



MUSTANGS ON THE MOVE

PRIMARY CONTACT

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PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Mustangs on the Move (MOTM) is a dynamic collaboration of many community stakeholders providing educational, enrichment and life skills programs during non-school hours on the campus of John Muir High School in Northwest Pasadena. The collaborative includes 19 nonprofit organizations and local colleges, which currently implement more than 20 unique offerings each semester, most of which are requested by the students.

Programs range from academic support (tutoring and credit reclamation) to the artistic (drama, fine art, and design), and also include cooking, jazz band, leadership development, life-skills training, pregnancy prevention, college preparation and access, robotics, drought resistant garden and landscape design, and computer repair. In addition, MOTM offers a diversity of mentoring services. All programs are designed to prepare students for careers and/or higher education, and to be productive and resilient adults.

During the 2008/2009 school year, 903 John Muir students attended one or more programs; of those, 230 students attended on a weekly basis. Current enrollment at John Muir High School is 1,200 students.

THE NEED

John Muir High School is one of four comprehensive high schools in the Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD). It is ranked as the lowest performing of the four schools, with an API score of 603 out of a California state target of 800. Muir is located in Northwest Pasadena, a community that is rich in cultural diversity and tradition, yet one that struggles with high rates of poverty, gang activity, crime, and other social and economic issues that have remained unaddressed.

POPULATION SERVED

- 32% of Muir students come from single-parent homes.
- 8% live with foster families, a grandparent, or in group homes.
- 60% are Latino; 34% are African-American.
- 6% are English language learners.
- 73% qualify for the federal free and reduced lunch program.

GOALS/PURPOSE

- Improve student academic achievement.
- Expose students to hands-on job and career preparation and experiences.
- Increase the number of students who pass both California High School Exit Exam subtests by 12th grade and receive high school diplomas.
- Promote healthy living practices.
- Decrease risk factors associated with school failure.
- Strengthen the capacity of youth service organizations that implement the after-school programs and services.

PROGRAM DETAILS

- MOTM operates 48 weeks during the school year, including an eight-week summer session.
- Most programs run from 3 p.m. 6 p.m., Monday through Thursday, but others take place before school, at lunchtime and on weekends. Each program has a student advisor who provides assistance.
- Field trips expose students to new cultural and educational experiences.
- A family literacy component for parents/adult caregivers of Muir students has been recently introduced.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- During the 2008/2009 school year, 75% of Muir students participated in at least one MOTM program.
- 30% of seniors for the past three years have graduated on schedule after completing MOTM s math, social science and English reclamation classes.
- All 14 senior student advisors during 2008/2009 enrolled in college, and one was a National Merit Scholarship winner.
- Students who regularly participate in MOTM programs have a school attendance rate seven times higher than those who don't. They are also more likely to score proficient or advanced on state tests for all grades.

For information on how you can help,
please visit www.Flintridge.org or contact the Program Director.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Mentoring

Amer-I-Can
Big Brothers/Big Sisters
El Centro de Accion Social
Mentoring and Partnership for Youth Development
Teen Futures
YWCA Pasadena-Foothill Valley

Job Skills and Personal Growth

Community Without Walls
John Muir High School (JMHS) Associated Student Body
Lockheed Martin
NATHA (Neighbors Acting Together Helping All)
Neighbors Empowering Youth, Inc.
The Next Step/Pasadena Arts Council
Northwest Programs Division, The City of Pasadena
Outward Bound Los Angeles
Pasadena Unified School District, Regional Occupational Program (ROP)

Enrichment

Art Center College of Design
Arts Creating Unity Institute, Inc.
JMHS Booster Club
JMHS Jazz Band
JMHS Marching Band
Yoga Awareness Center

Academic Assistance and Advancement

College Access Plan
JMHS Credentialed Teachers
Occidental College