



Passion Powered Learning



STRATEGIC PLAN 2017-2018

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Strategic Plan Background

River Oaks Academy Charter School (ROA) was organized as a California Charter School in 2010, with our innovative program available to families

throughout the greater Los Angeles and Ventura County areas. ROA has successfully renewed its charter in 2015 for another five years.

ROA was chartered to provide an educational option designed to draw out the brilliance in each individual student by developing his or her interests, gifts, talents and passions. To accomplish this goal, our most significant collaboration, by the very nature of our design, is with our parents and the committed teachers, who partner with the families to be fully involved in their children’s education. ROA is a hybrid – providing the option of a predominantly individualized independent study program with the benefits of onsite academic and enrichment classes. ROA believes children learn best through an environment built on relationship, individualized structure and emergent curriculum. Within this process, we aim at creating an environment that nurtures passion.

The River Oaks Academy Charter School Strategic Plan was created with the participation of parents, faculty, board members and its staff. It is with this strategic plan that ROA will focus its energy in providing the support and options necessary to enable our community of learners to be taught in ways that they learn best, to find and nurture their passions, and prepare our students for twenty-first century careers.

The River Oaks Academy Charter School Strategic Plan is a living document, reflecting the interests, issues and desired advancements over the next year. It can and will change to meet the needs of our ROA community, as we strive to provide an environment where our students excel.



[Board Approved: _____]



MISSION STATEMENT

River Oaks Academy (ROA) is founded on the belief that all children are born with the capacity for brilliance. Our mission is to help children find, nurture and sustain the passion that will lead to their individual forms of brilliance. To this end, we offer a non-traditional K-12 independent study program of individually designed curriculum and direction.

VISION STATEMENT

ROA will continue to grow as a community of self-motivated, competent, lifelong learners—children, teachers and parents, in partnership—who seek to nurture and support the innate gifts of all participants.

We will prepare students for twenty-first century careers, and to live as members of a democratic society through an interdisciplinary educational experience. ROA students are creative, out-of-the box learners, thinkers and doers. They thrive in an environment of individualized learning and direction, with a parent-teacher team dedicated to helping them find and develop their talents and passions. Our program is exploration-based and creative, providing children with the opportunity to address the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) by gathering information and demonstrating their learning as they focus on developing their individual talents.

The ROA program incorporates onsite classes for enrichment, socialization and collaboration, along with parent participation in schoolbased activities. It also provides parent education on how to support their children in an independent study environment based on exploration and creativity. We also provide technology-oriented learning activities to prepare our students for college and career readiness, while encouraging them to develop and share their passions. Our students are given the opportunity to utilize technology through various mediums: e.g., websites, web blogs, streaming video, and online businesses.



STRATEGIC PLAN **AREAS of FOCUS**

The following Areas of Focus are in alignment with ROA’s Mission and Vision:

Teaching and Learning

Pages 6-9

Goal A

Page 6-7

Goal B

Pages 8-9

[Board

Approved: _____]



Staff Development and Training	Page 10
Technology	Page 11
Budget	Page 12
Oxnard Resource Center	Page 13
Board Development and Training	Page 14
Annual and Future Requirement (Informational only)	Page 15

STRATEGIC PLAN
GOALS and AREAS Of FOCUS
2017-18

Each designated Goal that is included under an Area of Focus furthers the implementation of:

- Our mission to help students find, nurture and sustain their passion by offering a non-traditional independent study program, with individually designed curriculum and direction.
- Partnering with parents in accordance with the mission of the charter.

On the following pages, the ROA Board has identified the *Goals* within the *Areas of Focus* that are instrumental in pursuing the mission of River Oaks Academy. The Goals are compiled from the *WASC Action Plan* and *ROA's 2017-18 LCAP*. **The goals were compiled in collaboration with all stakeholders, including parents, teachers, board members and other staff members' input.**



Area of Focus

TEACHING AND LEARNING

ROA completed the WASC (Western Association of Schools and Colleges) reaccreditation process in 2014-2015 and received an accreditation status through June 30, 2021, and the WASC Schoolwide Action Plan was adopted. A written update on the progress of our WASC Action Plan goals will be required during the 2017-18 school year.

In addition, ROA established its 2017-18 LCAP Goals. The following goals are compiled from these two documents as the 2017-18 focus goals.

(Goal A) Increase student achievement in the areas of Mathematics

What?

- Continue to implement a variety of strategies and utilize resources to support all students in the area of math in order to increase student achievement in mathematics.
- Students who scored at Level 2 (Standard Nearly Met) and Standard 1 (Standard Not Met) on the 2017 CAASPP test results will be identified for additional support, including one-on-one tutoring.
- Continue to address cultural barriers to testing

How?

- Continue to facilitate and implement the development of a shared vision for the achievement in math for all students based on data from a variety of resources

[Board Approved: _____]



- Identify and address any barriers to accomplish the vision
- Discuss with staff known issues, such as common culture of anti-testing, and implement strategies to diminish those. Continue to shape a culture of high expectations among all stakeholders
- Use an early identification process (September) of students who need additional support.
- Research and add additional online resources to support student learning
- Review tutor results and if needed, recruit and hire additional high-quality tutors
- Increase tutoring support to at least one hour/week for students who scored at Level 1 (Standard Not Met). Strongly recommend tutoring to students who scored at Level 2 (Standard Nearly Met). Start tutoring support in mid-September
- Offer additional parent support in math during parent boot camps. Staff will focus at least one boot camp/month on math topics
- Offer additional opportunities for students to work with a credentialed teacher. Offer daily focus rooms and math labs staffed with math specialists. Offer math workshop.
- Continue the implementation of the online platform called “Edgenuity”, an online program that offers Common Core aligned math to all grades in a structured and systematic format. Distribute the Triumph Learning math books to students who scored at Level 1 and 2.

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Offer 3-4 Pizza and Prep days. Target grades 3-8 and 11. Use i-Ready assessments; ACT Aspire; SAT/ACT scores and other assessments to measure growth.
Train key staff on the Interim Assessments and develop a 2nd year pilot implementation.

2017-18 CAASPP results will not be available for analysis and review until July/August, 2018.

[Board Approved: 9/16/2017]



TEACHING AND LEARNING

(Goal B) Expand the High School and the College and Career Pathway program

What?

- Continue to expand the school's College and Career Pathway Program by adding Networking workshops.
- Hold regular meetings with the Advisory Board.
- Add the continuation to the first Legal pathway and continue to work on the articulation of the pathway with the community colleges.
- Add the continuation to the first Hospitality pathway class and continue to work on the articulation of the pathway with the community colleges.
- Continue to offer the WEE program.
- Promote the program within ROA to attract more students into our three pathways.
- Develop and offer a ROA career-technical (CTE) course in the legal, hospitality and networking pathways as specified by the CTE in our SIS to meet accountability (Dashboard) requirements for high school students.
- Further the development and integration of career-relevant curriculum and class offerings.
- Offer support to all students in pursuit of academic excellence.
- Continue to add to the current "a-g" courses based on student need and interest.
- Continue to build and coordinate the Guidance Program for high school students.
- Insure that 95% of our high school students meet with the guidance counselor 2x/year.
- Finalize the NCAA accreditation procedures
- Pursue possible summer school (high school) opportunity at the Oxnard center
- Increase our School Profile
- Offer a "College Information Night"
- Enhance the "Counselor's Corner" on the ROA website
- Convene stakeholders to give ROA HS its own identity

How?

- Continue to work with the VCI on articulating the pathways (Legal, Hospitality and Networking).

- Conduct Advisory Committee meetings 3x/year. Include new and existing business partners to strategize and improve the career pathway program offerings.
- Monitor the number of students who have selected a pathway.
- Organize and offer field trips.
- Organize and offer guest speakers.

- Work on securing internships and job-shadowing opportunities.
- Complete and collect all data, required budget reporting and mid-year narrative as per CCPT grant requirements.
- Update board on monthly progress.
- Develop the ROA Cornerstone program to support students' emotional/social needs.
- Monitor and review the students 10 year plans
- Offer student employability workshops throughout the year.
- Allow Hospitality students to practice skills by helping to organize events (Holiday parties; Year-end/Graduation celebration; etc.)
- Develop a schedule for a-g course revision and update for 2018-19
- Submit for additional "a-g" courses for the 2018-19 school year as per student need and interest
- Offer High School Information sessions
- Offer College Information Night
- Work to enhance Counselor's Corner on website with web staff and guidance counselor
- Enhance School Profile

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- Convene stakeholders to discuss options and possibilities to identify and brand ROA's High School

9





Area of Focus
STAFF DEVELOPMENT

AND TRAINING

(Goal A) Provide on-going professional development opportunities to all staff

What?

- Staff members attend professional development in their areas of their expertise
- Staff members will continue the training in the area of “Interim Assessments”
- Staff will train and become coaches and leaders in their preferred areas and share that knowledge with their colleagues during staff meetings and with parents during parent boot camps

How?

Professional staff development may include the following:

- New student support and online platforms (Study Sync; YUP; Dream Box; Triumph curriculum).
- Interim Assessments (attend workshops at the VCOE)
- Training in area of math support and practices/math leadership conferences (VCOE workshops)
- Implementation of effective strategies for collaboration with parents, including the Parent Boot Camps
- Training in area of English Language Arts Development (CATE Conference/CCSA)
- Training in areas of STEAM (STEAM conferences/Maker’s Fair)
- Conferences pertaining to Independent Study (CCSA/APlus)
- Maker’s Fair conference
- CCSA Conference
- Greater Homeschooling Conference
- English Learners conferences
- NVC Conference (Non Violent Communication)
- College and Career Pathway conferences



Area of Focus



TECHNOLOGY

(A) Continue to prepare students/teachers for Smarter Balanced Testing. Possible activities (On-going):

What?

- Familiarize students with the new technology used for the assessments
- Continue to implement Interim Assessments to help students become familiar with the CAASPP test structure and layout
- Encourage CAASPP practice tests at home and provide practice test copies

(B) Technology Infrastructure and Resources (On-going):

What?

- Review and add valuable online resources
- Upload a web based resource list on the new website
- Laptop program for socio-economically disadvantaged students (LCAP Goal #3)
- Assess needs for infrastructure, hardware and software
- Launch new ROA phone app to all stakeholders
- Update website with counselor's corner

How?

- Offer 3-4 Pizza and Prep workshops between January –April
- Train students to use technology needed offering Interim Assessments
- Train students to use technology needed for CASSPP
- Inform parents of new app/hand out flyers/promote technology during turn-in meetings



Area of Focus



BUDGET

(A) Reach Student Enrollment as per budget requirements

- a. 2017-18 Enrollment 195 (WLV Center)
Enrollment 55 (Oxnard Center)
- b. 2018-19 Enrollment 200 (WLV Center)
Enrollment 60 (Oxnard Center)
- d. Maintain 5% reserve

(B) Promote ROA utilizing a variety of marketing strategies

- Establish a committee to develop a plan to further our efforts to attract a more diverse student population
- Have ROA booth at community events to create awareness and inform public about ROA's program at community events across the county
- Visiting Pre-K programs in east and west county
- Encourage ROA parents to share positive experiences with potential new families
- Modernize marketing strategies, including using ROA's website as a living tool, add phone application and incorporate social media, such as Facebook, and Instagram and ROA app
- Build relationships with local school districts and school principals



Area of Focus
OXNARD RESOURCE CENTER

A) Replicate ROA's program at the Oxnard Resource Center:

What?

- Replicate ROA's excellent academic program, mission, vision and goals for the Oxnard community.
- Implement a well-organized resource center that will meet the demands of the students in the Oxnard (East Ventura County) area.
- Provide a variety of rich resources for parents and students. Offer to support all students in pursuit of academic excellence.
- Offer the College and Career Pathway Program to all Oxnard high school students
- Promote the Oxnard resource center to meet enrollment expectations and build enrollment.

How?

Start-up Activities:

- Maintain facility, internet, electrical services; telephone; signage; copier/fax; etc.
- Staff Oxnard facility with administrative staff and support staff
- Organize and set up schedule to offer two days of workshops. Including parent boot camps.
- Organize Oxnard PAC and collaborate with Westlake PAC
- Recruit and hire high quality teachers and other personnel, such as special education support staff, tutors, school photographer and other vendors.
- Offer SPED services at Oxnard facility
- Use the attendance rosters to track attendance for the workshops/classes.
- Offer tutoring and parent boot camp for support. Collaborate with the leadership team, teachers and other stakeholders to review topics and suggestions.
- Meet budget enrollment
- Continue community outreach to promote ROA's program



Area of Focus

BOARD DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

(A) Collaborative communication with the ROA Board, and provide pertinent Board training opportunities. Possible annual activities suggested for training:

- Schedule and hold annual board retreat
- Review of the Brown Act
- Information on the LCFF (Local Control Funding Formula), LCAP (Local Control and Accountability Plan).
- Review of the WASC Action Plan
- Regular updates regarding programs and activities related to ROA, including ROA Oxnard
- Provide opportunity for Board contribution toward the development of long-term goals/vision for 2015-2020.
- Governance training
- Continue to implement revised Director evaluation tool/protocol

ANNUAL AND FUTURE RECOMMENDATION



[Board _____ Approved: _____]

INFORMATION

Annual Requirements:

- Budget
- Strategic Plan
- Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP)
- College and Career Pathway Report
- Attendance Reports (P1/P2/EOY)
- Immunization/Health Reports
- Audit
- Programmatic Report to Ventura County Board of Education
- Insurance safety checks

Future Requirements:

- **2017-2018 WASC update letter due**
- 2019-2020 Charter Renewal due
- 2020-2021 WASC Renewal due