



**Presented to the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights
Education Fund Promising Practices in Education Reform
Symposium
March 4, 2005**



Origins of HTH

Business Community

Business Roundtable for Education
Economic Development Corp

CEO Roundtable on San Diego
Quality of Life Issues including
Education.

Founding Group Supporters
included:

Alliance Pharmaceuticals

BIOCOM

California Dept. of Education

Gary and Jerri-Ann Jacobs

Girard Foundation

QUALCOMM

U.S. Dept. of Education

Education Community

Larry Rosenstock
CEO

Staff attorney at the
Harvard Center for Law
and Education

*The New Urban High
School Program*

Executive Director of the
Rindge School for
Technical Arts



Origins of HTH (cont)

Facility

Flexible

40,000 sq ft

Space to create programs such as the biotechnology, engineering, multimedia, art, and standard project based classrooms.



Charter

Chartered through San Diego City Schools

The High Tech High Mission:

High Tech High provides students with rigorous and relevant academic and workplace skills, preparing its graduates for rewarding lives in our increasingly technological society.



3 Design Principles

■ ***Personalization ~***

- Student to Teacher ratio of no more than 22:1
- Advisory Groups for all students
- Personalized Learning Plans
- Support services for all students with needs

■ ***Adult- World Connection ~***

- Internships for all Junior students as a graduation requirement
- Field studies and community- based learning
- Wide range of presentations by adult mentors
- Adult connections and presence throughout each learning experience

■ ***Common Intellectual Mission ~***

- No ability tracking
- University of California A-G graduation requirements
- Presentations of Learning across curriculum



Student Selection

- **HTH serves a diverse student body.**
- No academic pre-requisites for admission.
- Lottery by Zipcode Clusters
- HTH currently has 463 students.
 - 57% are students of color
 - 41% Female/ 59% Male
- 8.5 percent special education and rising



Faculty Selection

- Diverse Faculty
- Experienced Teachers
- New University Graduates
- Industry
- Deep Academic Content Knowledge
- In-house credentialing program
- Faculty Ownership of Recruitment Process
- Students Involvement





Results

Data on African American Students at High Tech High Compared to State Averages show:

- 100% of African American students at HTH take physics, advanced math, and chemistry compared to 19% state average and 42% within San Diego Unified School District.
- On the average SAT scores are 132 points higher than the state.

- HTH was the only high school in San Diego awarded two perfect scores of 10 on the Statewide Performance Index, two years in a row.
- 100% of HTH graduates accepted to college; roughly 56% are the first in their family to attend college
- HTH's Academic Internship has been sponsored in part by Manpower, Inc. Students are placed in over 70 prominent businesses such as QUALCOMM, Spawar, Kyocera, Salk Institute, Biosite, FOX 6 News, and The WB.



Life After HTH

- Acceptance to top public and private universities
 - University of California campuses
 - Boston University
 - Cornell
 - Dartmouth
 - Johns Hopkin
 - Northwestern
 - Massachusetts Institute of Technology
 - Stanford
- Student Quote: “My transition to college didn’t feel like high school to college, but more like college to college.”
- Alumni Program



Meeting the Demand

- September 2005
 - San Diego
 - 3 High Schools
 - 2 Middle Schools
 - 1 Elementary School
 - Redwood City
 - 1 High School
- September 2006
 - San Luis Obispo
 - 1 High School
 - Foster City
 - 1 High School
 - Chula Vista
 - 1 High School
 - 1 Middle School