



4600 Lavell Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95403

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Tracy Kendall, Principal

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Frequently Asked Questions

What is a charter school?

Charter schools are innovative public schools that are accountable for student results. They are designed to deliver programs tailored to educational excellence and the needs of the communities they serve. They provide a choice for families to pick the school most suitable for their child’s needs. They provide teachers more freedom from the bureaucracy of a large school to allow focus on their students reaching high academic standards. Charter schools are accountable to local and state educational authorities for meeting the goals stated in the charter contract.

2017 English Language Arts SBAC Scores	State Scores	Mark West Charter School Scores
Exceeded	20.12%	19.67%
Met	28.44%	42.62%
Nearly Met	23.09%	28.69%
Not Met	28.35%	9.02%
2017 Math SBAC Scores	State Scores	Mark West Charter School Scores
Exceeded	17.6%	22.95%
Met	19.96%	26.23%
Nearly Met	26.59%	34.43%
Not Met	35.86%	16.39%

Is there tuition?

No, it is tuition free. MWCS is a public school, run as a non-profit organization, with its own budget and under guidance of the District. It is directly funded by the State of California based on attendance.

Where is it?

MWCS is in the Mark West School District and is currently located at the south end of the Mark West Elementary campus at 4600 Lavell Road in Santa Rosa.

Is it a “real” middle school?

Absolutely! The traditional 7th and 8th grade program at MWCS is organized (as are many middle schools and high schools) around a block structure with students moving to different rooms with different teachers for each block. Every student takes 2 academic blocks and 2 electives each day. One academic block is Math and Science and the other is Language Arts and Social Studies. Students have many choices for their elective classes including World Language, Technology, Art, Music, Critical Thinking, Drama, Garden, Teen Living and PE. The school shares a campus with Mark West Elementary School, and resides in buildings and classrooms dedicated to the charter school. MWCS honors all California State Educational Codes and local educational policies and regulations.



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Is there a sports program?

Yes, MWCS has both boys and girls basketball teams and a PE program.

What is special about Mark West Charter School?

The Mark West Charter School (MWCS) program has been designed to meet the needs of students whose families value high academic standards and foster their development into lifelong learners. The environment is academically demanding while remaining psychologically and physically safe, allowing the student to stay focused on the learning experience. A community connection is encouraged through family involvement and community service requirements. A traditional classroom based program is offered for grades 7 & 8 and an independent home study program for grades K through 8, which includes activities on campus.