

What You Need to Know about Bright Star Schools

Our Schools

Stella Middle Charter Academy: Our first school, Stella Middle Charter Academy, opened its doors in June, 2003. Stella Academy operates in a school building on the campus of St. Agatha's Catholic Church at 2636 Mansfield Avenue (one block west of the corner of La Brea Blvd & Adams Blvd.), in the West Adams neighborhood.

Bright Star Secondary Charter Academy ("BSSCA"): In September 2006, Bright Star Secondary Charter Academy opened to serve grades 9-12. BSSCA operates in a school building on the campus of Holy Cross Catholic Church, 104 West 47th Place (the corner of 47th Place and Main), in South Los Angeles.

Program Highlights

- ★ We are a free, publicly funded charter school. Our schools:
 - ✓ are open to the public
 - ✓ tuition-free
 - ✓ participate in state tests
 - ✓ employ credentialed teachers
 - ✓ do not discriminate
 - ✓ are non-denominational

- ★ Our **students** are exceptional. Our academic success is reflected in our 2007-08 API scores:
 - ✓ Stella Middle Charter Academy: **785**
 - ✓ Bright Star Secondary Charter Academy: **795**

- ★ Our school day is longer so students can receive the **attention required to succeed** academically
 - ✓ Parents can feel confident that their child is in a safe and secure environment and able to complete their school work with adult supervision

- ★ Our schools prepare students for college
 - ✓ Students visit colleges and universities throughout middle and high school
 - ✓ Students take college courses while still in high school beginning in the 9th grade
 - ✓ Students complete all required coursework for college acceptance at Cal-State and UC schools

- ★ Our **Life Experience Lessons (field trips) Program** provides students with opportunities to visit significant locations around Los Angeles, California, and the country
 - ✓ Opportunity far exceeds most other public AND private schools offerings
 - ✓ Students gain exposure to the world around them and are motivated to succeed in school. They have experiences including museum trips, musical theater trips, concert outings, camping, skiing, hiking, biking, amusement park trips, national parks and historical destination trips to places like Washington D.C., the Grand Canyon, and Williamsburg, VA

What We Look For In Students and Families

- ★ Families who know that they are an **essential part of their child's education** and are willing to share their own time and energy to make their child's school the best school it can be
- ★ Students who understand that **hard work pays off** and are willing to be at school from **7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**, some Saturdays, and during the summer
- ★ Families who will be accountable and supportive of their children in a program of **high expectations and high achievement results**
- ★ Students who want to become **better readers, problem solvers, and citizens**



Do you want your child to read and write at grade level?

Do you want your child to build practical math and finance skills?

Do you want your child to have individual attention from teachers and administrators?

At Bright Star, they will.

- ★ Close to 60% of students entering our school in 5th or 6th grade are NOT reading and writing at grade level and not succeeding in Math.
- ★ Once they become a Bright Star student, they will improve every year!
 - ✓ By 7th and 8th grade, 75% of our students are reading at grade level and succeeding at Math
 - ✓ By 9th grade, 95% of our students are reading at grade level and succeeding at Math
 - ✓ By graduation ALL of our students will read at or above grade level and succeed in Math
- ★ Our students received personalized attention every day!
 - ✓ Our enrollment is targeted to only 130 students in each grade level
 - ✓ We currently have 25 teachers serving just over 500 students. That's an average student to teacher ratio of 1:22 per classroom.
- ★ Comparable schools
 - ✓ There are over 7,000 students attending 4 neighboring middle schools across 6th, 7th, and 8th grades – that's 600 students per grade level
 - ✓ *Our middle school grade levels are 22% the size of other middle schools*
 - ✓ There are almost 1,900 students at Dorsey Senior High School – that's 475 students in each grade level
 - ✓ *Our high school grade levels don't even approach 20% of that size*