



**PSC 3.0 INFORMATIONAL SCHOOL PLAN SUMMARY**

**FOR: ACADEMY OF MEDICAL ARTS AT CARSON HIGH SCHOOL**

**PROPOSED BY: ACADEMY OF MEDICAL ARTS AT CARSON HIGH SCHOOL**

**FOR: CARSON HIGH SCHOOL**

**Mission & Vision of the School**

- The Academy of Medical Arts (AMA) will foster academic scholars who will seek to learn throughout their lives, to participate in society in a meaningful way, and to advocate for and create healthy communities. The goal of our pilot school is to graduate 100% of our students who will be proficient in meeting both academic and career technical education standards. Thematic learning opportunities will help all students analyze health science and medical practices around the world and to make ethical decisions that help humanity. This applies to students who desire to work with patients as well as those who choose accounting, human resources, communications, legal, nutrition and so forth. AMA students will be successful because they participate in work-based opportunities and career explorations that extend beyond the classroom and into health and medical settings within the community. Ten of the 20 fastest growing occupations are healthcare related.
- Students who graduate from the Academy of Medical Arts will be well-versed in career professionalism as a result of three years of hands-on experience in the health and medical fields gained as part of the Career Technical Education (CTE) classes, summer internships, and involvement in Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA). Students will be problem solvers and decision makers who never give up when faced with challenges; they will be trained for solving problems and making decisions via project-based learning. We anticipate that students will become caring individuals with interpersonal skills because of their time job shadowing. AMA students will become ethical individuals ready for both college and career. We believe our plan will help students to become or develop as individuals who think and communicate effectively as well as individuals who understand and utilize 21<sup>st</sup> century technology.

**Designing Data Driven & Student Centered Instructional Programs**

- After analyzing the Carson High School data, three areas of concern have been identified as obstacles to student achievement. The most problematic are academic indifference, low test scores, especially in math and science, and truant or tardy students who miss a great deal of class. We plan to change those concerns in the following ways:
  - The culture of academic indifference that we will address by starting each day with Period One course tailored to meet student needs while adding advisory components.
  - Low test scores, especially in math, which will be improved through engaging health science and medical technology themes.
  - Truant and tardy students do less well in school. AMA is proposing a specially designed Period One class that will offer both attendance and on time incentives as well as consequences for students who aren't. This is done Period One to avoid impacting student academic core classes.
  - Systemic issues are harming the climate, reputation, and ability to teach and learn at Carson High School. The Academy of Medical Arts desires to change the school culture to one of academic excellence for all where both students and teachers are held to high standards and interact daily in a safe and positive school community
  - We will engage students in core subjects, including English Language Arts, math and science, and the arts and humanities through challenging and interesting lesson plans that connect across all disciplines, projects, and work experiences. These engaging opportunities will allow all students to become



successful, regardless of their learning needs or styles.

- Punctuality and attendance will be valued.
- In addition, AMA staff will collect and review a variety of student achievement data on a regular basis to measure student achievement and to determine if students are meeting benchmarks in important areas. We will monitor student progress:
  - For grade-level, course-level standards,
  - For career standards that meet Career Technical Education Standards,
  - For rigorous standards college-readiness demands.
- In addition, AMA will also use school data to identify those students in need of intervention or direct counseling services for emotional or behavioral problems that create barriers to learning. Our school is unique because of our emphasis on work-based learning experiences for all students that not only engages them in school and allows them to observe professionals using communication and math skills, but also to apply those skills.

### Instructional Program

- We anticipate that the population of the Academy of Medical Arts at Carson High School will mirror the demographics of CHS and will include approximately 9% English Learners and 11% Special Education, 13% gifted and talented, and approximately 50% economically disadvantaged. All students will have the opportunity to meet the A-G requirements for entry into the CSU/UC systems. Students will be encouraged to take AP or honors classes as they progress through AMA and to dual enroll in college classes through the existing teacher team's established relationship with local community colleges. The National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) supports the use of multi-tiered problem solving strategies to address the behavioral, social, emotional, and academic needs of all students. Furthermore, NASP asserts that all students who take high-level courses in high school, including advanced mathematics, laboratory science, and a world language, are more likely to enroll in and complete a bachelor's degree program than those who do not. AMA will adhere to the LAUSD Special Education Policies and Procedures Manual. Student Success: Students with special needs or disabilities will participate in a fully inclusive model. They will be enrolled in the A-G courses in the general education classes and the CTE classes as well. Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) students will complete the A-G requirements and CTE classes with their peers with the aid of paraprofessionals and assistive technology.
- At AMA, students will be provided a more individualized class advisory that allows them to get to know teachers and peers and exposes them to the Humanities in a way that supports their individualized learning, whether they are special education, gifted or talented, English language learners, or general education. Teacher teams work to instill habits of mind, focus on academics, and service to the community ethics in all students. Students will be able to gain valuable insights into the career and college opportunities available to them. Most importantly, all students will meet at least twice a year with career, college, and academic counselors to design and customize their four-year plan.

### School Culture

- Creating a "culture of caring" is an essential component of our school mission. AMA believes schools are communities of caring adults and students who work to ensure every student achieves to their potential through challenging and relevant work in a safe, secure, and positive environment. The Academy of Medical Arts at Carson High School will be focused on engaging, authentic work for all students. Each teacher will provide a challenging academic course load tied seamlessly to the other grade level classes



supports student achievement in academics, social and life skills, career goals, Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) leadership, and community work.

- ***A Day in a Life:*** Riley arrives at the Academy of Medical Arts at Carson High School at 7:45 am, well in advance of the 8:00 am starting time. Riley socializes with friends while munching on a nutritious school breakfast provided by federally assisted meal programs operated where nutritionally-balanced, low-cost or free breakfast and/or lunches are provided to students. Riley eats outside in the meeting space between the Academy's H and S buildings. When the bell rings, Riley immediately reports to the Period One elective, which is Humanities. They are reading poetry as an intervention method for students who need additional support in reading or language arts. Riley is an English Language Learner who is making progress in all classes due to the extra attention provided in Period One and the interdisciplinary project-based curriculum in place at the school. Riley dreams of working as a pediatric nurse; she realizes the interesting academics, work experiences, and support she receives in AMA will allow her to achieve her dreams. Riley's 10<sup>th</sup> grade career technical education course, Exploration of Health Careers, together with weekly work-based learning at Harbor UCLA Medical Center, both engage and motivate Riley and provide a concrete understanding of the skills that are necessary to be successful in college and as a health care professional. At lunch, Riley joins friends from AMA and the general school population at the American Red Cross club. Riley uses the work completed with the Red Cross to help construct the Career Health Display for California HOSA competition. Riley, like most AMA students, is doing well on periodic assessments in math and other subjects; many are finally enjoying math, due to the fact the medical, healthcare, and public health examples the teacher uses relate to and support the themes presented in the other core classes.
- Student voices and student leadership are at the center of the Academy of Medical Arts. Student leadership will be promoted through clubs and participation in HOSA. Clubs that relate to our CTE focus include an American Red Cross Club with ties to the local Red Cross Chapter, an Animal Rights Club with ties to the local shelter and veterinarians, an Autism Speaks Club, an American Cancer Society Club and a Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Club. Through these groups, students will garner experiences in fundraising, activism, awareness and community participation. Examples of clubs that highlight the diverse talents and interests of well-rounded students are a Performing Arts Club, including music, art, and dance, a Human Rights Club, and of course a HOSA chapter.

### **Parent Engagement & Involvement**

- The AMA Team believes that our students are an untapped resource that needs to be nurtured and developed by bringing the parents/guardians and community members together to help our children thrive. Members of the community have been historically under-represented in the health/medical fields. Through careful interdisciplinary instruction, recognized certification programs, and internships, AMA intends to reduce that imbalance. Research clearly supports AMA's strong belief in parent and community engagement in our program. In 2000, the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Educational Research and Improvement said, "When schools, families, and community groups work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer, and like school more." AMA plans monthly meetings of the Parent Leadership Committee co-chaired by a teacher and a parent, with sub-committees in academics and school culture. Parents will be invited to participate in classes and to work together with students on certain projects tied to educational standards and of interest to both students and themselves.
- AMA will strive to welcome parents, families and guardians from the start of school until their child



### Staffing

- The teaching team at AMA will be comprised of highly qualified academic educators and career technical education teachers. We envision a school wherein each administrator or counselor also teaches one period a day in his or her credentialed area. Teachers will all possess a clear California teaching credentials and CLAD certification. An interest in health science and medical technology is needed, and a cooperative, communicative personality will enable the staff to work together to achieve our mission and vision. Staff will be expected to provide academic, social, cultural, and intellectual experiences that are tied to the health science and medical technology pathway. Teachers will create a classroom environment that is physically, emotionally, and intellectually supportive for student learning and one with clear connections to other disciplines and to the CTE pathway. Teachers will use data, essential questions, and academic indicators to drive instruction and create assessments that reflect interdisciplinary and project-based learning as well as skill-based assessments that measure discipline specific knowledge. Teachers are expected to employ a variety of teaching strategies for different student learning styles. Staff will work together to motivate students to attend school every day and to be on time, and finally staff will work across disciplines to drive up scores in all subject areas, including math whenever possible.

### Applicant Team Contact Information

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