



## SCHOOLS TO WATCH-TAKING CENTER STAGE

*Schools to Watch™-Taking Center Stage is a statewide program implemented by the California League of Middle Schools, California Department of Education, California Middle Grades Alliance, National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform and the Schools to Watch™-Taking Center Stage Model Schools*

For more information, visit [www.clms.net/stw](http://www.clms.net/stw).



### LAKE CENTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

#### Designated 2016; Re-Designated 2019

Little Lake City School District

Los Angeles County

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#### SCHOOL CHARACTERISTICS

Community: Suburban; Enrollment: 900; Grades: 6-7-8; School Schedule: Six-period day. 6th grade has core blocks which include one period intervention/enrichment class. Teaming with common preparation period. Early release on Tuesday and Thursday for team and content-area collaboration.

#### STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

0.22% American Indian/Native American; 1.5% Black/African American; 0.5% Filipino/Filipino American; 91% Hispanic/Latino; 0.3% Pacific Islander; 5.6% White; 0.2% Other; 76% Free/Reduced Lunch; 21.3% English Learners

#### SCHOOL CHARACTERISTICS AND REPLICABLE PRACTICES

- Schedule supports interdisciplinary teams with common prep time and scheduled weekly team meeting time.
- Tiered-period program offers opportunities for enrichment and intervention within the school day.
- Frequent common benchmarks, coupled with weekly release time for staff development and analysis of data, allows for timely monitoring of student progress.
- School utilizes a modified referral system that sends students to a counselor first.
- Core teachers are trained in AVID practices, WICOR strategies, whole-brain teaching, and direct instruction.
- During the final grading period of the year, teachers create and offer a menu of classes such as history of the Beatles, space exploration, chemistry of candy, world sports, and math board games.
- Chromebook carts are provided in every classroom, supporting the utilization of technology in instruction.
- Many staff members have received intensive training at the DuFour PLC Institute and serve as guides to the school-wide process of professional collaboration.
- In addition to the counselor, students receive assistance from a site interventionist, who closely monitors student progress and offers academic, emotional, and organizational support to students at risk.