

JC Montgomery School Program Outline 23-24



Academics Towards Graduation

Student Population

JC Montgomery is located inside the Kings Juvenile Center and serves students in grades 6-12. The program is WASC accredited. Coursework is differentiated based upon student grade level, transcript analysis, Individualized Education Plans, and Section 504 Plans. Students in middle school are required to take English, mathematics, science, social studies, and P.E. They may additionally enroll into elective courses. High school students are required to enroll in courses aligned with California graduation requirements. This represents a minimum of 23 different core courses plus a minimum of 9 elective courses offered each year. *Because the student population is under 35 students, limited staffing prohibits all courses being available through in-person instruction, so online curriculum is available through Edgenuity to ensure students have access to all necessary coursework.*

California High School Graduation Requirements

- Three years of English
- Two years of mathematics (including Algebra I)
- Three years of social science (including U.S. history and geography; world history, culture, and geography; one semester of American government; and one semester of economics)
- Two years of science (including biology and physical science)
- Two years of physical education
- One year of foreign language or visual and performing arts or commencing with the 2012–13 school year, career technical education. For purpose of satisfying the minimum course requirement, a course in American Sign Language shall be deemed a course in foreign language
- Additionally, students must complete a local graduation requirement of 90 elective credits in order to graduate

A-G Courses

Courses at JC Montgomery for high school students meet A-G requirements, which are the minimum requirements for admission to a University of California college. Students must maintain a C or better in these courses to meet the minimum requirements.

Career Technical Education

Students at JC Montgomery have the opportunity to enroll in Arts, Media, and Entertainment career technical education through a media arts course. This course is taught through a hybrid model. Students have access to asynchronous lessons through EditMentor and Wurry. EditMentor teaches students how to use video editing software, while Wurry teaches students to use a Digital Audio Workstation (DAW) to create original beats, record audio, and edit tracks. Both of these

skills are directly transferable to postsecondary opportunities at the site (see Berklee Online Music College below). Additionally, students at JC Montgomery receive direct instruction from teaching artists working in the Arts, Media, and Entertainment industry. Through project-based learning, students learn how to animate characters (The Animation Project - registered pre-apprenticeship program), develop, record, and produce original music (Josh "OPTX" Levine, Dr. Elliott Gann, Worms Ali), film and produce a music video (Josh "OPTX" Levine), develop, record, and produce a podcast (Josh "OPTX" Levine, Tawnya Larkin), and research careers in the music industry, including marketing oneself for those careers (Music Forward Foundation). Student work is published to the [site YouTube channel](#) when students wish to do so. Signed permission is received from parents before projects are published, and student identity remains confidential. These projects are funded through state and federal CTE grants. Through an additional grant awarded to [Urbanists Collective](#), this year students participated in a graphic design project with the nonprofit where they created augmented reality posters about the importance of arts education.

Fine Arts

In order to meet the fine arts graduation requirement, students are offered opportunities to engage in visual arts projects throughout the school year. These projects include a community service project, where students turn salvaged skateboards into pieces of art, which are then auctioned off by nonprofit [Fresno Skateboard Salvage](#). Proceeds are used to purchase new skateboarding equipment for children in need throughout the Central Valley. Students also complete projects with local nonprofit [Urbanists Collective](#) throughout the year. The projects include designing their own stickers.

AB 2306

Students attending JC Montgomery may qualify for reduced graduation credit requirements based on [California Assembly Bill 2306](#). Students who qualify for this exemption have graduation credit requirements reduced to 130 credits. Students are still expected to complete state graduation requirements for core coursework. This exemption is specifically for students who have been incarcerated during their high school career, and who cannot reasonably be expected to graduate on time. The site transition specialist analyzes transcripts for students who have completed 10th grade to determine if they qualify under AB 2306. Parental permission is required for this exemption.

Social-Emotional and Mental Health Support

Mental Health Therapeutic Intervention Clinician

JC Montgomery provides students with access to a full time Mental Health Clinician, prepared to provide students with social-emotional and mental health support. Our mental health clinician works closely with students, helping address their individual needs and goals. With the support of our mental health clinician JC Montgomery students will be given the opportunity to work on self regulation strategies along with varying specific mental health needs.

Trauma Informed Practices

The majority of students attending JC Montgomery have experienced complex trauma¹. Complex trauma occurs when children are exposed to multiple traumatic events that are severe and pervasive. When children experience complex trauma, their brain develops differently, making them more susceptible to triggers² sending them into fight, flight, or freeze mode.

Culturally Responsive & Sustaining Curriculum and Instruction

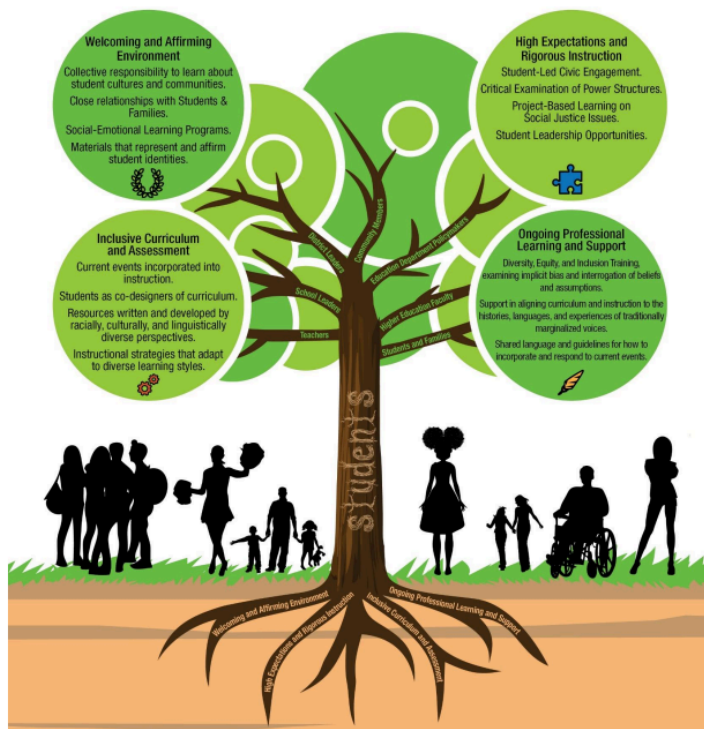
¹ <https://www.nctsn.org/what-is-child-trauma/trauma-types/complex-trauma>

² https://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/resources//child_trauma_toolkit_educators.pdf

JC Montgomery takes an assets-based approach to education. Staff at JC Montgomery receive annual training and support to develop an assets-based lens as culturally responsive and sustaining educators. All project-based learning opportunities are aligned with the CR-S framework below:

Culturally Responsive-Sustaining Education

The CR-S framework helps educators create student-centered learning environments that: affirm racial, linguistic and cultural identities; prepare students for rigor and independent learning; develop students' abilities to connect across lines of difference; elevate historically marginalized voices; and empower students as agents of social change.



Therapeutic Arts Opportunities

Kings County Office of Education staff and local teaching artists collaborate with JC Montgomery to provide therapeutic arts opportunities throughout the school year. During the 22-23 school year, students participated in [Stories with Style](#), which utilizes Dr. Raphael Travis' Individual and Community Empowerment Framework (figure below) to guide students through English standards-aligned curriculum focused on storytelling to build self-awareness, social awareness, and relationship skills through self-expression. This Hip Hop based curriculum provides outlets for self-expression through creative writing (rap/spoken word poetry), beat making, and visual arts. Students also participated in Djembe drum lessons, with a focus on using music to set positive vibes and to self-regulate.

³ https://www.nysed.gov/sites/default/files/programs/bilingual-ed/1.16.19-cr-s-framework_a.pdf

<i>The Individual and Community Empowerment Framework</i>				
<i>Individual Empowerment</i>			<i>Community Empowerment</i>	
ESTEEM: Feeling Better	RESILIENCE: Doing Better	GROWTH: Being Better	COMMUNITY: Better Sense of Belonging	CHANGE: Better (Community) Conditions

The Individual and Community Empowerment Framework and dimensions of esteem, resilience, and growth for individual empowerment, and community and change for community empowerment. The framework and figure are adapted from Travis and Deepak (2011).

Positive Behavior Reinforcement

Students who've experienced complex trauma often suffer from mental health disorders and struggle with self-regulation, persevering through frustration, and lack of intrinsic motivation. Additionally, the majority of students enrolled at JC Montgomery have been unsuccessful academically prior to entering the school and have a negative self-image about their academic potential. In order to support these students, behavioral and academic reinforcers are provided in multiple ways. Reinforcements are provided monthly for meeting school behavioral expectations. Academic goal setting is done each grading period. Students who complete credits or receive perfect academic scores also receive reinforcers. The reinforcers have been selected by students and the expectations to receive them aligned to school and academic expectations. These are used in coordination with culturally responsive and sustaining instruction, hands-on learning opportunities, and trauma informed practices as a scaffold towards building intrinsic motivation⁴. Once students experience success academically, they become more willing to engage in further academic opportunities, especially with content that is culturally relevant and/or connected with future aspirations. Local school districts have reported that students exiting JC Montgomery are re-entering their programs focused on graduation and demonstrating an increase in intrinsic motivation.

Partnerships with Local Community Organizations

- The Santa Rosa Rancheria's Cultural Department visits JC Montgomery on a monthly basis. The team shares the cultural history of the Tachi Yokut people and provides mentorship to students.
- The California Health Collaborative provides Sexual and Reproductive Health Education to students at JC Montgomery on an annual basis.

Post-Secondary Opportunities

West Hills College Partnership

Students have the opportunity to be dually enrolled at JC Montgomery and West Hills College as the student approaches the completion of High School graduation requirements. When a JC Montgomery student is within 30 credits of graduating, they will have the opportunity to dually enroll in entry level college courses. The student must be in good academic standing and agree to appropriately use school technology.

- Evaluate Transcript: If a student needs thirty or less credits to graduate from High School and is in good academic standing -- student can proceed with dual enrollment.

⁴ <https://cetl.uconn.edu/resources/teaching-your-course/motivating-students/>

- Meet with student(s) to discuss College options, enrollment process, technology expectations, and enrollment expectations.
- Gather demographic information, including SSN from Parent/Guardian to move forward with enrollment
- Complete California Community Colleges Application
- Complete West Hills College Lemoore Application:
- Complete Special Enrollment Form and Instructions: “All students K-12 **must** complete the Special Request for Admission to College Classes “Dual Enrollment Request Form”. Form must be signed by the principal/designee of the school the student is attending and parent/guardian if the student is under 18 years of age. Form must be brought to the campus registration staff to be processed. **Student(s) will be added to the class provided all requirements have been met and there is availability.”**
- Students will be enrolled in an introductory course: Student Development 001. This course was advised by our West Hills College Liaison
 - Other general education courses may be added on a student by student basis

Berklee Online Music College Partnership

Berklee College of Music has partnered with JC Montgomery to offer our students access and opportunities to their online courses. Berklee has generously offered scholarships for their Music Production Certificates. They also give our students the opportunity to enroll in two different pathways listed below.

- Free MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) through Coursera. A student can enroll in these at any given time.
- Music Production Certificate for High School graduates that are serious about a career in music.

Berklee is “Dedicated to nurturing the creative and career potential of the world’s most inspired artists, Berklee’s commitment to arts education is reflected in the work of its students, faculty, and alumni—hundreds of whom have been recognized with Grammy, Tony, Oscar, and Emmy awards.”

Certification Programs

Students have the opportunity to register for certificates that will help them have certifications that are often required for employment. Students are encouraged to take both of these classes upon graduation.

- **American Red Cross**
 - Adult, Child And Baby First Aid/CPR/AED Online
- **Premier Food Safety**
 - California Food Handlers Card