



SYNERGY
Est. 2004
CHARTER ACADEMY

**Working Together
to Improve Academics,
Reduce Poverty**

CWDA Symposium
Sacramento, CA
October 5, 2011

SYNERGY
Est. 2004
CHARTER ACADEMY

Speakers



Meg Pallsoc
Teacher, Co-
Founder, & C.E.O.



Armida Barrera
Parent



Randy Pallsoc
Teacher, Co-
Founder, & C.A.O.



Sandra De La Torre
Parent

The Schools of Synergy Academies

2004

SYNERGY
Est. 2004
CHARTER ACADEMY
Elementary • K-5



2008

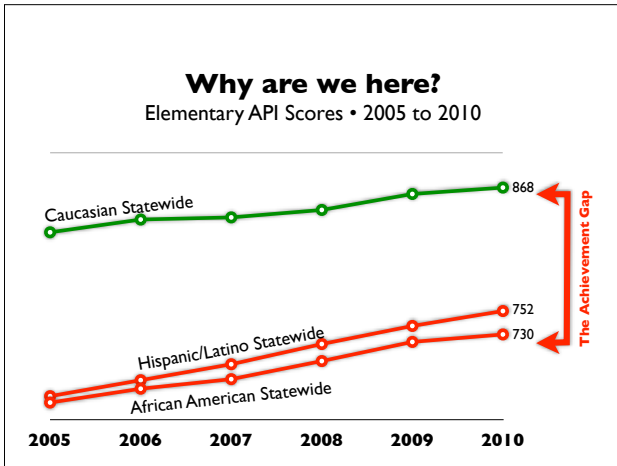
KINETIC
EST. 2008
CHARTER ACADEMY
Middle School • 6-8



2011

QUANTUM
EST. 2011
CHARTER ACADEMY
High School • 9-12





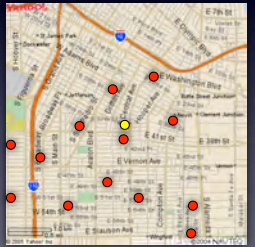
Charter Schools...

- * are **Public Schools** **free!**
- * **must** serve **ALL** students, including **ALL** special needs
- * are held to **higher accountability standards**
- * **pay LAUSD** to use their facilities
- * receive **less money** than traditional schools

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Elementary
K-5

**Our Inner City Location in
South Central Los Angeles**
(Location of 1992 LA Riots)



- Synergy Charter Academy
- API 1 LAUSD School (bottom 10% of schools statewide)

**90011 Zip Code
Demographics**

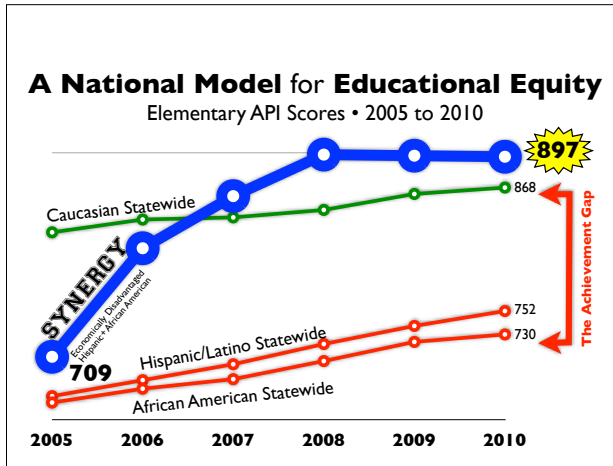
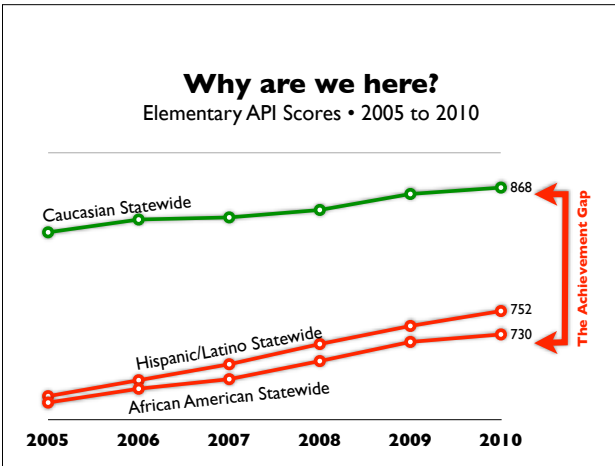
- 85% Latino, 15% African American
- 85% Free and Reduced-Price Lunch
- 2004 Adjusted Gross Income was \$20,486 (state average = \$58,600) according to citydata.com
- 6,809 households with six or more people living in it
- 9,774 single parent households



First Ever Parent Meeting

2003





2007
National Charter School of the Year

2008
CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL

2009
TITLE I ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD SCHOOL
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Synergy's Elementary Awards

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First ever elementary National Blue Ribbon School in South Los Angeles



Secrets to Our Success



Read, Read, Read



Reading Counts Millionaires



Math Counts Awards



First Plane Trip



Visiting Sacramento



Panning for Gold in Coloma



Japanese American Museum



Feeding the Lorikeets



Feeding the Lorikeets



Parent Support



Parent Support



FAMILY SUPPORT
COMMUNITY OUTREACH FOR OUR NEW HIGH SCHOOL



Monica Garcia

Meeting with LAUSD Board President Monica Garcia



Jack O'Connell

School Visit by State Superintendent Jack O'Connell



Senator Romero



Parent Workshop on Vision Problems



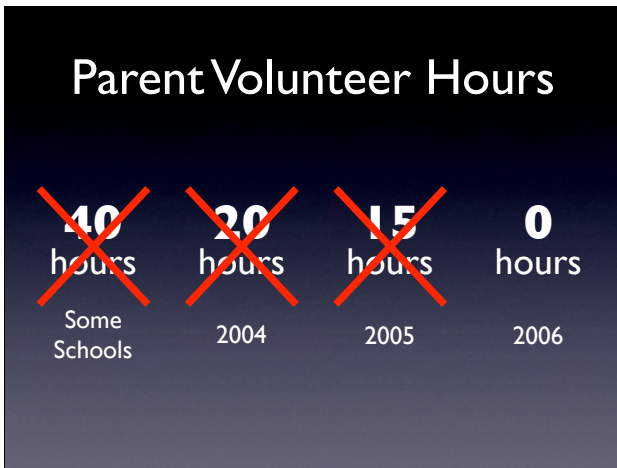
Parent Workshop on Vision Problems



Parent Workshop on Vision Problems



How do we get parents involved?



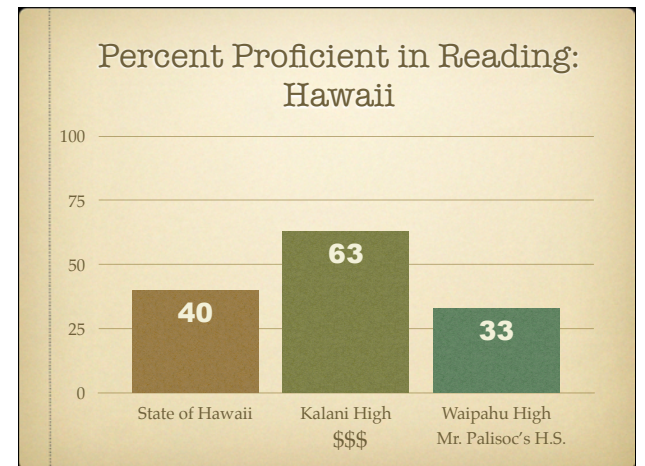
Redefining Parent Involvement

- Student Attendance
- Student Behavior
- Student Work Habits
- Student Uniforms
- Parent Involvement (Meetings & Workshops)

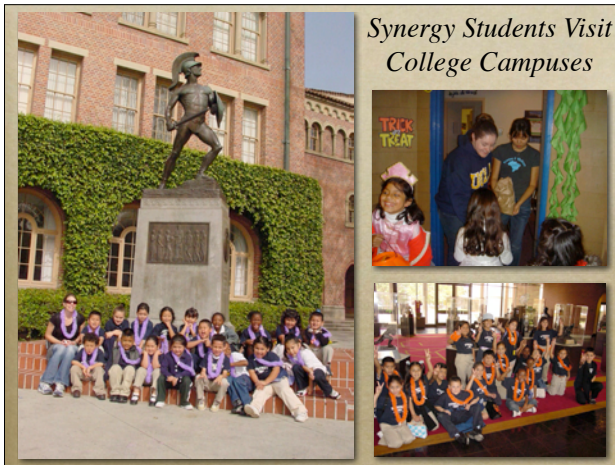
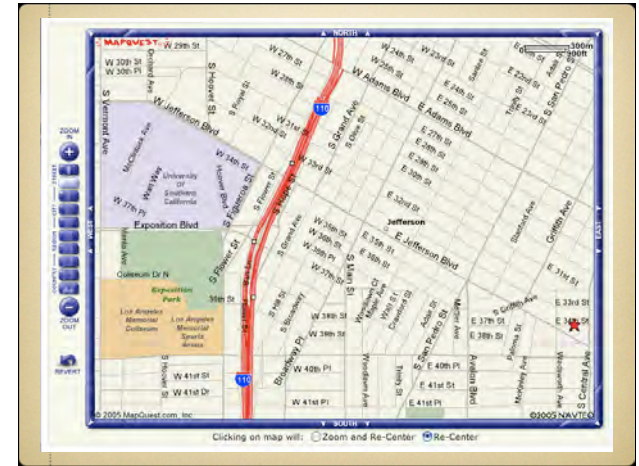
Helping Parents See the Big Picture

Results

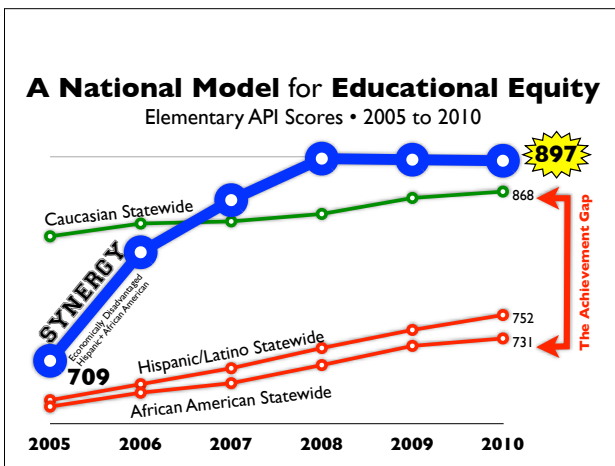
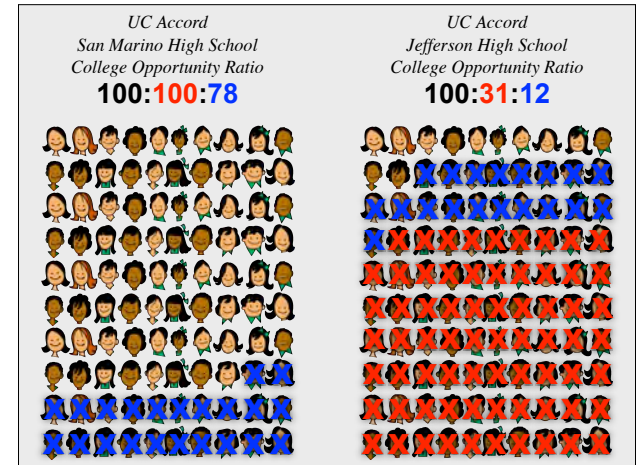
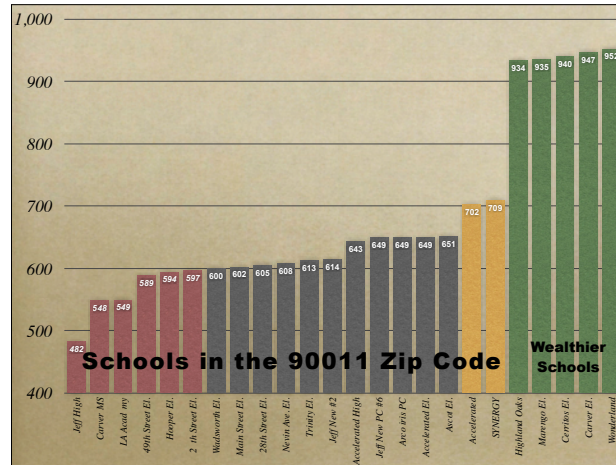
Year 1 API Presentation



Waipahu High School
(Mr. Palisoc's High School)



Synergy Students Visit College Campuses



Parents' Perspective

Communication

- Communication - Share Information
- Provide parents with a complete perspective.
- Promote a professional brand image.
- Present information in a way that makes sense to parents.

Home-School Communication



Message Monday Envelope

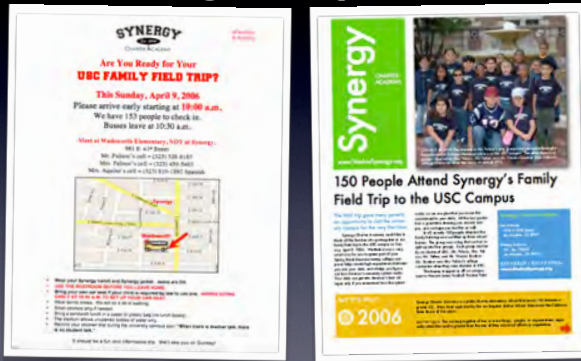
Newsletters



Parent Workshops

- Past workshops have included:
 - College admissions workshops & college tours
 - Health workshops – vision, nutrition, lead poisoning
 - Bullying

Family Field Trip College Campus Tour



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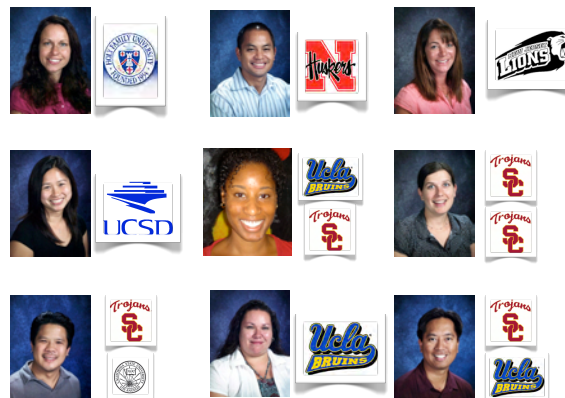
CHARTER ACADEMY



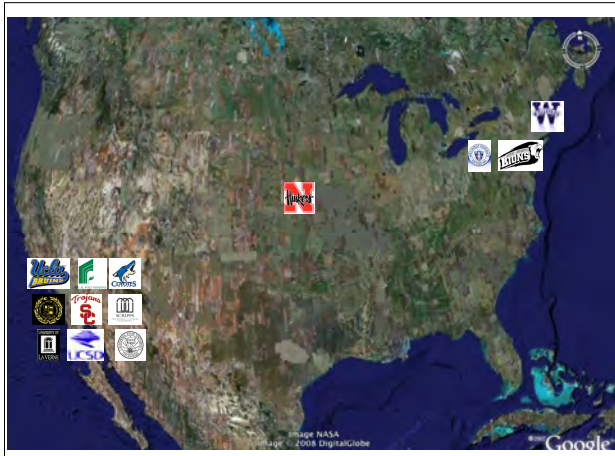
College Admissions Workshop



Which Colleges Did We Attend?



Which Colleges Will Our Students Attend?



Synergy's Vision

● Our vision is for students to eventually attend the four-year university of their choice.

Why?



Average Starting Salaries and Unemployment Rates

Education Level	No HS Diploma	With HS Diploma	Bachelor's	Master's	Doctorate
Nivel de educación	Sin diploma de escuela secundaria	Diploma de escuela secundaria	Licenciatura	Maestría	Doctorado
Ingreso promedio anual Avg. Starting Salary	\$22,100	\$30,056	\$54,714	\$64,532	\$81,380
Tasa de desempleo Unemployment Rate	10.6%	5.2%	2.7%	2.2%	1.2%

Fuente: Bureau of Labor Statistics

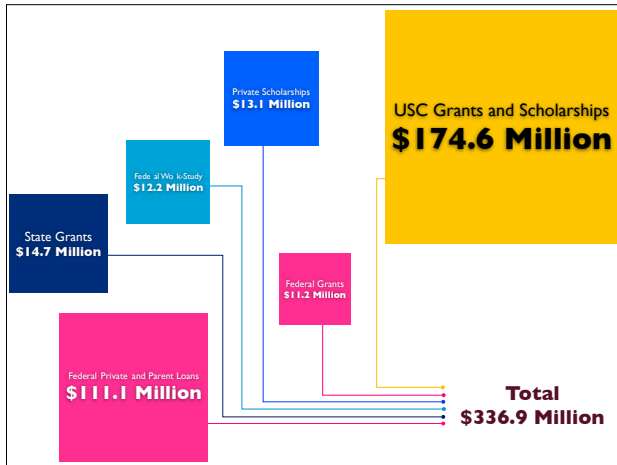
COA

Cost of Attendance

- \$37,096 Tuition
- 598 Mandatory fees
- 11,298 Room and board
- 796 Books and supplies
- 1,600 Personal and Miscellaneous
- 580 Transportation

\$51,968 TOTAL ESTIMATED COST

\$207,872 For 4 years



Freshmen Only Academic History

Read the instructions page before filling out this form.

Attach bar code label here. If available or write your USC ID number here.

3

Name: _____
 Title: of Senior by number or USC ID: _____ Name of high school you are currently attending: _____

First Semester Subjects	Grade	Second Semester Subjects	Grade	Summer or Third Trimester Subjects	Grade
English Literature, Composition					
9th		9th		9th	
10th		10th		10th	
11th		11th		11th	
12th		12th		12th	
Mathematics					
9th		9th		9th	
10th		10th		10th	
11th		11th		11th	
12th		12th		12th	
Foreign and Classical Languages					
9th		9th		9th	
10th		10th		10th	
11th		11th		11th	
12th		12th		12th	
Total of Sciences and History					
9th		9th		9th	
10th		10th		10th	
11th		11th		11th	
12th		12th		12th	

First Semester Subjects	Grade	Second Semester Subjects
English Literature, Composition		
9th English		9th
10th English		10th
11th English		11th
12th		12th
Mathematics		
9th		9th
10th		10th
11th		11th
12th		12th
Foreign and Classical Languages		
9th		9th
10th		10th
11th		11th

University of California

(UCLA, UC Berkeley, UC Irvine, UC Santa Barbara)

A to G Requirements



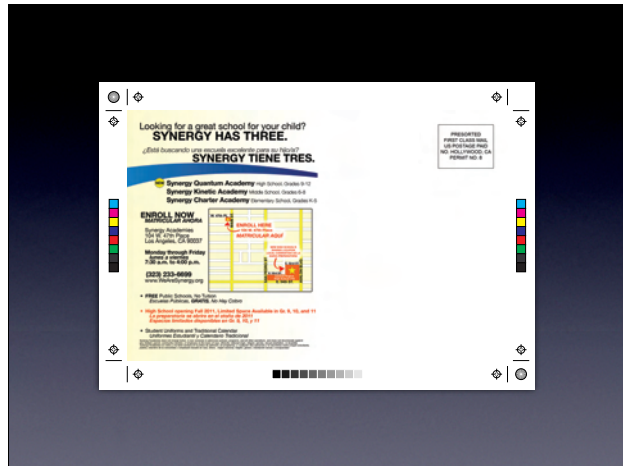
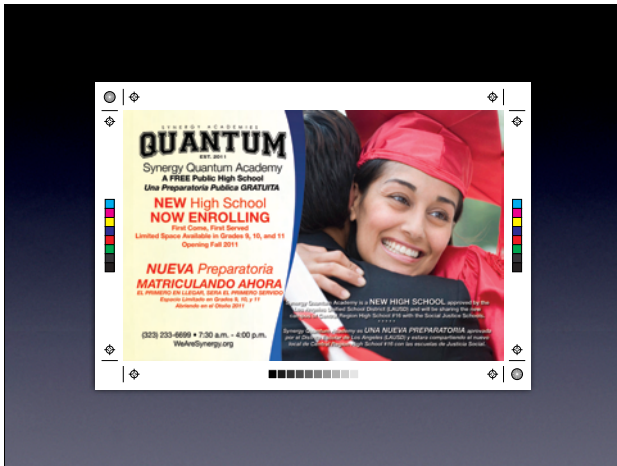
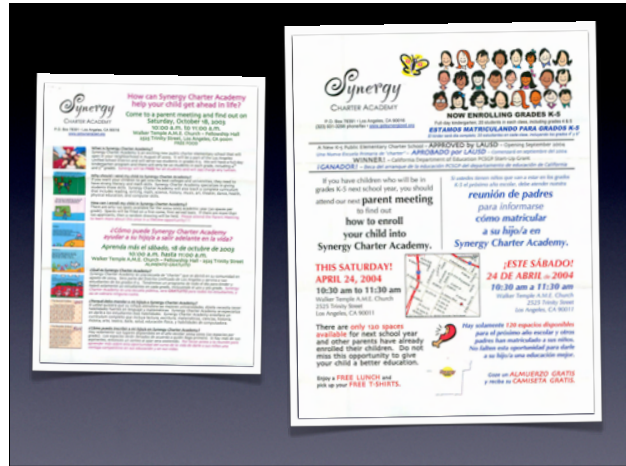
- A. **History/Social Science** – 2 YEARS REQUIRED
- B. **English** – 4 YEARS REQUIRED
- C. **Mathematics** – 3 YEARS REQUIRED, 4 YEARS RECOMMENDED
- D. **Laboratory Science** – 2 YEARS REQUIRED, 3 YRS RECOMMENDED
- E. **Language Other than English** – 2 YEARS REQUIRED, 3 YEARS RECOMMENDED
- F. **Visual and Performing Arts (VPA)** – 1 YEAR REQUIRED
- G. **College-Preparatory Electives** – 1 YEAR REQUIRED





Remove Barriers to Involvement

- Time – Hold evening and weekend meetings
- Respect people's time
 - Give parents new information that makes them feel glad that they came
- Inconvenience – include maps
- Language barriers



Q & A



Thank you for attending!
 WeAreSynergy.org