



2010 – 2011 SARC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT CARD



808 W. 16th Street ♦ Merced, CA 95340 ♦ (209) 381-5165

Authorized by Merced County Office of Education

Steven E. Gomes, Ed.D., County Superintendent of Schools

Website: www.mercedscholars.org

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**2010-11 School Accountability Report Card
Executive Summary**

Merced Scholars Charter School

Achieving Academic Excellence One Student at a Time

School		District	
School Name	Merced Scholars Charter School	District Name	Merced County Office of Education
Street	808 W. 16 TH Street	Phone Number	(209) 381-6601
City, State, Zip	Merced, CA 95340	Web Site	www.mercedscholars.org
Phone Number	(209) 381-5165	Superintendent	Steven E. Gomes, Ed.D.
Principal	Lori Gattuso	E-mail Address	sgomes@mcoe.org
E-mail Address	lgattuso@mcoe.org	CDS Code	24-10249-0106518

Our School Accountability Report Card (SARC) Executive Summary is intended to provide parents and community members with a quick snapshot of our school accountability. The data presented in this report is based on the 2010-11 school year with the exception of the School Finances and School Completion data that are reported for the 2009-10 school year.

About this School

Merced Scholars Charter School is located in the City of Merced and serves students from Merced and adjacent counties. The school was formed in 2004 to meet the need for a secondary homeschool program. In 2006, it was expanded to include middle school. Since the addition of the middle school, enrollment has held steady at approximately 90 -110 students. Merced Scholars is an option for students and families committed to homeschooling.

Merced Scholars offers a variety of instructional strategies, including the use of technology and Internet, to support academic and elective courses. We are committed to a collaborative culture between parents, staff and community partners, while providing students with college preparatory curriculum and guidance for a seamless transition to higher education.

Merced Scholars is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and offers UC approved courses. Merced Scholars is authorized by the Merced County Office of Education (MCOE). Visit us at: <http://www.mercedscholars.org/>

Student Enrollment

By Ethnicity	Enrollment
Total Number of students	97
Hispanic or Latino	46
American Indian or Alaska Native	0
Asian	1
Pacific Islander	0
Filipino	2
African American	5
White	41
Two or More Races	2
Not Reported	0

Teachers

Indicator	Teachers
Teachers with full credential	100%
Teachers without full credential	0%
Teachers Teaching Outside Subject Area of Competence	6%
Misassignments of Teachers of English Learners	0%
Total Teacher Misassignments	0%

Academic Progress

Academic Performance Indicator - API	
2011 Growth API Score	755
Decrease over prior year	-14

Adequate Yearly Progress - AYP	
Met AYP	No
Met 4 of 5 AYP Criteria – did not meet the math target	

Curriculum and Instructional Materials

Core Curriculum Areas	Pupils Who have Textbooks and Instructional Materials
Reading/Language Arts	100%
Mathematics	100%
Science	100%
History-Social Science	100%
Foreign Language	100%
Health	100%
Visual and Performing Arts	100%
Science Laboratory Equipment (grades 9-12)	100%

Postsecondary Preparation

Measures	Percent
Students who completed at least one Career Technical Education course and earned a high school diploma	86%
Graduates Who Completed All Courses Required for University of California or California State University Admission	5%

Graduation Rates based on NCES Definitions

Indicator	Result
Graduation Rate – 2010	92%

School Finances 2009-10

Level	Expenditures Per Pupil Unrestricted Sources Only
School Site	\$5,699
District	\$1,445
State	\$5,513

Level	Expenditures Per Pupil Restricted Sources Only
School Site	\$454
District	\$10,342
State	\$2,939

Go Dolphins

MERCED SCHOLARS CHARTER SCHOOL

School Accountability Report Card (SARC)

Reported for School Year 2010-11

Every school in California is required by state law to publish a School Accountability Report Card (SARC), by February 1 of each year. The SARC contains information about the condition and performance of each California public school.

- > For more information about SARC requirements, see the California Department of Education (CDE) SARC Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/sa/>.

I. Data and Access

Ed-Data Partnership Web Site: Ed-Data is a partnership of the CDE, EdSource, and the Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team (FCMAT) that provides extensive financial, demographic, and performance information about California's public kindergarten through grade twelve school districts and schools.

DataQuest: DataQuest is an online data tool located on the CDE DataQuest Web page at <http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/> that contains additional information about this school and comparisons of the school to the district, the county, and the state. Specifically, DataQuest is a dynamic system that provides reports for accountability (e.g., state Academic Performance Index [API], federal Adequate Yearly Progress [AYP]), 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.

Merced Scholars offers wireless Internet access to students, parents and guest that bring their own devices as well as Internet access for students and parents in the school's computer lab.

II. About our school

Merced Scholars Charter School (Merced Scholars) is located in the City of Merced and serves students from Merced and adjacent counties. The school was formed in 2004 to meet the need for a secondary homeschool program. In 2006, it was expanded to include middle school. Since the addition of the middle school, enrollment has held steady at approximately 90-110 students. Merced Scholars is an option for students and families committed to homeschooling.

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School Contact Information		District Information	
School Name	Merced Scholars Charter School	District Name	Merced County Office of Education
Street	808 W. 16 TH Street	Phone Number	(209) 381-6601
City, State, Zip	Merced, CA 95340	Web Site	www.mercedscholars.org
Phone Number	(209) 381-5165	Superintendent	Steven E. Gomes, Ed.D.
Principal	Lori Gattuso	E-mail Address	sgomes@mcoe.org
E-mail Address	lgattuso@mcoe.org	CDS Code	24-10249-0106518

Merced Scholars Charter School MISSION STATEMENT

Merced Scholars Charter School (MERCED SCHOLARS) will provide a personalized, versatile education program; thereby preparing students to become successful, responsible and contributing citizens who read, write, communicate and calculate with clarity and accuracy, using current technologies and resources.

Merced Scholars Educational Philosophy

We believe that...

- Merced Scholars must strive to meet or exceed the academic standards set forth by the State of California.
- Every child is capable of excelling in a personalized learning environment.
- Instruction should be adapted to meet the needs of the individual student.
- Parental involvement is a necessary component to the success of a child's overall educational growth and well-being.
- Dedicated staff, parents, and students should work as a cohesive unit to foster a love of learning and a commitment to responsible citizenship.
- Parents and educators must value partnerships with business and the community at large.
- Students who take ownership of their education will be life-long learners.
- Education must include academic, personal and social development.
- Students must be provided with the tools to understand life-long decision-making.
- Schools must practice sound management of business operations.



Opportunities for Parental Involvement

From deciding whether Merced Scholars' personalized learning model is the appropriate placement for their child, to working alongside of certificated staff in the education of their students, Merced Scholars parents are fully integrated in the learning process.

Merced Scholars parents also play a role in recommendations made to the authorizing agency of the school, Merced County Office of Education and the County Superintendent, Steven E. Gomes, Ed.D. Parents do this by being an active member on the Merced Scholars Advisory Board.

2010-11 Student Enrollment by Grade Level

Families interested in a personalized learning environment for their child enroll their student at Merced Scholars. The below table displays the number of students enrolled in each grade level at our school during the 2010-11 school year.

Grade Level	Number of Students
Grade 6	2
Grade 7	8
Grade 8	8
Grade 9	12
Grade 10	25
Grade 11	25
Grade 12	17
Total Enrollment	97



Student Enrollment by Ethnicity

The below percentages represent the number of students enrolled at the school who are identified as being in a particular ethnic group.

Group	Percent of Total Enrollment
Hispanic or Latino	47%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0%
Asian	1%
Pacific Islander	0%
Filipino	2%
African American	5%
White	42%
Two or more Races	2%
Not Reported	0%

Average Class Size and Class Size Distribution

Merced Scholars is a personalized learning model where students meet one-on-one with their assigned certificated teacher for their learning session. According to the 2010-11 enrollment numbers, each teacher had a maximum student load of 28. In addition to the learning sessions, students may enroll in support classes that are offered on site, such as CAHSEE Prep, Leadership, and Biology. The average class size was 13 in 2010-11.

III. School Climate

School Safety Plan

The school Safety Plan is reviewed and updated as needed. The plan includes universal precautions to be taken in the event of an earthquake, fire, bomb threat, unwanted intruder or catastrophic event. Merced Scholars has annual emergency drills to ensure staff, students, and parents are fully aware of their responsibilities in the event of an emergency.

Suspensions and Expulsions

This table displays the rate of suspensions and expulsions at the school for the most recent three-year period.

School	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09
Suspensions	0	0	0
Expulsions	0	0	0

IV. School Facilities

School Facility Conditions and Planned Improvements (School Year 2011-12)

To determine the condition of the school's facilities, Merced County Office of Education (MCOE) sent an expert from its facilities department to inspect the school using the "Facilities Inspection Tool (FIT)", which is issued by the Office of Public School Construction. The below information reflects the condition of the school's facility as of October 6, 2011. The inspection was conducted by Raymond Birch, MCOE Utility Supervisor.

System Inspected	Repair Status			Repair Needed and Action Taken or Planned
	Good	Fair	Poor	
Systems: Gas Leaks, Mechanical/HVAC, Sewer	X			None
Interior: Interior Surfaces	X			None
Cleanliness: Overall Cleanliness, Pest/ Vermin Infestation	X			None
Electrical: Electrical	X			None
Restrooms/Fountains: Restrooms, Sinks/ Fountains	X			None
Safety: Fire Safety,	X			None
Safety Hazardous Materials	X			None
Structural: Structural Damage, Roofs	X			None
External: Playground/School Grounds, Windows/ Doors/Gates/Fences	X			None

V. Teachers

Teacher Credentials

The number of teachers teaching within their subject area of competence is displayed in the table below. Detailed information about teacher qualifications can be found on the CDE DataQuest Web page at <http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/>.

Subject Area	Percentage of Teachers with Credential 2010-11
Multiple Subjects	50%
Secondary English	100%
Secondary Math	75%
Secondary Science	100%
Secondary Social Science	100%

Teacher Misassignments and Vacant Teacher Positions

This table displays the number of teacher misassignments (teachers assigned without proper legal authorization) and the number of vacant teacher positions (not filled by a single designated teacher assigned to teach the entire course at the beginning of the school year or semester).

Indicator	2010-11
Misassignments of Teachers of English Learners	0
Total Teacher Misassignments	0
Vacant Teacher Positions	0

Core Academic Classes Taught by ESEA Compliant Teachers (School Year 2010-11)

The Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), also known as No Child Left Behind (NCLB), requires that core academic subjects be taught by Highly Qualified Teachers, defined as having at least a bachelor's degree, an appropriate California teaching credential, and demonstrated core academic subject area competence. For more information, see the CDE *Improving Teacher and Principal Quality* Web page at: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/nclb/sr/tq/>

Location of Classes	Percent of Classes In Core Academic Subjects	
	Taught by ESEA Compliant Teachers	Taught by Non-ESEA Compliant Teachers
This School	94%	6%

VI. Support Staff

Academic Counselors and Other Support Staff (School Year 2010–11)

Merced Scholars accesses support staff within the Local Education Agency (LEA), Merced County Office of Education. Those services include:

- Library Media Services
- Nurse
- Psychologist
- Resource Specialist

Merced Scholars also contract with Merced College to provide college placement testing on site as well as access to a college counselor that assists with high school or college course placement.

VII. Curriculum and Instructional Materials

Availability of Textbooks and Instructional Materials (School Year 2011-12)

Merced Scholars ensures every student has a standards-aligned textbook and access to additional materials used at the school.

Core Curriculum Area	Standards-aligned Textbooks and Instructional Materials used	Percent of Pupils Who <u>Lack</u> Their Own Assigned Textbooks and/or Instructional Materials
Reading/Language Arts	Yes	0%
Mathematics	Yes	0%
Science	Yes	0%
History-Social Science	Yes	0%
Foreign Language	Yes	0%
Health	Yes	0%
Visual and Performing Arts	Yes	0%

Textbooks in Use (School Year 2011-12)

The textbooks used at Merced Scholars are aligned with the California State Content Standards. Below is a sampling of those textbooks for high school and middle school.

High School - Textbook Name (Textbook Edition)	Adopted
Math	
Algebra: Concepts and Applications (2005 Edition)	Yes
Algebra 2 (2005 Edition)	Yes
Geometry: Concepts and Applications (2005 Edition)	Yes
Science	
Earth Science (2007 Edition)	Yes
Biology: The Dynamics of Life (2005 Edition)	Yes
Physical Science (2008 Edition)	Yes
Social Science	
World Geography: Building a Global Perspective (2005 Edition)	Yes
World History: Modern Times (2005 Edition)	Yes
The American Vision (2006 Edition)	Yes
Economics: Principles & Practices (2005 Edition)	Yes
MacGruder's American Government (2004 Edition)	Yes
English Language Arts	
The Language of Literature 9 (2002 Edition)	Yes
The Language of Literature 10 (2002 Edition)	Yes
The Language of Literature 11-American Literature (2002 Edition)	Yes
The Language of Literature 12 -British Literature (2002 Edition)	Yes
Foreign Language	
!Buen Viaje!: Course 1, 2 and 3 (2005 Edition)	Yes
Art	
Art Talk (2005 Edition)	Yes
Middle School - Textbook Name	Adopted
Math	
Math Connects Concepts and Skills Courses 1, 2 and 3	Yes
Algebra 1: Concepts and Skills	Yes
Science	
Focus on Physical Science	Yes
Focus on Life Science	Yes
Focus on Earth Science	Yes
Social Science	
World History: Ancient Civilizations	Yes
World History: Medieval to Early Modern Times	Yes
United States History: Independence to 1914	Yes
English Language Arts	
Holt Literature and Language Arts: Introductory Course	Yes
Holt Literature and Language Arts: First Course	Yes
Holt Literature and Language Arts: Second Course	Yes

VIII. School Finances

Expenditures per Pupil and School Site (Fiscal Year 2009-10)

A comparison of our school's per pupil expenditures with other schools in the district and throughout the state is in the table below. Detailed information regarding school expenditures can be found on the CDE Current Expense of Education & Per-pupil Spending Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/fd/ec/>.

Level	Total Expenditures Per Pupil	Expenditures Per Pupil (Supplemental / Restricted)	Expenditures Per Pupil (Basic / Unrestricted)
School Site	\$6,153.00	\$454.00	\$5699.00
District	\$11,787.00	\$10,342.00	\$1,445.00
State	\$8,452.00	\$2,939.00	\$5,513.00

Supplemental/Restricted expenditures come from money whose use is controlled by law or by a donor. Money that is designated for specific purposes by the district or governing board is not considered restricted. **Basic/unrestricted** expenditures are from money whose use, except for general guidelines, is not controlled by law or by a donor.

Certificated Salaries (Fiscal Year 2009-10)

A comparison of our school's average teacher salaries with other schools in the district and throughout the state is included in this table.

Certificated Staff	Our School	District Amount	State Average
Salary	\$ 57,128	\$ 45,077	\$71,246
Benefits	\$ 17,388	\$ 12,508	\$16,062
TOTAL	\$ 74,466	\$ 57,585	\$87,308

NOTE: A certificated staff person is a school employee who is required by the state to hold teaching credentials, including full-time, part-time, substitute, or temporary teachers and most administrators.

IX. Student Performance

Standardized Testing and Reporting Program

The Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program consists of several key components, including:

- **California Standards Tests (CSTs)**, which include English-language arts (ELA) and mathematics in grades two through eleven; science in grades five, eight, and nine through eleven; and history-social science in grades eight, and nine through eleven.
- **California Modified Assessment (CMA)**, an alternate assessment that is based on modified achievement standards in ELA for grades three through eleven; mathematics for grades three through seven, Algebra I, and Geometry; and science in grades five and eight, and Life Science in grade ten. The CMA is designed to assess those students whose disabilities preclude them from achieving grade-level proficiency on an assessment of the California content standards with or without accommodations.
- **California Alternate Performance Assessment (CAPA)**, includes ELA and mathematics in grades two through eleven, and science for grades five, eight, and ten. The CAPA is given to those students with significant cognitive disabilities whose disabilities prevent them from taking either the CSTs with accommodations or modifications or the CMA with accommodations.

The assessments under the STAR Program show how well students are doing in relation to the state content standards. On each of these assessments, student scores are reported as performance levels.

For detailed information regarding the STAR Program results for each grade and performance level, including the percent of students not tested, see the CDE STAR Results Web site at <http://star.cde.ca.gov>.

Standardized Testing and Reporting Results for All Students – Three-Year Comparison

This table displays the percentage of students achieving at the Proficient or Advanced level (meeting or exceeding the state standards).

English-Language Art	2011	2010	2009
% Advanced	29%	26%	30%
% Proficient	43%	36%	28%
Mathematics	2011	2010	2009
% Advanced	0%	*	*
% Proficient	31%	*	*
Algebra I	2011	2010	2009
% Advanced	0%	0%	0%
% Proficient	7%	17%	14%
Geometry	2011	2010	2009
% Advanced	0%	0%	0%
% Proficient	17%	0%	0%
World History	2011	2010	2009
% Advanced	6%	4%	12%
% Proficient	14%	35%	20%
U. S. History	2011	2010	2009
% Advanced	10%	19%	10%
% Proficient	48%	29%	19%
Life Science	2011	2010	2009
% Advanced	22%	23%	16%
% Proficient	24%	23%	12%
Biology	2011	2010	2009
% Advanced	29%	*	18%
% Proficient	50%	*	6%
Earth Science	2011	2010	2009
% Advanced	14%	4%	0%
% Proficient	7%	17%	17%

Note: * = Scores are not shown 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.

California High School Exit Examination

The California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) is primarily used as a graduation requirement. However, the grade ten results of this exam are also used to establish the percentages of students at three proficiency levels (not proficient, proficient, or advanced) in ELA and mathematics to compute AYP designations required by the federal ESEA, also known as NCLB.

For detailed information regarding CAHSEE results, see the CDE CAHSEE Web site at <http://cahsee.cde.ca.gov/>.

California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE Results – Three Year Comparison)

Subject	School			District			State		
	2011	2010	2009	2011	2010	2009	2011	2010	2009
English-Language Arts	89%	100%	86%	44%	50%	42%	82%	81%	79%
Mathematics	79%	85%	86%	36%	40%	38%	83%	81%	80%

California Physical Fitness Test Results (School Year 2009-10)

The California Physical Fitness Test is administered to students in grades five, seven, and nine only. This table displays by grade level the percent of students meeting the fitness standards for the most recent testing period. Detailed information regarding this test, and comparisons of a school's test results to the district and state levels, may be found on the CDE Physical Fitness Testing Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tq/pf/>.

Grade Level	Percent of Students Meeting Fitness Standards		
	Four of Six Standards	Five of Six Standards	Six of Six Standards
7	N/A	N/A	N/A
9	18.2%	40.9%	4.5%

Note: Scores for 2010-11 are not available as of publication date. Scores are not shown when the number of students tested is ten or less.

X. Accountability

Academic Performance Index

The Academic Performance Index (API) is an annual measure of the academic performance and progress of schools in California. API scores range from 200 to 1,000, with a statewide target of 800. Detailed information about the API can be found at the CDE Academic Performance Index (API) Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ap/>.

Academic Performance Index Rank – Three-Year Comparison

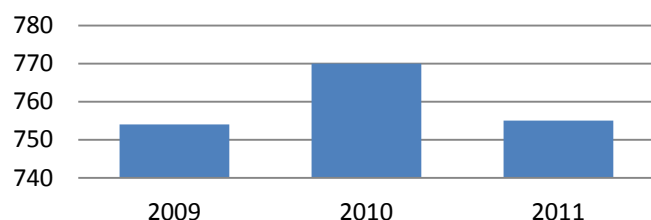
This table displays the school's statewide and similar schools' API ranks. The **statewide API rank** ranges from 1 to 10. A statewide rank of 1 means that the school has an API score in the lowest ten percent of all schools in the state, while a statewide rank of 10 means that the school has an API score in the highest ten percent of all schools in the state.

The **similar schools API rank** reflects how a school compares to 100 statistically matched "similar schools." A similar schools rank of 1 means that the school's academic performance is comparable to the lowest performing ten schools of the 100 similar schools, while a similar schools rank of 10 means that the school's academic performance is better than at least 90 of the 100 similar schools.

Academic Performance Index (API)

2011	755
2010	769
2009	753

API Growth



Adequate Yearly Progress

The federal NCLB Act requires that all schools and districts meet the following Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) criteria:

- Participation rate on the state's standards-based assessments in ELA and mathematics
- Percent proficient on the state's standards-based assessments in ELA and mathematics
- API as an additional indicator
- Graduation rate (for secondary schools)

Detailed information about AYP, including participation rates and percent proficient results by student group, can be found at the CDE Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ay/>.

Adequate Yearly Progress Overall and by Criteria (School Year 2011)

This table displays an indication of whether the school and the district made AYP overall and whether the school and the district met each of the AYP criteria.

AYP Criteria	School	District
Overall	No	No
Participation Rate - English-Language Arts	Yes	No
Participation Rate - Mathematics	Yes	No
Percent Proficient - English-Language Arts	Yes	No
Percent Proficient - Mathematics	No	No
API	Yes	Yes
Graduation Rate	N/A	Yes

XI. School Completion and Postsecondary Preparation

Dropout Rate and Graduation Rate

This table displays the school's one-year dropout rates and graduation rates for the most recent three-year period for which data are available. For comparison purposes, data are also provided at the district and state levels. Detailed information about dropout rates and graduation rates can be found on the CDE *DataQuest* Web page at <http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/>.

Indicator	School			District			State		
	2010	2009	2008	2010	2009	2008	2010	2009	2008
Dropout Rate (1-year)	2.2%	3.8%	5%	29.2%	30.9%	24%	4.6%	5.7%	4%
Graduation Rate	92%	90.3%	89.2%	44.2%	40.3%	54%	80.4%	78.6%	85%

N/A = not available at publication

Completion of High School Graduation Requirements

Students in California public schools must pass both the ELA and mathematics portions of the CAHSEE to receive a high school diploma. Twelfth grade students enrolled at Merced Scholars displayed in the table below by the percent who met all state and local graduation requirements. The below data for Merced Scholars does not reflect students that left the school prior to graduation and enrolled at another school.

Year of Graduating Class	School	District	State
	2011	100%	N/A
2010	100%	51.5%	84.7%
2009	100%	54%	80%

N/A = not available at publication

Career Technical Education Programs (School Year 2011-12)

Merced Scholars offers several Career Technical Education courses, such as Computer Literacy, Computer Applications, Financial Planning, Media Communications, and Leadership which do not meet the UC/CSU admissions requirements. The school also offers courses through Merced County Regional Occupational Program – ROP.

Merced County ROP Course Title	Course Approved for a-g
Advanced Marketing	No
Agricultural Communications	Yes
Agriculture Computer Applications	No
Agriculture Skills	No
Art & History of Floral Design	Yes
Automotive Services	No
Business & Marketing Occupations	No
Business Applications	No
Business Occupations & Technology	No
Careers with Infants & Toddlers	No
Computer Accounting	No
Computer Applications	No
Computer Literacy	No
Computer Programming	No
Creative Design & Merchandising	Yes
Environmental Horticulture	Yes
Food Science	Yes
Foundations in Education	Yes
Graphic Arts	Yes
Hospitality and Tourism	No
Internships in Agriculture	No
Introduction to Health Careers	No
Logistics and Warehousing	No
Marketing Foundations (CC)	Yes
Medical Occupations	No
Sports and Entertainment Marketing	No
The Art of Animation	Yes
The Art of Digital Photography	Yes
Veterinary Science	Yes
Virtual Enterprise	Yes
Web Design	No
Welding Fabrication Technology	No
Working Professional	No

Career Technical Education Participation (School Year 2010-11)

This table displays information about participation in the school's CTE programs.

Measure	CTE Program Participation
Percent of students completing at least one CTE course and earning a high school diploma.	86%
Percent of CTE courses sequenced or articulated between the school and institutions of postsecondary education	12 courses offered through Merced County ROP meet the a-g requirements. Articulation of ROP courses is currently in progress.

Admission Requirements for California's Public Universities

University of California

Admission requirements for the University of California (UC) follow guidelines set forth in the Master Plan, which requires that the top one-eighth of the state's high school graduates, as well as those transfer students who have successfully completed specified college course work, be eligible for admission to the UC. These requirements are designed to ensure that all eligible students are adequately prepared for University-level work. For general admissions requirements, please visit the *UC Admissions Information* Web page at <http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/>. (Outside source)

California State University

Eligibility for admission to the California State University (CSU) is determined by three factors:

- Specific high school courses
- Grades in specified courses and test scores
- Graduation from high school

Some campuses have higher standards for particular majors or students who live outside the local campus area. Because of the number of students who apply, a few campuses have higher standards (supplementary admission criteria) for all applicants. Most CSU campuses have local admission guarantee policies for students who graduate or transfer from high schools and colleges that are historically served by a CSU campus in that region. For admission, application, and fee information see the *CSU* Web page at <http://www.calstate.edu/admission/admission.shtml>. (Outside source)

UC/CSU Course Measure	Percent
High School Students Enrolled in Courses Required for UC/CSU Admission	100%
Graduates Who Completed All Courses Required for UC/CSU Admission	5%

Advanced Placement Courses (School Year 2010-11)

Currently, Merced Scholars Charter School does not offer Advanced Placement (AP) courses. Students have the opportunity to enroll at Merced Community College concurrently. Students can earn high school credits as well as college units. Students can take the Accuplacer on site and meet with a Merced College counselor upon request.

XII. Instructional Planning and Scheduling

Professional Development

Professional development is important to the growth of a teacher and the success of students. Teachers are provided three days per year dedicated to professional development.

Professional Development	# of Days per Year
2010-11	3
2009-10	3
2008-09	3