



Student and Parent Fact Sheet

High School Choice Information

- Offers students and parents clear, consistent information about program requirements for consideration and selection criteria.
- Provides a concrete timeline with application accessibility, submission and notification dates, as well as the appeal process.
- Provides opportunities for students and their families to learn about and interact with representatives from programs throughout the district.
- Allows for students to choose from a wide variety of comprehensive and thematic options.
- Provides multiple levels of support throughout the entire process for school sites and individual families that need assistance.

High School Choice Application Options

- **Neighborhood Schools (Schools of Residence).** The high school that serves students in a specific residential area.
- **Schools of Choice.** Schools that are outside of a student's residential area that can be applied to (space is limited by availability after neighborhood students are given priority admission). McBride, CAMS and Renaissance do not have residential attendance boundaries.
- **Pathways (Small Learning Communities).** A smaller, "school within a school" setting that prepares students for both college and career options following high school graduation. Students engage in Linked Learning strategies in all small learning communities across LBUSD.
- **Secondary Specialized Programs.** Specific pathways/small learning communities within a high school that have minimum academic requirements for consideration. Students must apply for admission to these programs in part four of the application.

The Four Components of Linked Learning

- All LBUSD program options are grounded in Linked Learning principles that focus on these four cornerstones:
 - **Rigorous Academics** – an academic component that includes college-preparatory english, mathematics, science, history, and other academic and elective courses.
 - **Real-world Technical Skills** – a challenging career-based component of multiple courses that help students gain the knowledge and skills that can give them a head start on a career.
 - **Work-based Learning** – a series of work-based learning opportunities, found both in and outside of the traditional classroom. These experiences can include mentorships, job shadows, and internships.
 - **Personalized Support** – support services which include counseling and supplemental instruction in reading, writing, and mathematics that help students master the academic and technical learning.



Office of Equity, Access, and College and Career Readiness Office of Secondary Schools

Proven Success

- Research shows that students of all demographic profiles who are in small learning communities have higher persistence and graduation rates than their peers at traditional high schools.
- Students from all programs and school sites demonstrate success in college acceptances, scholarship awards, and career opportunities following high school graduation.

Learn Through What You Love

- Students select a high school program based on their personal and career interests. These Pathway/Linked Learning options reflect California's largest economic industry sectors, ranging from arts, media, and entertainment to engineering and design, health science and medical technology, among others.
- A chosen pathway in high school does not determine a student's lifelong career path. Participation in these academies enhances the high school experience by exposing students to a range of professions and develops students' skills and confidence that are needed in any profession.
- All LBUSD programs include a college preparatory curriculum that helps students complete the necessary coursework for admission to a University of California (UC) or California State University (CSU). Many students do find their calling in life after high school.
- Students gain real-world experience and connections with professionals in their field of interest through work based learning opportunities including, internships, job shadowing, and apprenticeships.

Leave High School Prepared for Success

- As of 2010, 59 percent of jobs require a postsecondary credential. By 2018, this figure will grow to 63 percent of all jobs, a trend that is likely to continue to grow.ⁱ
- Barely one-third of all students who graduate high school (36 percent) complete all the A-G courses necessary for admission to a University of California (UC) or a California State University (CSU) school.ⁱⁱ
- All Pathways in LBUSD arm students with real-world experiences and a strong academic foundation to go to college so that they can meet the demands of today's job market and enjoy a meaningful, high-wage career. They also support the Graduate Profile – College/Career Ready Scholar, Critical Innovative Problem Solver, Adaptable Productive Citizen, Ethical Decision Maker and Effective Communicator and Collaborator.

Aligned to the Common Core State Standards

- Linked Learning principles are already aligned with the Common Core State Standards that will make students more college and career ready by focusing on critical thinking, analysis, and applying knowledge to solve real-world problems. The Common Core assessments will be implemented in the 2014-15 school year, and students will be tested on these new standards with new advanced assessments.
- Students enrolled in Linked Learning pathways are likely to produce better test scores than students not learning under the Linked Learning approach.