



## **WESTLAKE CHARTER SCHOOL**

### **Strategic Objectives for 2009-2010**

#### **Goal Area - 1: Academic Excellence**

The Westlake Charter School has a rigorous educational program/curriculum that has narrowed the achievement gap and resulted in its student body achieving excellence as defined by broadly accepted standards.

##### **Objective 1.4 – Continue to diversify the methods of evaluating student success**

- **NWEA**
- **Backward Design**
- **Assessment Binders**
- **Specialty class assessments and cross reporting to home room teachers**

##### **Objective 1.3 - Develop an array of intervention and enrichment strategies that help all students achieve success**

- **Math intervention all grade levels**
- **Summer Intervention Program for below basic students**
- **Responsive classroom**
- **Gate clusters for high achievers**

#### **Goal Area 2: Educational Philosophy**

The Westlake Charter School provides educational and personal development opportunities that are specific to a student's unique interests and needs. These opportunities:

- Cultivate an international mindset while developing an awareness of and appreciation for each student's own culture
- Lead to proficiency in communicating in a foreign language
- Are infused throughout every aspect of the school including its curriculum, physical/extracurricular activities, facilities, etc.

##### **Objective 2.1 – Create a variety of hands-on, project-based units that foster students' interests and global understanding through strategic curriculum design**

- **Strategic design of units**
- **Staff collaboration**

##### **Objective 2.5 - Develop regularly structured extracurricular activities to foster student interests and life-long learning**

- **After school enrichment programs**

### **Goal Area 3: School Culture**

Students, teachers, administrators, and parents associated with the Westlake Charter School are a proud and committed community of individuals who inspire each other to contribute to the achievement of the school's goals.

**Objective 3.5 – Increase the school community's understanding of Westlake Charter School's core ideology and goals to foster a sense of personal ownership.**

- Student Assemblies
- Town Hall Meetings

**Objective 3.8 – Adopt and adhere to clear and consistent processes, policies and procedures.**

- Parent/Student Handbook
- Staff Handbook

### **Goal Area 4: School Infrastructure and Facilities**

The Westlake Charter School has in place effective governance and operational structures that ensure the school's ability to:

- Be financially sound
- Remain nimble and flexible
- Provide the necessary resources, materials and training to achieve its academic and educational philosophy goals
- Develop a permanent school site

**Objective 4.2 – Increase year-to-year budget revenues**

- Fundraising
- Grants
- Focus on student attendance

**Objective 4.7 – Step-up efforts to develop a long-term facilities plan with the Natomas Unified School District**

- Increase interaction with NUSD trustees
- Facilities committee

**Objective 4.8 – Increase teacher collaboration across and among grade-levels**

- Early out Wednesdays

**Objective 4.5 – Increase availability of student and staff instructional resources**

- Curriculum Coordinator
- Computers and Literacy resources

## **Goal Area 5: Community Connection**

Westlake Charter School is broadly recognized for its academic excellence, its active involvement within the community and as a highly respected learning environment.

**Objective 5.4 – Increase the frequency of WCS interaction with community leaders.**

**Objective 5.2 – Increase participation in academic community endeavors**

- **Odyssey of the mind**

**Objective 5.3 – Increase participation of WCS stakeholders in community and global service events and projects**

- **Pennies for Peace**
- **Walk to school Wednesdays**
- **Heifer Project**



# WESTLAKE CHARTER SCHOOL 5-10 YEAR PLANNING HORIZO

## ~ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT THE RELEVANT FUTURE ~

“In order to make progress towards achieving the 10-30 year Big Audacious Goal; an organization must constantly anticipate the strategic factors likely to affect its ability to succeed, and to assess the implications of those factors. This process of building foresight about the future will help Westlake Charter School to constantly recalibrate its view of the relevant future, a basis upon which to update the strategic plan on an annual basis. As the outcome-oriented goals that will form the basis of the long-range strategic plan will be based on this foresight, annual review of the statements will be an appropriate method of determining and ensuring the ongoing relevance o the strategic plan.”

**Assumptions** – During the April 13 meeting, the core group of leaders made several assumptions about the future that are likely to drive the educational/developments needs of today. These were revised on June 15, 2009 pursuant to information obtained through the feedback process.

### Global

1. Significant innovations and advances in technology will increasingly be developed by countries other than the US
2. Evolving technology, politics, and transportation will make the world “smaller”
3. Our economy will become increasingly global in nature
4. Demands on our environment and natural resources will necessitate increasing cooperation among nations to develop environmental awareness and effective conservation efforts
5. Increases in immigration and interracial relationships will result in increasing ethnic blending/diversity in our country and internationally
6. There will be many opportunities to learn valuable lessons from actions/events of other societies/cultures

### Educational

1. There will likely be certain economic and political pressures that make it increasingly difficult for teachers to succeed. It will be important to maintain /develop revenue resources.
2. There will likely be a continued focus on rigid standards/test scores as a continued measure of success, but parents and educators find other critical factors to be measured.
3. There will be a continual focus on rigid standards/test scores that will increase
4. School sizes will be smaller
5. Parents, teachers and students will be increasingly open to non-traditional methods of education including technological advances

### Societal

1. Knowledge is changing at an exponential rate
2. Most individuals will have multiple careers in their lifetimes

Implications for the charter school: If these assumptions hold to be true, several implications could be drawn for the school including:

- A significant degree of understanding, and respect for other cultures/nations will be required for individuals to function effectively in the future
- A great amount of creativity will be needed to facilitate effective educational experiences and necessary parent involvement
- Educational programs need to ensure children master critical skills, and also how to work effectively with diverse types of individuals, how to think, how to communicate and how to learn throughout their lives.

### Economic

1. Need to find additional sources of revenue
2. Pressure to increase class size
3. Increased difficulty of fundraising
4. Students/teachers/parents strain for success