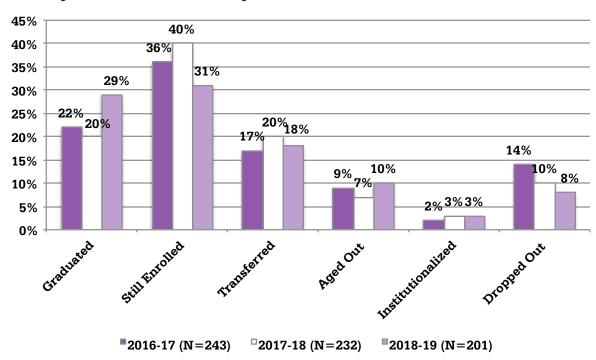
Student Engagement

Graduation and Dropout Rates

Our school's California Dashboard reported a graduation rate of 37.8% in 2018 and a slight increase in 2019 to 39.1%. As part of the DASS program, CDE reports a one-year graduation rate for alternative education programs instead of the four-year cohort rate used in traditional high school programs. Our school is designed to serve students who have dropped out of traditional public schools and have experienced long absences from a regular school routine. We also serve a large number of students who are 18 or over for whom our program can be a last chance for a high school diploma.

Because of this target student population, pathways to graduation at LW can be complex. Ideally, all students would graduate from LW or transfer back to a traditional school after recovering missing credits. In the past three years, the typical pattern has been that the majority of students either choose to re-enroll or graduate from LW. Smaller percentages drop out, age out of the system or choose to enroll in another school. Some students are institutionalized. Both of these options are coded as dropouts by California. For additional details about our students, the following chart indicates the status of students enrolled at LW for the October norm day the following June for the following school years: 2016 - 17, 2017 - 18 and 2018-19.

End-of-year Status of Norm Day Enrollment



Discipline & Climate for Learning

Learning Works prides itself on a FRESH START and multiple chances. Our school is a SAFE HAVEN with very few discipline challenges despite our high-risk population. Suspension rates over the past three years are 0.5% in 2017 – 18, 0.5% in 2018 – 19 and 0.1% in 2019-20. No expulsions occurred during this time. Expulsions are rarely if ever used in our school.

Parents and students are made aware of our discipline policies at the beginning of the school year through our student orientation and Student Handbook. Our Discipline Coordinator is assigned to discipline with a philosophy of de-escalation, conflict resolution, personal accountability, forgiveness and fresh start. LW's Mental Health Team (MHT) meets every Tuesday to meet the needs of students in need of support including disciplinary concerns. A system of referral, suspension and resolution is managed through one school counselor, but tracked through the MHT. Our staff has also been trained in Response to Intervention (RTI) to assist us in creating incentives for good behavior. The School Safety Plan is updated annually and reviewed with staff at the beginning of each school year.



D. Other SARC Information

Attendance, Class Size & Instructional Days

School average daily attendance (ADA) is based on the completion of schoolwork during 10 Learning Periods and 180 instructional days in our school year. Students are required to complete five modules per month to stay on track for graduation. A module is equivalent to one credit. There are no required instructional minutes per se, but instead require class-based and community-based experiences for each class. Our teacher: student ratio doesn't exceed 25:1.

	17 – 18	18 – 19	19 – 20
Enrollment	418	387	365
ADA	217	196	216

To track student progress toward graduation, LW monitors the monthly completion of learning modules. The school's design allows ambitious students to complete as many as 80 or 90 credits in a school year if they so choose. Certain students motivated to graduate by a certain date (such as the birth of their child, 18th birthday, etc.) have achieved a large number of credits within a given year. Conversely, students are usually placed on academic probation for two or more months before being dropped for not producing credits.

Academic Calendar 2019 – 20				
Trimester 1	Trimester 2	Trimester 3		
August 26 – December 18	January 6 – March 26	April 6 – June 10		
4 classes: 20 credits	4 classes: 20 credits	4 classes: 20 credits		
5 classes: 25 credits	5 classes: 25 credits	5 classes: 25 credits		

Academic Counselors and Other Support Staff (2019 - 20)

In 2019 – 20, LW had nine certificated teaching staff and 5 counseling and other pupil support staff. We have two full time certificated counselors, including an academic counselor and a career development counselor, which is an approximately 125:1 ratio of counseling staff to students. In addition, there were 24 classified staff. Our classified staff includes many Chasers and tutors. Our Chasers are trained as mentors and coaches. Chasers have come from similar conditions of the students (several are LW graduates), and have overcome major life challenges. The Chaser's job is to guide students through completing the courses on their Individual Learning Plan (ILP) toward graduation and improving the skills they need to navigate through life's challenges. Our tutors are highly qualified in all subject areas with an emphasis in supporting mathematics and science.



School Fiscal Resources

Expenditures per pupil: \$10,187 per pupil

Total Revenue 2017 – 18 to 2019 – 20 (not including grants)

2017-18: \$2,415,187 2018-19: \$2,305,249 2019-20: \$2,949,585

Monies from other funding sources e.g. Title I, grants, foundations

Title I from 2017 – 18 to 2019 – 20 Title I, 2017 – 18 (Basic): \$78,728 Title I, 2018 – 19 (Basic): \$71,939 Title I, 2019 – 20 (Basic): \$70,310

Comprehensive Support and Improvement Grant:

2018 - 19: \$94,574; 2019 - 20: \$42,531

Grants/Foundations August 2017 - June 2020:

Anonymous Donor through Pasadena Community Foundation (2017): \$10,000

Metropolitan Associates (2017): \$5,000 (Performing Arts Field Trips)

The Fullen-Smith Foundation (2017): \$5,000 (Career Pathways)

Anonymous Donor through Pasadena Community Foundation (2017): \$5,000 (Mosaic)

Squid Squash (2017): \$11,000 (Student needs)
Pasadena Garden Club (2017): \$800 (GroWORKS)

Metropolitan Associates (2018): \$5,000 (Performing Arts Field Trips)

Webster (2018): \$50,000

Pasadena Garden Club (2018): \$800 (GroWORKS)

Moccasin Lake Foundation (2018): \$500

The Fullen-Smith Foundation (2019): \$10,000 (Trauma-informed Middle School Program)

San Marino Women's Club (2019): \$10,000 (Student Technology Needs)

Pasadena Garden Club (2019): \$300 (GroWORKS)

National Endowment for the Arts (2020): \$50,000 Webster Foundation (2020): \$50,000

The Fullen-Smith Foundation (2020): \$9,000 (Trauma-informed Middle School Program - Part 2)

Pasadena Community Foundation (2020): \$25,000 (COVID General Fund)

Pasadena Community Foundation (2020): \$15,000 (Spring Support to Students & Families during

COVID-19 Pandemic)

Pasadena Community Foundation (2020): \$10,000 (Fall Support to Students & Families during

COVID-19 Pandemic)

Professional Development

Staff professional development is ongoing throughout the school year and built into the school schedule. Every Monday morning, LW is closed to students and a meeting or training takes place. Staff meetings generally focus on: curriculum, weekly schedule including fieldtrips, student concerns, test administration, student activities, jobs/career announcement for students, special education, and a mental health/partner update. Professional development topics have included training on: trauma informed approach; new math textbook series; curriculum and rubrics; drug education and public health information; curricular training in academic subject areas; strategies for scaffolding academic support and literacy; targeted mental health and special education topics; and many others. Some staff attended conferences and in other cases, the information was provided to staff through an in-house seminar or by consultants with various specialties and information relevant to our school. Staff that participates in off-site professional development are asked to provide and share the information they gathered when they return at the Monday staff meetings.