

ANNUAL
REPORT

20
25



FROM THE MOUNTAIN TOP

A VIEW OF THE JOURNEY AHEAD



Top 10 Mountaintop Moments of 2025

UC/CSU ENROLLMENT ELIGIBILITY

9 out of 10

Rise Scholars
VS 3.8 out of 10
All California Students

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE

100%

TOTAL COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

117

SCHOLARSHIPS

\$800K+

Offered to the
Graduating Class



ACSI/WASC
6 Year
Accreditation



92%
Pass Rate For
AP Environment
Science



23
Largest Freshmen
Class Since
Inception



100%
Teacher Retention
with 1 New Hire



44%
Fundraising
Growth YOY for
the Past Two
Years



PARENT NPS SCORE
75
Or Better 8 Years
Running
(70 or higher is considered
world-class)

Reflection from the Head of School



100% of our hard working scholars graduated with offers from 4-year universities! God is on the move, and you're a part of how He is radically changing the trajectories of these young people through the best high school program that increases access to college for all our students.

This mission comes to life because of your partnership. In fact, this community partnership is at the heart of our vision. Our theory of change is that like-minded people will commit and walk with our scholars and thus weave a different kind of society and a different future. Arthur Brooks in *The Atlantic* talks about this kind of beauty that moral courage creates. In this unique time, we see the disadvantaged and vulnerable of our society being disregarded, pushed to the side more than ever. How crucial it is that we act with moral clarity and live with courage to continue to love our neighbor

as ourselves, our neighbor's children as our own, to unveil the beauty of God's beloved community.

In the next seven years, we are excited to expand our program, building back down to 6th grade to make Rise a 6th-12th grade school to capture that longer arc of transformation we've seen in the first two graduating classes. It's also imperative that we deepen our program for more students, for the full range of diverse students under our care. We want more SF State, UC Merced, UC Berkeley, and Princeton acceptances! As we journey

together into the next phase, may we be girded with faith and wisdom, and may we be delighted in all that God will do beyond our imagination.

With deep gratitude,



JULIETTE CHIEN
Head of School

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Part 1 *From the Mountaintop*

From the mountaintop, we pause to take stock of the journey—each winding path, steep climb, and hard-won step. Along the way, we've celebrated top school acceptances, earned accreditation, and achieved academic results that speak volumes of our collective effort. Strategic partnerships have paved new trails and expanded our reach, turning vision into reality.

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Part 2 *View of the Journey Ahead*

From the mountaintop, we not only see how far we've come but also recognize what lies ahead: the bold restart of our middle school, the pressing need for a new building, a clear timeline for growth with significant financial needs, and the essential work of repositioning for a stronger, more sustainable future.

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WASC/ACSI Accreditation

Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) /
Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI)

*“This school is
amazing—like
nothing else that
we’ve been to.”*



SHIRLEY HITCHCOCK
Chair of WASC/ACSI visiting
committee; Director of Accreditation
and Curriculum Coordinator,
member of the Senior Leadership
Team (Valley Christian School)

ACCREDITATION PROCESS

STEP 1

Self-Study & Peer Review

Conduct an internal review and host an external visiting team
to assess performance using a shared rubric.

STEP 2

Identify Strengths & Growth Areas

Collaboratively pinpoint what’s working well and where
improvement is needed.

STEP 3

Plan for the Future

Create and implement a strategic, mission-aligned
improvement plan to ensure long-term effectiveness.

The rigorous process affirmed Rise Prep’s commitment to excellence and to continuous improvement. The visiting committee commended the school for its fidelity to our mission, academic rigor, spiritual formation, and student well-being.

**Rise achieves highest accreditation
with its first site-visit with the
following 7 commendations:**



Audacious,
Christ-centered
mission serving
an underserved
community



Deep faculty-
student
relationships
rooted in
Christian
mentorship



Strong local
partnerships
extending
student learning
opportunities



Data-informed
decision-making
for instruction
and policy



Mission-aligned
college counseling
with 100%
acceptance rate



Tight-knit
community
prioritizing
student
well-being



Supportive
leadership
fostering teacher
growth and
accountability



Look for this badge
throughout the
following pages to
see excerpts from the
commendations report

Academic Rigor

At Rise, academic rigor means high expectations and no shortcuts. Students meet national standards through AP courses, scaffolded lessons, and support from dedicated teachers offering lunch sessions and mandatory office hours. Every student gets the chance to catch up and excel. See below where our students were admitted. Hear the stories from two graduates who thrived in the rigor and are going to two highly competitive colleges.



100%
Admission Into
4-Year Universities
2 Years In A Row



Number of College Offers
117



Rise University Prep offers a mission-driven academic advising and college counseling program, boasting a 100% acceptance rate into four-year universities, with opportunities beyond the classroom.

Academic Rigor - Student Spotlights



Lorenzo
Kelly

HOW DID RISE PREP PREPARE YOU WELL FOR ACADEMIC RIGOR AND COLLEGE?

Rise Prep prepared me for college through the rigorous course work that forces students to think critically about core subjects which, in my personal experience, has made me a more effective thinker. Rise prepared me for the communal aspects of college through collaborative projects that made me learn to lean on my peers for support when needed—which has more than adequately prepared me for college and beyond.

WILL BE ATTENDING



MAJOR

Early Childhood Studies

FAVORITE BOOK

If Beale Street Could Talk by James Baldwin or *Hyperion* by Dan Simmons

NAME A PARTICULAR INSTANCE DURING YOUR TIME AT RISE THAT PUSHED YOU AND CHALLENGED YOU ACADEMICALLY OR TO THINK DEEPLY.

One of the more vivid examples of an experience at Rise that challenged me deeply was the preparation for the AP test for Mr Kim's AP Literature and Composition class. Over the course of that year we had multiple early Saturday morning tests that pushed me to give my best effort even if I didn't feel like it. This was made even more challenging due to my lack of confidence in my abilities. But through the testing and Mr Kim's support, I built my confidence up which allowed me to do well on the official test.



Micayah
Chien

HOW DID RISE PREP PREPARE YOU WELL FOR ACADEMIC RIGOR AND COLLEGE?

I've always been a big talker, and I feel that Rise—through many Socratic seminars and debates and projects in small groups—has taught me to collaborate with others and have conversations that lead not just to an "answer," but perhaps even help us gradually approach a deeper view of the world.

NAME A PARTICULAR INSTANCE DURING YOUR TIME AT RISE THAT PUSHED YOU AND CHALLENGED YOU ACADEMICALLY OR TO THINK DEEPLY.

One instance during my time at Rise that pushed me to think deeply was a very interesting debate in AP Language on animal experimentation and whether it's an acceptable practice for medical and scientific research. Despite being assigned to the pro side, I honestly learned so much about both sides. My biggest takeaway, once we had finished the debate, was how hard it was to be wholly on one side or the other, and I think we all learned how nuanced and complicated topics like these can be.

WILL BE ATTENDING



MAJOR

English

FAVORITE BOOK

The Lord of the Rings by J.R.R. Tolkien

Academic Rigor - Performance

Rise students significantly outperform San Francisco and National benchmarks.

Rise Students Significantly Outperform District Students in UC Eligibility

RISE GRADUATES (9 OUT OF 10)*



SFUSD GRADUATES (1.9 OUT OF 10)**



* African American and Hispanic or Latino Graduates 2024-2025

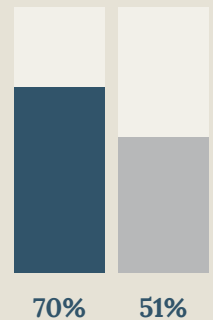
** African American and Hispanic or Latino Graduates 2023-2024

Rise Students Exceed Math and English ACT Benchmarks

RISE MATH
versus National
Benchmark

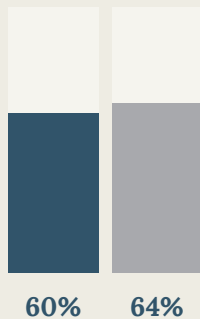


RISE ENGLISH
versus National
Benchmark

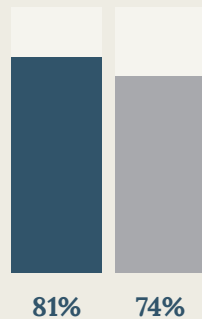


Rise Prep Pass Rates Exceed National Rates for 3 out of 4 AP exams

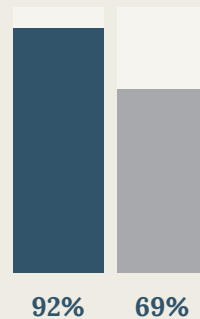
CALCULUS AB
versus National Rate



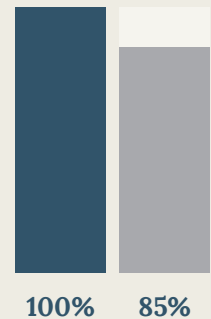
ENGLISH LANG COMP
versus National Rate



ENVIRON SCIENCE
versus National Rate



SPANISH LANGUAGE
versus National Rate



Academic Rigor - Graduation

We are overjoyed to report that for the **second consecutive year** our senior class has achieved 100% acceptance into college.



100%

of the graduating class
received scholarship offers

\$852,864

Scholarship amount offered to
graduating class



Relational Partners & Community - Advocates

The journey to the summit does not happen alone. Rise Prep seeks to contribute and be enriched by the beloved community in the Bayview and beyond as an expression of God's just kingdom.



DEANNA GATAM STEGER

We want every student to feel known and advocated for by 5+ people in the Rise community: teachers, tutors, financial supporters, and community members.

Deanna Gatam Steger (Class of 2025) will be pursuing dentistry at the University of the Pacific. These adults in her life have been instrumental in opening up that future for her.



**1 DR. RUBIN SORRELL,
FOUNDER OF DENTAL
ROBIN HOOD**



**2 DR. BRYANT LAU,
ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL
SURGERY RESIDENT AT UCSF**



**3 JOANNE WONG-LAM,
SCHOLAR ADVOCATE**



**4 DR. KAREN YEE,
DENTIST**



**5 TIM CAHILL,
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**

Relational Partners & Community - Local Partners

Local partnerships at Rise provide a variety of experiences and opportunities our students would not otherwise have. They also cohere and bless the neighborhood as a whole.



Rise Prep's networking with local partners is a notable strength, providing students with opportunities beyond the classroom.



Photo by Junyao Yang on March 19, 2025

Relational Partners & Community - Senior Thesis

With each new senior class, the senior thesis project becomes more robust, addressing issues that have impact on the local and global community.

**“The Ethics and
Morality of Invasive
Species Eradication”**



KAYLENE CHAN

**“Suicide: Community
Solutions for
Preventable Deaths”**



LANIYA DORADO-BOYD

**“From Fandom to
Stalking: Cause and
Effect of Imagined
Communities,
Celebrity-Fan
Relationships, and
Implications on
Society”**



GABRIEL ROINÉ

**“100% Polyester,
100% Pollution, 100%
Consumer Decision:
Fast Fashion—
An Unrelenting
Humanitarian and
Environmental
Disaster”**



CHRISTA GREENHILL

**“War on Drugs: The
Detrimental Effect
of Incarceration
on Marginalized
Communities”**



ZACHARIAH PERRY

**“The Struggles of
Undocumented
Immigrants in
Health Care”**



JIMENA SOLIS

Whole Family Flourishing

Rise Prep's approach to learning and human development inspires student and family flourishing, as we all come to embrace our full identity as children of God.

Jimena, Class of 2025 and first-gen student, shares Rise's impact on her and her family's life

Being first-gen means growing up watching your parents struggle to provide you with every opportunity to be successful, having parents who couldn't help with anything related to school and feeling alone but knowing they're trying their best, feeling proud of your successes and breaking barriers for everyone who comes after you. It also means navigating spaces my parents never had access to, figuring things out on my own and sometimes it feels like there's no blueprint. But it also means being proof that the sacrifices that your parents have made for you are worth it.

As a first-gen, I was honestly confused with everything, college applications, college essays, especially FAFSA. And without realizing it until I really needed

it, I realized I had the privilege of having a community here at Rise that helped me out throughout every little step when it came to applying to colleges, accepting offers, going through my offers and many more things. But the staff here at Rise, especially Mrs. Bailey, and my friends were able to help me whenever I needed it without making me feel dumb. That's something I honestly didn't know I needed or was worth seeking and without realizing it was right here with me all along. Rise was the perfect place for me to be me and to also help me, a first-gen student.

Dedico este discurso a mis padres, quienes lo dieron todo para que yo pudiera lograr cualquier cosa, los quiero, gracias.



JIMENA SOLIS



Rise University Prep is a caring, tight-knit community that places student well-being at the heart of their organization.

Families find a welcoming home at Rise



Prince (2025) and Paris (2028)

10

Number of students who are siblings of other Rise students and graduates

"We are extremely satisfied and happy with what we've received at Rise. We love the mission and are grateful to be a part of it. We definitely recommend it for families who would be well served, particularly those who might fall through the cracks at a large public school."

- RISE PARENT

Hope in God

Ultimately, it is hope in our big, loving God that fuels everything we do and focuses us on where we are headed. His binding love compels us to reflect that love in our present time and place as His kingdom breaks in upon our sidewalks. Our vision is rooted in a Biblical sense of Jubilee, which is the undoing of gross inequities and reclaiming God's good and bountiful apportionment to each community to flourish.

"Whether it's Mr. Chin asking me how I'm doing whenever I pass him in the hallway, Mr. Cahill inviting the entire senior class over to his house for dinner, or teachers noticing I was out sick even when I didn't have their class that day, I know that the teachers and staff are invested in caring for me not just academically, but holistically. By extending God's love and care toward others, the faculty model the Christian life for the students."



AMANDA CRAWFORD



76%

of respondents feel like they are coming to a greater understanding of how God created, sustains and works in the world and them.



74%

of respondents believe that their Bible courses have helped them understand the biblical story and Christian faith to a great or very great extent.



Rise University Prep cultivates an environment where students are recognized and supported through meaningful connections with faculty and staff. Faculty model the Christian life for their students.

Part 2

View of the Journey Ahead

From the mountaintop, we not only see how far we've come but also recognize what lies ahead: the bold restart of our middle school, the pressing need for a new building, a clear timeline for growth with significant financial needs, and the essential work of repositioning for a stronger, more sustainable future.

KEY INITIATIVES

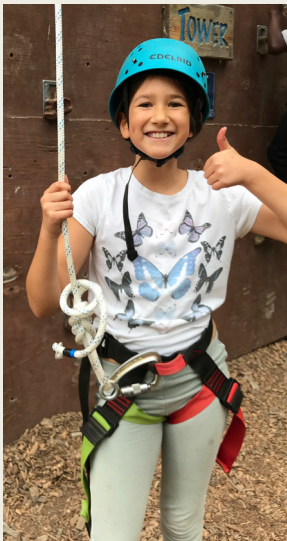
1 Bringing Back the Middle School

2 Expanding Campus Footprint

3 Hiring for Sustainable Financial Growth

Restart of the Middle School

This plateau opens a vista to recognize the importance of seven years (6th-12th grade) to student success at Rise. The view ahead has inspired us to restart the middle school in 2026-2027.



Impetus to Restart the Middle School

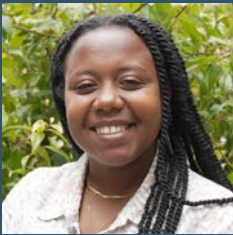
- 1

7 years is optimal in getting students academically ready for college.
- 2

6th-8th grade are pivotal years in building character and academic skills in our scholars.
- 3

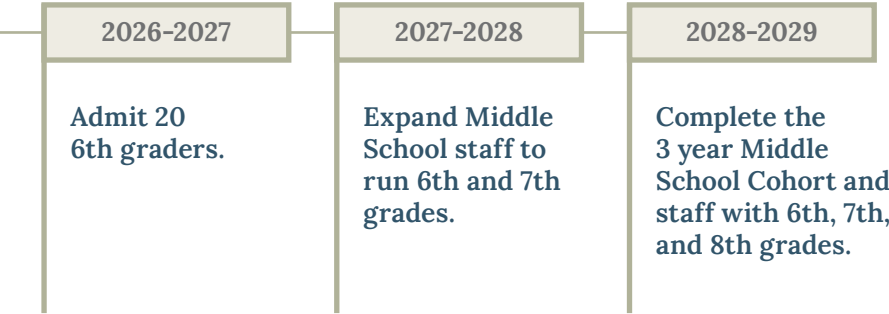
Middle school provides a sustainable pipeline of students and families into high school.

Mek Yeeles



Ms. Yeeles joins us after 4 years at PacBay School in Pacifica where she was middle school teacher and coach. This year, Ms. Yeeles is the Student Success Coordinator (HS) and Middle School Initiator.

Middle School Timeline



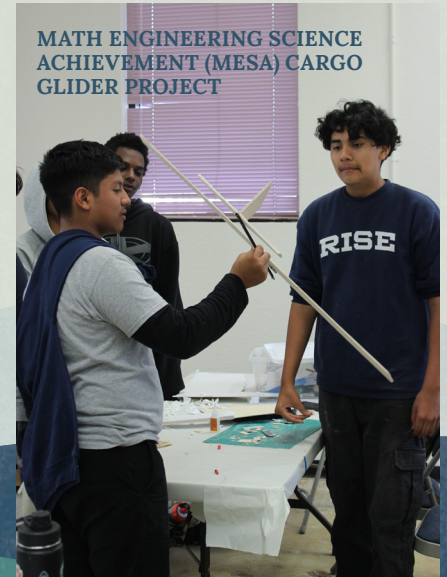
Expanding Campus Footprint

Last year, we were able to expand our campus footprint to across the street at 1275 Fairfax where we held our Art and STEAM classes. This year, Art, STEAM, and Science will be held in this new location. And starting in 2027-2028, we will need to find more space as we grow the middle school.



Campus Expansion Timeline

2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029
Art, STEAM, Science classes in 1275 Fairfax. All other classes and 6th grade at 1224 Fairfax.	Will need to rent more space to accommodate 6 grades (4 HS and 2 MS).	Find a new campus for both HS and MS, or find two close locations for HS and MS.



Sustainable Financial Growth

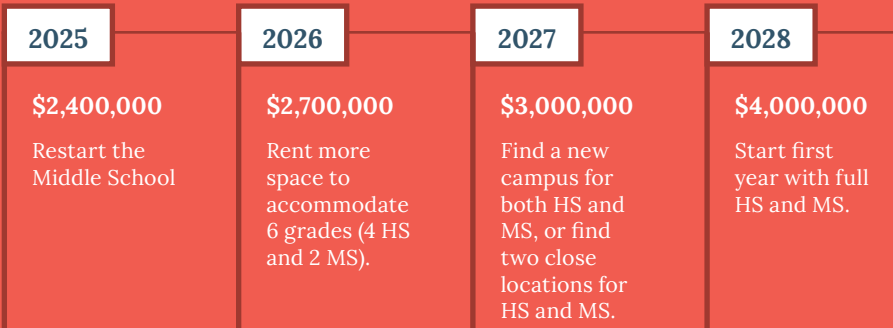
Rise continues to plan its fundraising and hiring goals in alignment with the major initiatives in the journey ahead.

RISE PREP FINANCIAL SUPPORT	This Year 2024-2025	Last Year 2023-2024
EXPENSES		
Personnel Costs	1,485,778.04	1,210,307.28
Student and Instructional Services	261,995.73	288,957.24
Administrative Costs	348,401.77	323,353.76
Occupancy Costs	232,089.04	401,314.92
	2,328,264.58	2,223,933.20
INCOME		
Donated Professional Services & Facilities	269,212.77	193,418.45
Churches	115,250.00	84,200.00
Government Grants	-	109,928.66
Tuition-Family Contribution	111,629.69	121,344.35
Foundations	122,604.17	12,011.65
Non-Cash Contribution	61,239.81	41,349.88
Corporations	51,247.01	32,036.00
Other Income	9,043.28	4,370.90
Other Fundraised Donations	643,563.09	270,523.64
Individual Donors	797,991.73	981,666.45
	2,181,781.55	1,850,849.98
Net Income	(146,483.03)	(373,083.22)



Fundraising Goals

In the next 3-5 years, we must double our revenue to account for our new hires and growing physical space needs. Please prayerfully consider contributing to this vision we see ahead of us.



New Trailblazers

Our New 9th Grade Class

Our new 9th grade scholars need advocates. If you are interested in supporting a scholar, please email Madison Wagner at mwagner@riseprep.org.



HERO



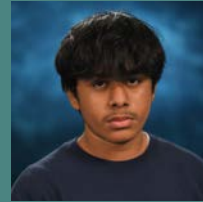
ALONZO



MICHAEL



JOEL



FRED



DAMARIAH



STEVEN



ALONNAH



OLIVIA



MJ



CHRISTIANE



SAH'RAI



MARIBEL



BRYAN



ASHLY



GABRIELLA



MELISSA



ISAIAS



ISABELLA



CITLALY



BROOKLYNN

Our Team

Our **100% teacher retention rate** reflects a strong culture of trust, purpose, and shared commitment.



JULIETTE CHIEN
Head of School



JEFF BOYD
High School Principal



TIM CAHILL
Assistant Principal



DANNY KIM
Director of Development



JOANNA BOYD
Teacher
Social Studies / Choir



JONNY CHIN
Teacher
Science



DAN YAMAMOTO
Teacher
Math / Computer Science



JANELLE BAILEY
College Counselor



MARCUS BAILEY
Counselor / Teacher
Bible



PATRICIA FONG
Teacher
English / Art



LUIS GARCIA
Teacher
Spanish / Science



MARGARITA GUEVARA
Teacher
History



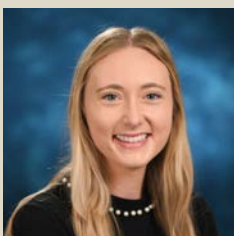
KRISTIN RAY
Counselor / Teacher
Athletic Director



JENNIFER JEONG
Administrative Assistant



HANNA LEONARD
Development Manager



MADISON WAGNER
Development Manager



MEK YEELES
Student Success Coordinator,
Middle School Initiator

You are Invited to the 8th Annual Rise Gala!



[REGISTER](#)

FROM THE MOUNTAINTOP A VIEW OF THE JOURNEY AHEAD

See what we see!

We have so much to share about what we see from this first summit. Join us for our 8th annual Rise Prep Gala, as we come together to champion our students, faculty and community. We are excited to host you at the San Francisco Design Center for an evening of celebration, auction fun, performances and community.

WHEN

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2025, 6PM

WHERE

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SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103





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