Dear Clairemont Families,

School choice is a hot topic in today’s world, but I am confident that your best option happens to be your neighborhood school, Marston Middle School! In each of the past 5 years, Marston’s neighborhood enrollment has increased, both in the number of students attending Marston and the percentage of the school that is from the neighborhood. Over the past few years, I have seen a number of families submit choice applications to other schools only to return to Marston at a later time. Changing schools is stressful on students and negatively impacts scheduling, staffing and class sizes. Please do not submit a choice application unless you are certain that you will be attending that school upon acceptance. Your full commitment to Marston will allow us to give all Marston students their preferred elective class and strategically prepare for the 2019-2020 school year. Please read below to hear why Marston is the right choice for your child.

- Jon Gollias, Marston Middle School Principal

Marston offers the most S.T.E.A.M. courses!

Marston is truly unique because our students have both an exploration course and an elective course - every day! Students choose 1 to 2 electives from a list of 10 and also choose 10 exploration courses from a list of 50. Over the past 3 years, Marston added eight new elective courses: Guitar, Choir, Visual Art, Theater, TV Studio, Graphic Design, Computer Science and Engineering (a Project Lead the Way automation course). These new elective courses complement the existing, popular elective courses of orchestra, band, construction and Spanish. Marston also added many new exploration courses including: Coding, Lego League Robotics, STEM Olympics, Entrepreneurship, Medical Science, Math Field Day and Yoga.

Marston has the BEST learning environment!

Marston has partnered with the Capturing Kids’ Hearts Institute the past three years to help build effective, meaningful and productive relationships with students. Marston also launched new clubs and programs to help educate and empower our students to make positive changes in our school and out in the community. Over the past three years we launched: Peer Leaders Uniting Students, Student Council, LGBT+, Volunteer Club and Ally Action. We also created many new intervention courses for students who need additional social-emotional help such as Why Try, PRYDE, Say San Diego and Project AWARE. The combination of clear expectations, caring adults and comprehensive programs has resulted in a 45% reduction in behavioral incidents, 36% reduction in suspensions and countless more smiles on campus.
Academic achievement continues to rise!

A few years ago Marston hovered around the state average on state assessments. Marston’s scores now exceed the state averages by significant margins. This academic achievement is a function of excellent instruction, comprehensive supports and all stakeholders committing to a common vision. It is quite amazing that all of this was accomplished while growing our elective, exploration and extra-curricular programs!

Here is what some are saying about Marston...

“Marston’s outcomes are a result of having a clear focus, equitable outcomes for every student, and standards-based instruction that is monitored towards mastery.”

- Dr. Lamont Jackson, San Diego Unified Area Superintendent

“The transition to middle school at Marston has been fabulous. All the teachers are wonderful and classes are challenging and fun for the children.”

- Jessica Cain, Marston Parent

“The support and immediate sense of community we felt with the Marston faculty and administration made our transition to middle school a seamless experience. The philosophy of the school is to support the whole child, and we can definitely feel the balance of academics, electives, physical fitness and social interaction. The administration and faculty have placed a great deal of attention to the safety and well-being of our kids, which reflects their values on the future of our community of schools. We are proud to be a part of it.”

- Nikole Atterholm, Marston Parent

“I really love Marston because I always meet new friends. The teachers are so great – they all have tutoring time if you ever need help. The first period advisory classes are so cool because it’s fun to try something different every 3 weeks.”

- Layla, Marston Student

Learn more about Marston:

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wcBgR2TNE0s
Brochure: https://www.sandiegounified.org/schools/sites/default/files_link/schools/files//schools/marston/1819%20Marston%20Brochure%203.pdf
Website: MarstonMiddle.org
Phone: (858) 273-2030
On-Campus Tour with the Principal: Friday, November 2nd from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.