

Silicon Valley Flex Academy

ANNUAL CHARTER SCHOOL

BOARD REPORT

2011-2012



Submitted by Jean Southland, Head of School

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Highlights

- Silicon Valley Flex opened its doors on September 6, 2011 in a temporary facility. We have been welcomed into the community and have wonderful support from our families. The staff is working hard each day to provide an engaging and rigorous blended learning experience for each child. Our school culture is developing, and we continue to refine our instructional practices and the use of data to drive our instruction, ensuring that the individual learning needs of each student are met.
- The Parent Teacher Organization has been established and they have been active in planning several student and family events. The Parent Teacher Organization events include a Family BBQ and Softball Game, Two Middle-School Dances, Fundraising event for 6th grade Science Camp, Holiday Book Drive for Community Solutions, Student Collaborative Art Project, Holiday Food Drive.
- After working closely with the City of Morgan Hill, and working through an appeal process, Silicon Valley Flex received approval to move into its permanent facility. The move date will be January 23, 2012. Students will benefit from a learning environment that has been designed to support and enhance their blended learning experience. They will have access to a science lab that will enable them to engage in hands on learning, as well as a variety of learning and collaborative spaces.

School Location and Facility

a. Location

Silicon Valley Flex Academy's location until January 20th is at 305 W. Main Avenue, Morgan Hill, CA 95037. Beginning January 23rd, Silicon Valley Flex will move to a facility, located within a Commercial Business Park, at 610 Jarvis Drive, Morgan Hill, CA 95037.

b. Current Facility Arrangement

The facility at 305 W. Main Avenue is a temporary lease in church space. The facility at 610 Jarvis has a signed lease and an approved conditional use permit.

c. Current Facility Capacity

The capacity of the temporary facility is 250 students. The capacity of the permanent facility is 650 students.

Special Features: Our permanent facility features large, functional learning labs and classrooms. This location also has easy and safe access to public transportation. The facility is designed and constructed to meet Americans with Disabilities Act, (ADA) standard needs, including an elevator. Best Wave monitors will be used throughout the learning labs to inform students of daily schedules, assignments and school messages.

d. Length of Lease

The length of the lease in the temporary facility is one school year. The permanent facility has a ten year lease, with protection in the event of a school closure.



**610 Jarvis Drive (Permanent Location)
Morgan Hill, CA 95037**



**305 W. Main Ave. (Temporary)
Morgan Hill, CA 95037**

Enrollment and Registration

a. Enrollment and Demographics

The current number of enrolled students at Silicon Valley Flex Academy is 152 students. The ethnic and racial demographics is detailed in the chart below.

	Hispanic/ Latino	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian/ Pacific Islander	African American	White	Other	Undefined
Santa Clara County	38%	< 1%	27%	3%	23%	<1%	<1%
Silicon Valley Flex	17%	<1%	<1%	5%	59%	10%	7%
	26 students	1 student	2 students	7 students	90 students	15 students	11 students

b. Enrollment and Registration

Silicon Valley Flex Academy aims to attract a diverse population of students who are representative of the general population residing in Santa Clara County. Our ongoing efforts to attract and enroll families will have an intensified focus on reaching out to the large and diverse populations in Santa Clara County. Public transportation into Morgan Hill is a limiting factor and we are working with our carpool committee to increase the availability of ride share options. In order to accomplish this Enrollment Coordinator and Administrative Staff will employ a variety of strategies to market to, inform and provide bilingual enrollment assistance to the diverse groups within the enrollment area. These include but are not limited to:

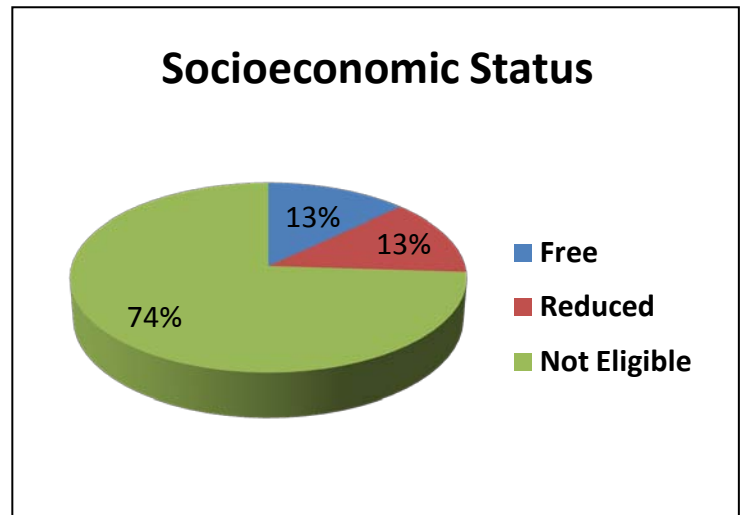
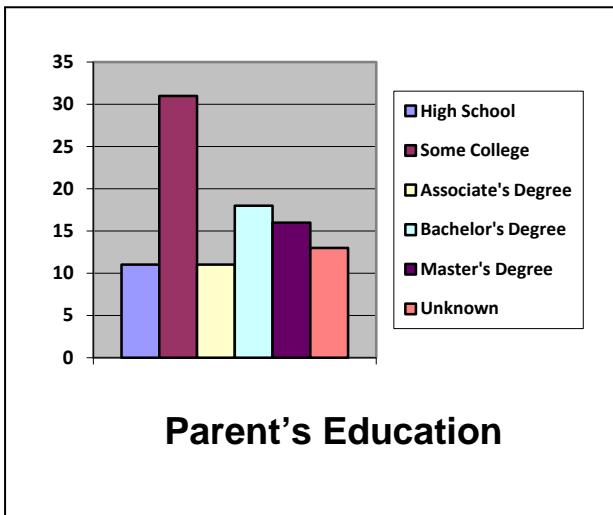
- Community information meetings – presented in both English and Spanish
- Outreach to parent organizations
- Advertising in local newspapers, flyers in local businesses
- Presence at local community fairs, such as Morgan Hill’s Mushroom Mardi Gras

- School Tours
- School Events open to the community, such as Picnic in the Park
- Flyers at local Youth Center
- Silicon Valley Flex website and Facebook page

As a result of many of these outreach efforts prior to the start of the 2011-2012 school year, 265 applications were received for grades 6-12. The number of applicants disaggregated by District of Residence can be found in the graph below.

District	Number of Applicants
Morgan Hill Unified School District	165
Gilroy Unified School District	30
Oak Grove School District	20
East Side Union High School District	15
San Jose Unified School District	13
Other	22

c. Socioeconomic Status of Students and Parent Education Level



d. Retention and Attrition

Silicon Valley Flex has maintained reasonable retention rates. As a new, blended learning model, some students and families found in the first weeks of school that they were not quite ready for a jump from a traditional textbook driven instructional delivery to a blended, online delivery approach. We began our school year with 169 students and currently have 152 students.

Teachers and Classified Staff

a. Demographics

POSITION	TOTAL	LATINO	MIXED	WHITE		FEMALE	MALE
Certificated	6	1		5		5	1
Administrative	2		1	1		2	
Support	4			4		4	

b. Retention Rates

As a new school, the staff is very excited and committed to offering another choice in education, especially one that is innovative. Our doors have only been open for a little over four months and we have retained 100% of our staff.

Board Members

a. Board members

The individuals that make up the Silicon Valley Flex Board are a group of community members committed to ensuring that our school stays true to our mission to provide all students with a quality, blend-learning educational experience. Their backgrounds represent a well rounded body of expertise in and outside the field of education. The board consists of three men and two women. The professional experience is listed below:

- Chief Credit Officer
- Attorney
- Educational Researcher
- Charter School Expert and Innovator
- Former College Dean

b. Brown Act

The Silicon Valley Flex Board adheres to the Brown Act.

c. Conflict of Interest

The board has a formal conflict of interest policy with clear recusal policies.

Satisfaction Survey

- a. A satisfaction survey will be distributed to staff, families and students in early spring. It will measure their overall satisfaction with the learning environment, instruction, communication, school activities, facility, and their intent to return.

Growth Plans

- a. Silicon Valley Flex would like to focus on increasing enrollment in grades 6-8 to 130 students, and in grades 9-12 to 150 students.

Special Programs

a. Special Education

% of Students in Special Education	Silicon Valley Flex	Morgan Hill Unified	Santa Clara County
	13%	11%	10%

b. Special Education Services

Silicon Valley Flex Academy works collaboratively with the El Dorado County Selpa to provide the necessary services for our Special Education students. We have a full-time Resource Teacher on-site each day. We also offer Speech and Language, and Occupational Therapy services. Students are served based on their needs and requirements as established in their IEP.

c. English Language Learners

% of English Language Learners	Silicon Valley Flex	Morgan Hill Unified	Santa Clara County
	<1% (8 students)	23%	47%

d. Program for English Language Learners

Silicon Valley Flex Academy complies with all applicable federal laws in regard to services and the education of English Learners (EL) students. This includes student identification, annual testing and notification to parents, teacher qualifications, reclassification to Fluent English Proficient (FEP) status, monitoring and evaluation of student progress, and standardized testing requirements.

EL students have daily access to the online core curriculum, direct support from core teachers, and supplemental curriculum tailored to meet their language acquisition needs. EL students receive core content instruction and support that is appropriate for English proficiency and grade levels. In addition, the instructional program is designed to promote language acquisition and proficiency, oral language development, and enriched learning opportunities in the following ways.

- Students interact through cooperative learning activities
- Students make oral presentations across the core curriculum
- Students collaborate for group performance and reports

Fundraising

a. Fundraising Methodology

As a new school our Parent Teacher Organization and fundraising efforts are just beginning to take shape. We have recently finished up a drive to raise funds to offset the cost of Science Camp for our 6th grade students and to provide scholarships as needed. Our next fundraiser will be a Book Fair to be held in the spring. Our future fundraising efforts will focus on events that bring the school community together and have focused goals for raising money for school activities and projects.

b. Parent Donations

Silicon Valley Flex does not require parents to make contributions to the school. As we pursue fundraising opportunities for our school, we will hope that families will feel well connected to our school and will want to contribute towards special projects and school activities. Families that are unable to make financial donations to the school can make their support felt by supporting their child's learning, the school mission, and by volunteering.

c. Current Fiscal Position

Silicon Valley Flex Academy is currently tracking well within our established budget. Careful oversight of expenditures and costs are maintained.

Foundation Donations and Other Grants

- a. At this time the school does not receive any foundation donations.
- b. We have applied for the Public Charter Schools Grant (PCSG).

Replicable Practices

Silicon Valley Flex Academy brings a new and innovation learning model to the current educational system. It is our intent to share our blended learning model with other schools who may be interested in incorporating online learning into the delivery of their curriculum. As a new school we are closely tracking student data to monitor progress towards mastery of state standards, as well as their progress toward becoming self-disciplined, focused students.

School Dates

Spring Open House	May 17 th	5:00 – 7:00 P.M.
8 th Grade Promotion	June 19 th	5:30 P.M.
12 th Grade Graduation	June 20 th	5:30 P.M.