



Excellence & Equity in Science & Education



The Harmony School System High School Program



Locations

Houston - Austin - Dallas - San Antonio - El Paso
Fort Worth - Bryan - Beaumont - Lubbock - Waco

www.harmonytx.org



BEST HIGH SCHOOL

Harmony Science Academy was praised in a news article released November 30, 2007 by U.S. News and World Report. The list names 1,600 of the nation's 18,000 high schools. The article recognized specific schools based on factors such as: 1) Standardized Test Scores, 2) Performance of Disadvantaged Students, and 3) Number of seniors taking and passing college level Advanced Placement Exams. Harmony Science Academy was honored to be among the best high schools and received a bronze medal.



13 HARMONY CAMPUSES ARE AWARDED TO BE T-STEM ACADEMIES



To ensure that Texas will continue to grow its economy, land more job expansions than any other state, and remain at the forefront in the battle for 21st century jobs, Texas launched a bold and forward-thinking education program—the Texas Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Initiative (T-STEM).

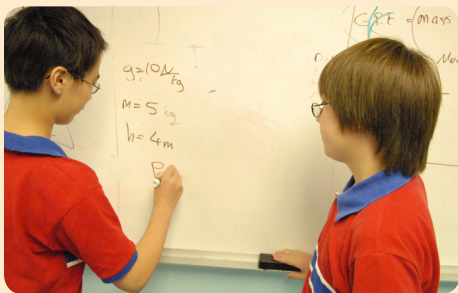
This initiative is a new central component of the Texas High School Project (THSP), a \$180 million public-private initiative committed to increasing graduation rates and college enrollment rates in every Texas community. The THSP's partners include the Texas Education Agency, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation, Communities



Foundation of Texas, educators, and others.

The goal of T-STEM Academies is to develop the nation's leading innovation economy workforce by aligning high school, postsecondary education, and economic development activities. A total of 13 Harmony Schools, throughout the state, were selected to be part of this T-STEM initiative.

STRONG MATH, SCIENCE, AND ENGINEERING FOCUS



The educators and leaders behind the Harmony Schools are passionate about transforming how students engage in math, science, engineering, and computer science. Harmony School administrators fundamentally believe that excelling in math and science prepares youth to succeed in college, the workplace and the 21st century. Harmony's vision is to enable students to succeed in school and have the option of pursuing math, science, and engineering careers. This will lead to students becoming productive and responsible citizens.



SAFE & CONDUCIVE ENVIRONMENT

The Harmony School System, through education and curriculum-based measures, maintains its reputation for being one of the safest school systems in the country. Harmony students appreciate this safety by embracing diversity, good morals, and by saying 'no' to harassment, drug abuse, gangs, and bullying.

"Harmony created an inviting, safe, and purposeful environment in which students learn, and maintain a friendly and wholesome atmosphere that encourages creative expression and a desire for knowledge. Students are required to be punctual, and show respect to their friends and teachers. Harassment of other students is not tolerated, and children are provided with an atmosphere where learning is encouraged and not ridiculed by other students."

Sook Swanson, Harmony Parent

Facts about Math and Science Education

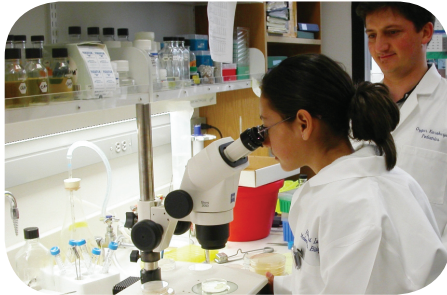
- Students who take rigorous math and science courses are more likely to go to college
- People with strong math and science backgrounds are more likely to be employed
- Shortages in workers skilled in math/science affect U.S. performance in global markets

Source: Math Equals Opp; NELS data



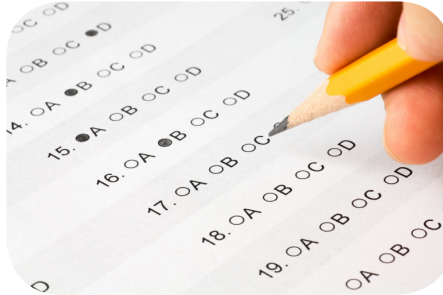
A UNIQUE AND REPLICABLE SCHOOL MODEL

The school model is **rigorous** (prepares students for college), **relevant** (reinforces math and science skills) and is underpinned by a tight web of **relationships** (a strong culture reinforced by teachers and parents). Harmony attributes its strong outcomes to three core principles within the school model: a challenging math and science curriculum supported by theory; a focus on assessment; and a culture of constructive competition, discipline and parental engagement. Harmony utilizes technology across all of these dimensions to reinforce its school model and curriculum.



CHALLENGING & DYNAMIC CURRICULUM

- Harmony's core curriculum meets the Texas Distinguished Achievement program and offers honors and AP coursework
- The Piaget, Vygotsky, and Gardner-influenced curriculum challenges students just above their current level with scaffolding
- Students are grouped by their skills to maximize educational outcomes



ONGOING ASSESSMENT

- Continuous assessment and prep exams promote high passing rates
- Harmony teachers are given flexibility in teaching and are not constrained by the testing focus
- The mandatory use of the technology-enabled student database by teachers allows for information to be consistently updated



CULTURE OF HIGH EXPECTATIONS

- Focus on constructive competition enables academic achievement to be the primary student focus
- The "discipline point system" allows teachers to focus on instruction, not on discipline
- The student database allows students, teachers and parents to access and monitor discipline history
- Character education cultivates a community of respect

Highly Qualified and Dedicated Community of Teachers

Math, science, and computer teachers at Harmony hold higher education degrees in their disciplines; these teachers are recruited from around the world. Harmony's model encourages teachers to engage in home visits with student families to build on the parent-student-teacher triad.

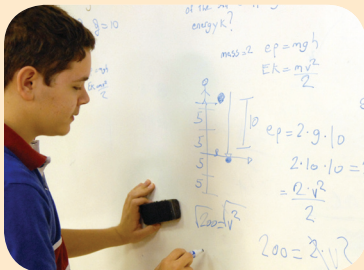
ACADEMIC OFFERINGS

Harmony Schools provides a rigorous academic program with intensive support that permits students to excel to their own potential, whether that be a college prep, honors or AP level. In addition, students are encouraged to take part in research projects and academic competitions.

AP Courses, Electives, and Clubs Offered at Harmony Schools*

AP English	Animation	Home Arts
AP Calculus	Aquatic Science	Home Economics
AP Statistics	Arts and Craft	Journalism
AP Computer Science	AutoCAD	Math Counts
AP Biology	Automotive	Movie
AP Environmental Science	Baseball	Multiculturalism
AP Chemistry	Basketball	Photography
AP Physics	Board Games	Principles of Engineering
AP World History	Civil Engineering	Reading & Movies
AP U.S. History	Creative Writing	Soccer
AP U.S. Government & Politics	Debate	Student Council
AP Art History	Digital Graphics	Theater Arts
AP Music Theory	Digital Electronics	Video Production
AP Studio Art	Drama	Volleyball
AP Macroeconomics	Drawing	Web Mastering
AP Psychology	Folk Dance	Wrestling
AP European History	Football	Yearbook
AP Spanish	French	

*AP and Elective course offerings may vary from campus to campus



QUOTES FROM ALUMNI & PARENTS

A Model Learning Community: *“Creativity is more than just being different. Harmony School of Excellence has a faculty that transcends accepted educational methods. They help students become scientifically literate, critical thinkers while maintaining a passion for learning. It is a pleasure to be a parent of a student at this school. Parental involvement is not only required but encouraged. The Harmony Triangle of school, parent, and student is model for any learning community. Our family is proud to be a part of the Harmony Charter School System.”*

Kristina Hardwick, Harmony Parent

“Harmony gave me the chance to reach my true potential; they challenged me and always kept me involved with many of their activities. They still help me currently by allowing me to be a part of their organizations and important events. They prepared me for college and life in various ways.”

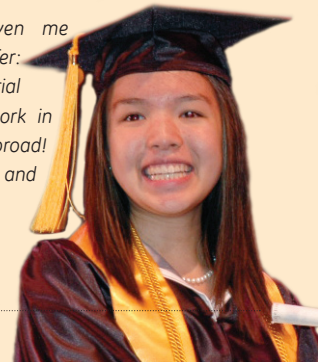
Brandon Okafor, Harmony Class of 2007 (Enrolled at UT Austin)

“If I had never gone to Harmony my life would probably be much different. If I never attended Harmony I don't think I would have as many friends as I do now. I also think that if I went to another school I would have received fewer opportunities than I received here at HSA. Going to HSA has also given me many life long connections which I feel will help me with my future.”

Samuel Giuffre, Harmony Class of 2007 (Enrolled at UT Austin)

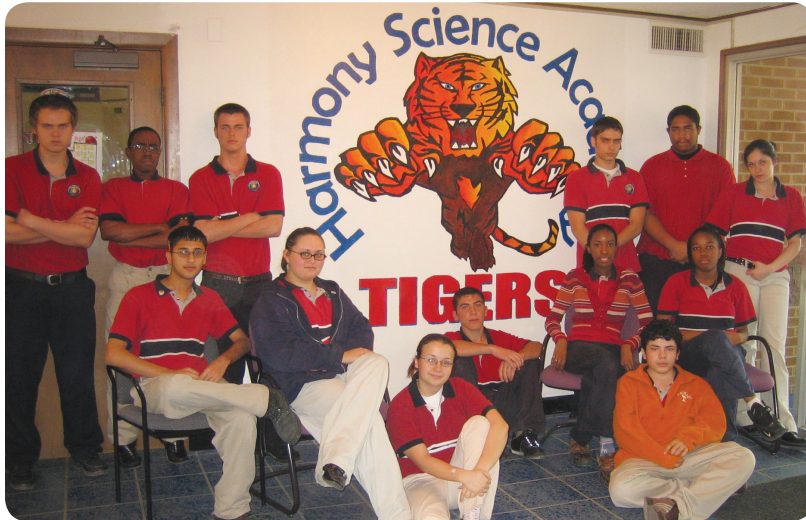
“Harmony Science Academy has given me opportunities that no other school could offer: small, interactive classrooms, peer tutorial programs, and even opportunities to work in university research labs and to travel abroad! These are the impetus for achievement and future success.”

Angelina Tran, Harmony Class of 2006 (Enrolled at Rice University)



COLLEGE READINESS

All Harmony graduates are Texas Scholars. Students follow either the Recommended High School Program, or the Distinguished High School Program, in addition, they complete at least two courses while in high school eligible for college credit.



College Counselling

Each student starting from 9th grade is assigned a faculty advisor. The student meets with the advisor on a regular basis to discuss issues related to academic progress and planning as well as to provide support and encouragement. The advisor serves as an advocate for the student and is the main contact person for parents.

College Planning

A Guidance Counsellor is available to students as they prepare for college. Students receive assistance with academic issues throughout high school including: PSAT/NMSQT, SAT test, college search, college application, financial aid process, scholarships, internship placements.

EARLY GRADUATION! EARLY START!

Students who plan to graduate in fewer than eight semesters will have this opportunity. Students at Harmony will have a chance to start college level work and earn college credits in the following ways ;

- ◆ Dual Credit Program
- ◆ College Board AP Courses
- ◆ CTE courses leading to a post-secondary certification
- ◆ College Board CLEP test

Harmony Guidance and Counseling Center offers scholarships/grants search opportunities that pay for college through coursework/community service hours and prestigious academic competitions



COLLEGE BOUND EDUCATION

The goal of high school programs at Harmony Schools is to prepare students for four year college and for life. To that end, the core curriculum in the high school grades are designed to give each student the essential elements of a college preparatory education along with the opportunity to engage in the exploration of intense study of particular fields of interest.



**Harmony Schools have
100% College Acceptance
and 0% Drop-out Rates**

THE PROJECT LEAD THE WAY

Harmony partnered with Project Lead the Way for its offering of a nationally recognized pre-engineering curriculum into its technology classes. The Harmony pre-engineering program includes a sequence of courses which combined with college preparatory mathematics and science courses in middle and high school, introduces students to the scope, rigor and discipline of engineering and engineering technology prior to entering college. The courses include Introduction to Engineering Design, Digital Electronics, Principles of Engineering, Civil Engineering and Architecture, Design & Modelling, The Science of Technology, Automation & Robotics, Aerospace Engineering and Biotechnology Engineering.



COLLEGE GOING SCHOOL CULTURE

Students will experience the following opportunities;

- ◆ Rigorous coursework to prepare themselves for college
- ◆ Advanced level Pre-AP courses starting as early as 6th grade
- ◆ Dual Credit Courses
- ◆ Variety of AP selection
- ◆ PSAT/SAT selections in grades 7-12
- ◆ Career Education classes in grades 9-12
- ◆ Interacting and studying with university professors/students
- ◆ Opportunity to communicate with Harmony alumni
- ◆ Attending college fairs throughout the high school years
- ◆ Participating in College Search Trips;
- ◆ One-on-one college counselling and early identification of appropriate career

**Harmony offers well equipped school
settings and technology integration
to respond the needs of our students.**



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