



# Guajome Park Academy



2011 – 2012

Parent and Student Orientation

April 19 and 20, 2011

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Superintendent



# Guajome Park Academy

## What is a Charter school?



# Guajome Park Academy

It is the intent of the Legislature to provide opportunities for teachers, parents, pupils, and community members to establish and maintain schools that operate independently from the existing school district structure, as a method to accomplish all of the following:

- Improve pupil learning.
- Increase learning opportunities for all pupils, with special emphasis on expanded learning experiences for pupils who are identified as academically low achieving.
- Encourage the use of different and innovative teaching methods.
- Create new professional opportunities for teachers, including the opportunity to be responsible for the learning program at the school site.
- Provide parents and pupils with expanded choices in the types of educational opportunities that are available within the public school system.
- Hold the schools accountable for meeting measurable pupil outcomes, and provide the schools with a method to change from rule-based to performance-based accountability systems.
- Provide vigorous competition within the public school system to stimulate continual improvements in all public schools.



# Guajome Park Academy

## Mission Statement

***Our mission is to inspire and mentor all learners to become responsible, critical thinking, global leaders through excellence and innovation in education.***

## Parameters

Excellence  
Accountable  
Innovative  
Student Centered  
Fiscally Responsible



# Guajome Park Academy

## Beliefs

- We believe students are simpler than you think and more complicated than you can imagine.
- We believe all students can be active participants in their education.
- We believe authentic tasks lead to meaning, connection, and application.
- We believe charter schools equal innovation.
- We believe the future is made through education.
- We believe all students should have the opportunity to be creative, unique risk takers.
- We believe you don't have to spend a lot to learn a lot.
- We believe in looking for creative options to fund an innovative education.
- We believe that we must invest wisely to maximize student achievement.

- We believe in producing future global leaders who embody our mission.
- We believe in a community working together will achieve student success.
- We believe that a quality staff that engages in continuing professional development, collaboration and peer mentoring will result in academically competitive students.
- We believe student potential is unlimited.
- We believe in using research based best practices to drive instruction.
- We believe in providing cutting edge experience.
- We believe all students thrive on success.
- We believe all students have strengths.
- We believe students learn in different ways for different reasons.



# Guajome Park Academy 5 Year Focus Plan



# Guajome Park Academy Expectations

All members of the Guajome Park Academy (“GPA”) learning community – students, parents, and staff – work together to achieve the school’s mission.

As members of a community, each group has responsibilities to fulfill expectations of the other groups in the community.



# Guajome Park Academy

## Expectations

### **Student Expectations**

***Each student at GPA is required to meet the following pupil benchmarks to maintain satisfactory academic, attendance, and behavioral standing:***

- Maintain a 97% attendance ratio per semester.
- Maintain 100% completion rate and 70% competency level on all class assignments, homework, and authentic assessments.
- Participate in the STAR, CAHSEE, or other testing programs designated by GPA or the State of California.
- Adhere to all academic, attendance, and behavior policies of GPA.

***In addition, each GPA student is expected to:***

- Reflect a positive attitude towards learning.
- Take responsibility for his/her own educational growth and development.
- Communicate proactively with classroom instructors, counselors, and administrators.
- Show respect for all GPA students, parents, and staff.
- Contribute and interact in a positive manner within the community.



# Guajome Park Academy

## Expectations

### **Parent/Guardian Expectations**

***Research shows that one of the most influential factors in student success is the involvement by parents/guardians in the student's educational program.***

***Parents/Guardians of GPA students are expected to:***

- Insist on daily, punctual school attendance of student.
- Monitor the daily and weekly completion of student's work.
- Be actively involved in student's learning program.
- Provide transportation to and from all school activities.
- Support the discipline codes and behavior guidelines of GPA.
- Complete all applicable school paperwork and meet stated deadlines.
- Provide or facilitate instructional assistance for student.
- Participate regularly and actively in parent meetings, activities, and workshops.
- Proactively ask questions or seek assistance from GPA staff.
- Stay informed by reading the GPA handbook, course catalog, and other school communications, and by visiting the GPA website regularly.
- Show respect for all GPA students, parents, and staff.



# Guajome Park Academy

## Expectations

### **Staff Expectations**

***The GPA staff recognizes that they serve a diverse population of students who have varying learning styles and abilities. The education of GPA's students will be most productive when instructors:***

- Create and maintain safe and effective environments for student learning.
- Understand and organize subject matter for student learning.
- Communicate with and inform parents/guardians of student progress regularly.
- Plan instruction and design learning experiences for all students.
- Engage and support all students in learning.
- Systematically evaluate student achievement/performance with a variety of assessment tools.
- Continue to develop as professional educators.
- Correctly maintain all appropriate paperwork and meet all deadlines.
- Provide tutorial assistance/instruction when appropriate.
- Show respect for all GPA students, parents, and staff.
- Model Professional Behavior.



# Guajome Park Academy Expectations - Conduct

***Please refer to our Student Handbook, specifically the Behavior Matrix on page 30-32.***

- If you like drama, take the class.



# Guajome Park Academy

## Expectations – Attendance

***GPA expects students to maintain a minimum of 97% attendance rate.***

- When a student is not here, he/she loses out on needed content exposure to be successful
- When a student is not here, he/she loses out on the opportunity to contribute to the learning of others through participation and engagement
- Student attendance provides resources for GPA to support programs that enrich the learning environment



# Guajome Park Academy

## Attendance

### 2010-2011 Funding

(Includes Block Grant, Categorical Block Grant & Lottery Funding)

<b>2010-11 Enrollment Total at 2nd Interim</b>	1376
<b>Total Funding Amount at 97% ADA*</b>	<b>\$ 8,327,658</b>

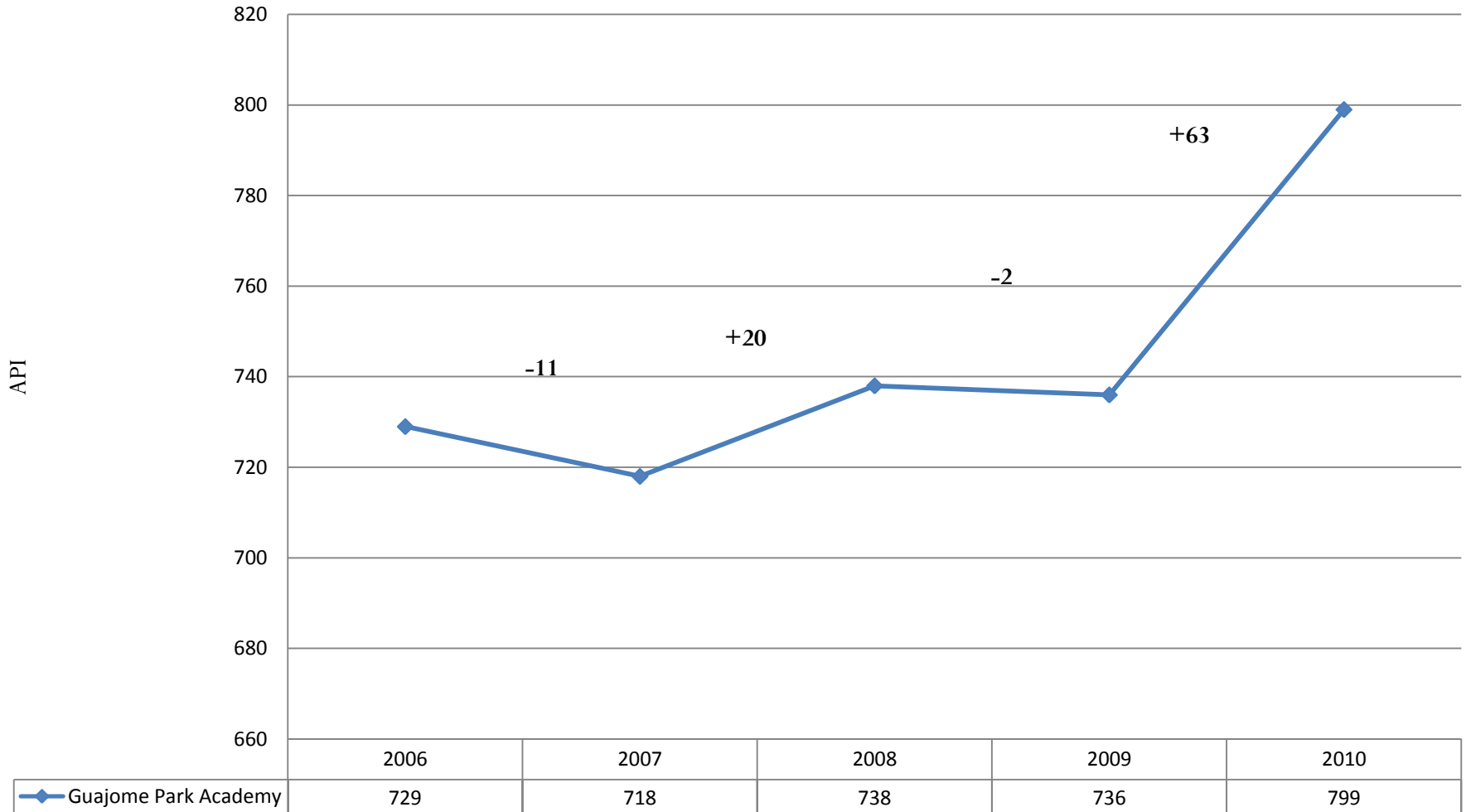
<b>Total Funding Amount at 97% ADA*</b>	<b>\$ 8,327,658</b>
<b>Total Funding Amount at 95% ADA</b>	<b>\$ 8,155,953</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>\$ 171,705</b>

<b>Total Funding Amount at 97% ADA*</b>	<b>\$ 8,327,658</b>
<b>Total Funding Amount at 90% ADA</b>	<b>\$ 7,726,693</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>\$ 600,965</b>

\*The board and school wide attendance percentage goal is 97%.



# Guajome Park Academy Academic Performance Index (API) 2006-2010





# Guajome Park Academy Goals for 2011 – 2012



# Guajome Park Academy

- **Maximize Resources to support the adopted mission and vision of GPA**

A review of the current operational structure, staffing roles and responsibilities took place to ensure organizational efficiency and effectiveness. Additionally, utilize our current resources to promote our educational platform and strategic plan.

- **Provide a college preparatory platform that promotes student achievement and success**

Use data to support, measure, and promote student achievement and instructional practice. We created a student performance index which measures individual, classroom and grade level student achievement levels, and demographic and student conduct data. Purchased *ZOOM* software from Data Director which identifies varied third party assessments which include but not limited too; CST results, SAT and college readiness exams. It also allows individual teacher access to measure, monitor and establish benchmark exams that support and align with this data.

- **Offer innovative programs which provide 21<sup>st</sup> century learning opportunities**

GPA established five after school enrichment courses which support the arts. During the 2011-2012 school year, GPA will expand the media arts program to include media production, film, and performance courses that align with our mission and vision. Finally, GPA has expanded AP course offerings from two courses to eleven.