

Ark Independent Studies

840 North Branciforte Ave. • Santa Cruz, CA 95062 • (831) 429-3898 x229 • Grades 9-12

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2017-18 School Accountability Report Card Published During the 2018-19 School Year



Santa Cruz City Schools

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School Description

Ark Independent Studies is an accredited high school in the Santa Cruz City Schools. Our eighty-four students may choose to meet with their instructor at the Branciforte Small Schools Campus, Santa Cruz High School, Harbor High School, or Soquel High School. Students meet weekly for one hour with an instructor on a one-to-one basis to review a minimum of 20 hours of work completed during the week. During this meeting, students are given specific assignments, and coursework is corrected and evaluated. Students complete their coursework during the week at home. Assignments are tailored to fit the individual student's interests, needs, and learning style. Students have access to educational support by certificated staff and college tutors at least three days per week at each of the four sites. Several enrichment offerings (guest speakers, field trips, "mini-classes") are made available to all Ark students through the course of the year. All Ark teachers are fully credentialed, with a broad range of teaching experience and expertise.

The Ark's schoolwide learning outcomes are as follows:

- I. Every student will demonstrate personal responsibility
- II. Every student will be an effective communicator, and
- III. Every student will be able to demonstrate and apply higher order thinking skills

Mission

At the Ark Independent Studies we:

- Connect with students as individuals
- Inspire students to find meaning
- Motivate students to take responsibility
- Support students to discover and pursue their interests

About the SARC

By February 1 of each year, every school in California is required by state law to publish a School Accountability Report Card (SARC). The SARC contains information about the condition and performance of each California public school. Under the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) all local educational agencies (LEAs) are required to prepare a Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP), which describes how they intend to meet annual school-specific goals for all pupils, with specific activities to address state and local priorities. Additionally, data reported in an LCAP is to be consistent with data reported in the SARC.

- For more information about SARC requirements, see the California Department of Education (CDE) SARC web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/sa/>.
- For more information about the LCFF or LCAP, see the CDE LCFF web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/lc/>.
- For additional information about the school, parents/guardians and community members should contact the school principal or the district office.

2017-18 Student Enrollment by Grade Level	
Grade Level	Number of Students
Grade 10	6
Grade 11	25
Grade 12	30
Total Enrollment	61

2017-18 Student Enrollment by Group	
Group	Percent of Total Enrollment
Black or African American	0.0
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.0
Asian	1.6
Filipino	0.0
Hispanic or Latino	42.6
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.0
White	49.2
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	41.0
English Learners	4.9
Students with Disabilities	14.8
Foster Youth	0.0

A. Conditions of Learning

State Priority: Basic

The SARC provides the following information relevant to the State priority: Basic (Priority 1):

- Degree to which teachers are appropriately assigned and fully credentialed in the subject area and for the pupils they are teaching;
- Pupils have access to standards-aligned instructional materials; and
- School facilities are maintained in good repair

Teacher Credentials			
Ark Independent Studies	16-17	17-18	18-19
With Full Credential	4	6	4
Without Full Credential	0	0	0
Teaching Outside Subject Area of Competence	0	0	0
Santa Cruz City Schools	16-17	17-18	18-19
With Full Credential	♦	♦	314
Without Full Credential	♦	♦	8
Teaching Outside Subject Area of Competence	♦	♦	6

Teacher Misassignments and Vacant Teacher Positions at this School			
Ark Independent Studies	16-17	17-18	18-19
Teachers of English Learners	0	0	0
Total Teacher Misassignments	0	0	0
Vacant Teacher Positions	0	0	0

* Note: "Misassignments" refers to the number of positions filled by teachers who lack legal authorization to teach that grade level, subject area, student group, etc.

*Total Teacher Misassignments includes the number of Misassignments of Teachers of English Learners.

Quality, Currency, Availability of Textbooks and Instructional Materials (School Year 2018-19)

In all subject areas, our textbooks are the most recently approved by the State Board of Education and our Local Governing Agency.

Textbooks and Instructional Materials Year and month in which data were collected: December 5, 2013	
Core Curriculum Area	Textbooks and Instructional Materials/Year of Adoption
Reading/Language Arts	Literature & Language Arts - Holt Adopted 2002 Practicing the Writing Process - Educational Design Adopted 2001 The textbooks listed are from most recent adoption: Yes Percent of students lacking their own assigned textbook: 0%
Mathematics	Integrated Math 1 & 2, Pearson Algebra 1 & 2, Geometry, Algebra Readiness - Houghton Mifflin Adopted 2008 Mathematics 1 & 2, Algebra Readiness - Holt Adopted 2008 The textbooks listed are from most recent adoption: Yes Percent of students lacking their own assigned textbook: 0%
Science	Biology: An Everyday Experience - Glencoe McGraw Hill Adopted 2007 Focus On Earth/Life/Physical Science - Glencoe McGraw Hill Adopted 2007 The textbooks listed are from most recent adoption: Yes Percent of students lacking their own assigned textbook: 0%
History-Social Science	History Alive! series - TCI Adopted 2006 The textbooks listed are from most recent adoption: Yes Percent of students lacking their own assigned textbook: 0%
Health	The textbooks listed are from most recent adoption: Yes Percent of students lacking their own assigned textbook: 0
Visual and Performing Arts	The textbooks listed are from most recent adoption: Yes Percent of students lacking their own assigned textbook: 0

Note: Cells with N/A values do not require data.

School Facility Conditions and Planned Improvements (Most Recent Year)

The Ark is located in a historic, 105-year-old building on the Branciforte Small Schools Campus. The Ark has one instructional classroom in the building with six Internet-connected computers and an LCD projector.

School Facility Good Repair Status (Most Recent Year) Year and month in which data were collected: 11/16/2018		
System Inspected	Repair Status	Repair Needed and Action Taken or Planned
Systems: Gas Leaks, Mechanical/HVAC, Sewer	Good	
Interior: Interior Surfaces	Good	RM 21 COMMENTS: HOT WATER HANDLE IS BROKEN/BROKEN DOOR STOPPER RM 22 COMMENTS: WINDOWS NEED BLINDS RM 23

School Facility Good Repair Status (Most Recent Year)
Year and month in which data were collected: 11/16/2018

System Inspected	Repair Status	Repair Needed and Action Taken or Planned
		COMMENTS: BROWN CABINET NEEDS TO BE ANCHORED RESOURCE CENTER COMMENTS: TWO BROWN BOOKSHELVES NEED TO BE ANCHORED, CABINET IN RESTROOM NEEDS TO BE ANCHORED PALAZZO STUDIO COMMENTS: GREEN SHELVES NEEDS TO BE ANCHORED DOWN/NO PHONE RM 2 COMMENTS: NO PHONE/DAMAGED FLOOR BY THE SINK
Cleanliness: Overall Cleanliness, Pest/ Vermin Infestation	Good	
Electrical: Electrical	Good	
Restrooms/Fountains: Restrooms, Sinks/ Fountains	Good	RM 22 COMMENTS: SINK DRAINS SLOW
Safety: Fire Safety, Hazardous Materials	Good	ADMIN OFFICE COMMENTS: NO FIRE EXTINGUISHER, NEED TO ORDER ONE
Structural: Structural Damage, Roofs	Good	
External: Playground/School Grounds, Windows/ Doors/Gates/Fences	Good	
Overall Rating	Good	

B. Pupil Outcomes

State Priority: Pupil Achievement

The SARC provides the following information relevant to the State priority: Pupil Achievement (Priority 4):

- Statewide assessments** (i.e., California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress [CAASPP] System, which includes the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments for students in the general education population and the California Alternate Assessments [CAAs] for English language arts/literacy [ELA] and mathematics given in grades three through eight and grade eleven. Only eligible students may participate in the administration of the CAAs. CAAs items are aligned with alternate achievement standards, which are linked with the Common Core State Standards [CCSS] for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities); and
- The percentage of students who have successfully completed courses that satisfy the requirements for entrance to the University of California and the California State University, or career technical education sequences or programs of study

2017-18 CAASPP Results for All Students						
Subject	Percent of Students Meeting or Exceeding the State Standards (grades 3-8 and 11)					
	School		District		State	
	16-17	17-18	16-17	17-18	16-17	17-18
ELA	75.0	100.0	59.0	60.0	48.0	50.0
Math	50.0	0.0	42.0	41.0	37.0	38.0

Note: Percentages are not calculated when the number of students tested is ten or less, either because the number of students in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or to protect student privacy.

Note: ELA and mathematics test results include the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment and the CAA. The "Percent Met or Exceeded" is calculated by taking the

School Year 2017-18 CAASPP Assessment Results - English Language Arts (ELA) Disaggregated by Student Groups, Grades Three through Eight and Eleven				
Student Group	Total Enrollment	Number Tested	Percent Tested	Percent Met or Exceeded
All Students	35	1	2.86	100.00
Male	13	0	0.00	0.00
Female	22	1	4.55	100.00
Hispanic or Latino	13	1	7.69	100.00
White	19	0	0.00	0.00
Two or More Races	--	--	--	--
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	14	1	7.14	100.00
English Learners	--	--	--	--
Students with Disabilities	--	--	--	--

Note: ELA test results include the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment and the CAA. The "Percent Met or Exceeded" is calculated by taking the total number of students who met or exceeded the standard on the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment plus the total number of students who met the standard (i.e., achieved Level 3-Alternate) on the CAAs divided by the total number of students who participated in both assessments.

Note: Double dashes (--) appear in the table when the number of students is ten or less, either because the number of students in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or to protect student privacy.

Note: The number of students tested includes all students who participated in the test whether they received a score or not; however, the number of students tested is not the number that was used to calculate the achievement level percentages. The achievement level percentages are calculated using only students who received scores.

total number of students who met or exceeded the standard on the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment plus the total number of students who met the standard (i.e., achieved Level 3-Alternate) on the CAAs divided by the total number of students who participated in both assessments.

CAASPP Test Results in Science for All Students						
Subject	Percent of Students Scoring at Proficient or Advanced (meeting or exceeding the state standards)					
	School		District		State	
	16-17	17-18	16-17	17-18	16-17	17-18
Science	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Note: Cells with N/A values do not require data.

Note: The 2016-17 and 2017-18 data are not available. The CDE is developing a new science assessment based on the Next Generation Science Standards for California Public Schools (CA NGSS). The CAST was pilot-tested in spring 2017 and field-tested in spring 2018. The CAST will be administered operationally during the 2018-19 school year. The CAA for Science was pilot-tested for two years (i.e., 2016-17 and 2017-18) and the CAA for Science will be field-tested in 2018-19.

Note: Science test results include the CAST and the CAA for Science. The "Percent Met or Exceeded" is calculated by taking the total number of students who met or exceeded the standard on the CAST plus the total number of students who met the standard (i.e., achieved Level 3-Alternate) on the CAA for Science divided by the total number of students who participated on both assessments.

School Year 2017-18 CAASPP Assessment Results - Mathematics
Disaggregated by Student Groups, Grades Three through Eight and Eleven

Student Group	Total Enrollment	Number Tested	Percent Tested	Percent Met or Exceeded
All Students	35	1	2.86	0
Female	22	1	4.55	0
Hispanic or Latino	13	1	7.69	0
Two or More Races	--	--	--	--
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	14	1	7.14	0
English Learners	--	--	--	--
Students with Disabilities	--	--	--	--

Note: Mathematics test results include the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment and the CAA. The "Percent Met or Exceeded" is calculated by taking the total number of students who met or exceeded the standard on the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment plus the total number of students who met the standard (i.e., achieved Level 3--Alternate) on the CAAs divided by the total number of students who participated in both assessments.

Note: Double dashes (--) appear in the table when the number of students is ten or less, either because the number of students in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or to protect student privacy.

Note: The number of students tested includes all students who participated in the test whether they received a score or not; however, the number of students tested is not the number that was used to calculate the achievement level percentages. The achievement level percentages are calculated using only students who received scores.

C. Engagement

State Priority: Parental Involvement

The SARC provides the following information relevant to the State priority: Parental Involvement (Priority 3):

- Efforts the school district makes to seek parent input in making decisions for the school district and each school site

Opportunities for Parental Involvement (School Year 2018-19)

The Ark requires parents to attend a beginning-of-the-year orientation and the student's weekly meeting with their teacher three times during the school year. This ensures that parents understand the program and are aware of their student's progress. The other primary avenue for parental involvement at the Ark is the School Site Council, which meets five times a year. The contact person for parent involvement is co-principal Steve Hambright. To become more involved, please call (831) 429-3898, ext. 229 or visit the school office.

State Priority: School Climate

The SARC provides the following information relevant to the State priority: School Climate (Priority 6):

- Pupil suspension rates;
- Pupil expulsion rates; and
- Other local measures on the sense of safety.

School Safety Plan

The School Site Council that represents our four schools at the Branciforte Small Schools Campus (BSSC) reviews the previous year's Safe School Plan and collaborates to create and approve a new plan each year. Goal one in our 2018-19 plan is to continue to implement trauma-informed care strategies in the classroom with a focus on implementation of neurosequential model tenets into lessons, 1:1 meetings, and school structure. We will also begin to explore restorative justice practices around community building. We will undertake a number of actions to meet this goal. We will continue to hold positive discipline support group classes, explicitly teach and practice self-regulation techniques, provide training for implementation of restorative justice practices, and focus on the neurosequential model in lesson design in various professional development sessions.

The second goal in our 2018-19 plan is to develop a comprehensive plan to deal with issues of homelessness impacting our school site. We will undertake a number of actions to meet this goal. We will create a morning safety checklist and a protocol for dealing with homeless issues that arise when school is not in session. We will also monitor time spent dealing with issues of homelessness during the 2018-19 school year to serve as a baseline. Finally we will work with the Santa Cruz Homeless Services Center and the School Resource Officer to review our safety checklist and proposed response to issues of homelessness.

Suspensions and Expulsions

School	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Suspensions Rate	0.0	0.0	0.0
Expulsions Rate	0.0	0.0	0.0
District	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Suspensions Rate	2.5	3.5	3.2
Expulsions Rate	0.4	0.3	0.2
State	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Suspensions Rate	3.7	3.7	3.5
Expulsions Rate	0.1	0.1	0.1

D. Other SARC Information

The information in this section is required to be in the SARC but is not included in the state priorities for LCFF.

Academic Counselors and Other Support Staff at this School

Number of Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)

Academic Counselor	N/A
Counselor (Social/Behavioral or Career Development)	0
Library Media Teacher (Librarian)	.125
Library Media Services Staff (Paraprofessional)	.2343
Psychologist	.1250
Social Worker	.0555
Nurse	.0625
Speech/Language/Hearing Specialist	.1
Resource Specialist (non-teaching)	.5
Other	0
Average Number of Students per Staff Member	
Academic Counselor	N/A

* One Full Time Equivalent (FTE) equals one staff member working full time; one FTE could also represent two staff members who each work 50 percent of full time.

Professional Development provided for Teachers

The Ark's 2018-19 professional development (PD) plan has three threads, each aligned to a schoolwide action plan goal. The 2018-19 PD focus areas were determined after an analysis of 2017-18 data related to writing assessments, Measure of Academic Progress (MAP)-Reading scores, math credit earning, and the annual academic barriers survey. The first PD focus area relates to furthering staff understanding of the underlying principles of trauma informed care and exploration of restorative justice practices. Our second PD thread focuses on augmenting math instruction through our three times a week math lab. Our final PD thread centers on literacy instruction focused on argumentative writing. Teachers will target English instruction based on Measures of Academic (MAP) assessment data and norm student essays. analyze results, and adapt instruction related to argumentative writing.

For each of the past three years, the co-principal and one Ark teacher have attended the California Consortium on Independent Studies annual compliance conference. Staff reflection and review in weekly PD sessions supported teachers to implement this new instructional method. Since 2016-17, the Ark's professional development has focused on recommendations that were made after our WASC midterm review and the implementation of the Common Core Standards in math and language arts.

Over the past three years, our staff has met for 90 minutes three times per month to review student achievement data, revise curriculum, and set goals for improving student achievement. For the 2018-19 school year, teachers will be supported by regular teacher-principal meetings and the WASC self-study coordinator.

FY 2016-17 Teacher and Administrative Salaries		
Category	District Amount	State Average for Districts In Same Category
Beginning Teacher Salary		
Mid-Range Teacher Salary		
Highest Teacher Salary		
Average Principal Salary (ES)		
Average Principal Salary (MS)		
Average Principal Salary (HS)		
Superintendent Salary		
Percent of District Budget		
Teacher Salaries		
Administrative Salaries		

* For detailed information on salaries, see the CDE Certificated Salaries & Benefits webpage at www.cde.ca.gov/ds/fd/cs/.

Types of Services Funded

We update our School Plan for Student Achievement each year to ensure that our instruction is focused on student needs as shown by achievement data. For the 2017-18 fiscal year, we worked closely with our School Site Council and staff to allocate our LCFF supplemental funds to provide tutoring for identified students, to purchase supplementary instructional materials, to offer several field trips and real-world learning experiences, and to provide ongoing staff training.

Dropout Rate and Graduation Rate (Four-Year Cohort Rate)			
Ark Independent Studies	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Dropout Rate	4.7	14.6	23.7
Graduation Rate	90.7	82.9	60.5
Santa Cruz City Schools	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Dropout Rate	3.9	4.2	5.9
Graduation Rate	89.7	92.5	89.1
California	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Dropout Rate	10.7	9.7	9.1
Graduation Rate	82.3	83.8	82.7

Career Technical Education Participation	
Measure	CTE Program Participation
Number of pupils participating in CTE	4
% of pupils completing a CTE program and earning a high school diploma	n/a
% of CTE courses sequenced or articulated between the school and institutions of postsecondary education	n/a

FY 2016-17 Expenditures Per Pupil and School Site Teacher Salaries				
Level	Expenditures Per Pupil			Average Teacher Salary
	Total	Restricted	Unrestricted	
School Site	\$10,927	\$2,720	\$8,207	\$73,192
District	◆	◆	\$6,111	
State	◆	◆	\$7,125	
Percent Difference: School Site/District			34.3	8.0
Percent Difference: School Site/ State			24.8	

* Cells with ◆ do not require data.

The California Department of Education issued guidance to LEAs on August 1, 2018, regarding how to calculate school-level per-pupil expenditures that will be reported on 2018-19 report cards.

Courses for University of California (UC) and/or California State University (CSU) Admission	
UC/CSU Course Measure	Percent
2017-18 Students Enrolled in Courses Required for UC/CSU Admission	0.0
2016-17 Graduates Who Completed All Courses Required for UC/CSU Admission	0.0

* Where there are student course enrollments.

2017-18 Advanced Placement Courses		
Subject	Number of AP Courses Offered*	Percent of Students In AP Courses
Computer Science	0	◆
English	0	◆
Fine and Performing Arts	0	◆
Foreign Language	0	◆
Mathematics	0	◆
Science	0	◆
Social Science	0	◆
All courses	0	.0

Completion of High School Graduation Requirements

Group	Graduating Class of 2017		
	School	District	State
All Students	82.8	91.2	88.7
Black or African American	0.0	100.0	82.2
American Indian or Alaska Native	100.0	83.3	82.8
Asian	100.0	100.0	94.9
Filipino	0.0	100.0	93.5
Hispanic or Latino	63.6	86.2	86.5
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0.0	100.0	88.6
White	80.0	93.6	92.1
Two or More Races	100.0	93.8	91.2
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	92.3	86.9	88.6
English Learners	0.0	63.8	56.7
Students with Disabilities	20.0	77.3	67.1
Foster Youth	0.0	75.0	74.1

Career Technical Education Programs

All Ark students have access to Career Technical Education (CTE) classes at high schools throughout the county. During the 2017-18 school year, four Ark students participated in countywide CTE classes. Currently, seven students are enrolled in CTE classes.

DataQuest

DataQuest is an online data tool located on the CDE DataQuest web page at <https://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/> that contains additional information about this school and comparisons of the school to the district and the county. Specifically, DataQuest is a dynamic system that provides reports for accountability (e.g., test data, enrollment, high school graduates, dropouts, course enrollments, staffing, and data regarding English learners).

Internet Access

Internet access is available at public libraries and other locations that are publicly accessible (e.g., the California State Library). Access to the Internet at libraries and public locations is generally provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Other use restrictions may include the hours of operation, the length of time that a workstation may be used (depending on availability), the types of software programs available on a workstation, and the ability to print documents.