

Connected. Always.

2800 Loma Linda Dr. Bakersfield, CA

TODAY

Initially recognized by Apple as a distinguished school four years ago, Garces Memorial now sets the standard for digital learning in Kern County. Our original iBook application was titled Unraveled and told our story of diving into virtual learning and the crazy road we traveled creating digital curriculum and training our faculty. We are at a point now where digital content is continually embedded into both the student and teacher experience. Innovative lessons are now the norm as faculty regularly create new ways of reaching students by encouraging ownership and personalization in their learning experiences. Upgrades in infrastructure, device management, leadership and training add to the success of our user philosophy, which enables our students and staff to use iPads as a means of personal expression. Connected. Always.

Apple Distinguished



500 Students
44 Faculty
Private 9-12 grades

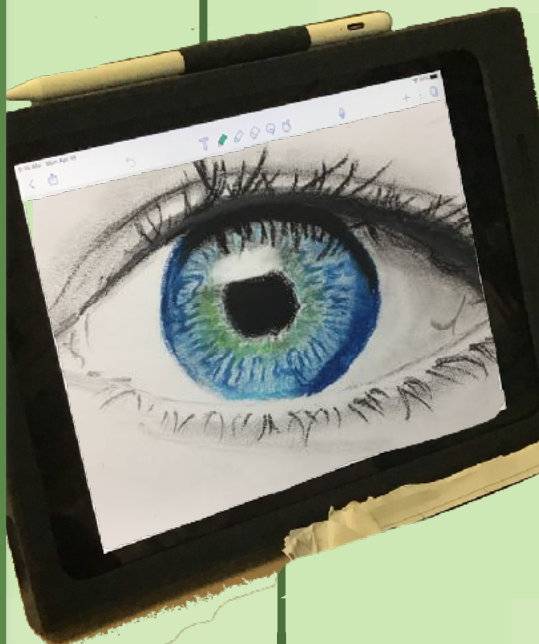
Apple products and services

- **Student iPads:** Gen. 7
- **Teacher iPads:** Air 2, with Apple Pencils, and will be moving to new iPads next year.
- **Classrooms:** All equipped with Apple TV's.
- **Apple Services:**
 - Apple School Manager
 - AppleCare.

VISION

On Friday, March 13, 2020, Covid-19 closed the Garces campus to in-person classes. Three days later, on Monday morning, 1st period began virtually at the normal scheduled time. 94% of our students were in attendance. No change in hand-out, workflow, collaboration, or hand-in, made this transition seamless. Learning continued. We believe in developing the "whole" person, academically, socially and spiritually, and our 1:1 iPad initiative gave Garces students a huge academic advantage. Our "self-check" iPad Proficiency rubric, and monthly Tech Training helped our staff prepare, but the ongoing collaboration among teachers made the Covid-19 distance learning experience amazing for our students. Faculty collaboration is common on campus as teachers regularly share ideas, strategies, digital successes and failures. Connected. Always.

Distance Learning



INNOVATE

LEARNING

In 2014, Principal Myka Peck, and her admin team, changed the culture on campus. Strict school policies loosened, and personal expression permeated the relaxed learning environment. These changes impacted the use of technology for students and teachers. iPads came out of backpacks and off shelves. Teachers now choose their own digital classrooms, and students own their devices. We manage the devices and educational app suites. The iPad is used in countless environments from digital art to foreign language, from science labs to book reviews. For the culture on our campus, this “freedom” fosters a sense of ownership and personalization to learning. All teachers complete Apple Teacher training and have or will earn their badges. Often, faculty members run monthly Tech Training to share a new success. Recently we have implemented a new SIS, all new access points, network switches, servers, and a new MDM, as a result of community “buy-in” to our 1:1 initiative. Our infrastructure plan will come to fruition this summer as a full fiber network will be in place. Student group work is regular, and daily Enrichment Hour gets kids from different periods an opportunity to work together. This project serves as a barometer for where Garces is with digital learning. Roughly 20 students played a part in its creation. Simply asking for volunteers, student artwork, music, and iMovies, were created while others worked on the document itself,... Never meeting in person. Unthinkable, just a few years ago. Connected. Always.



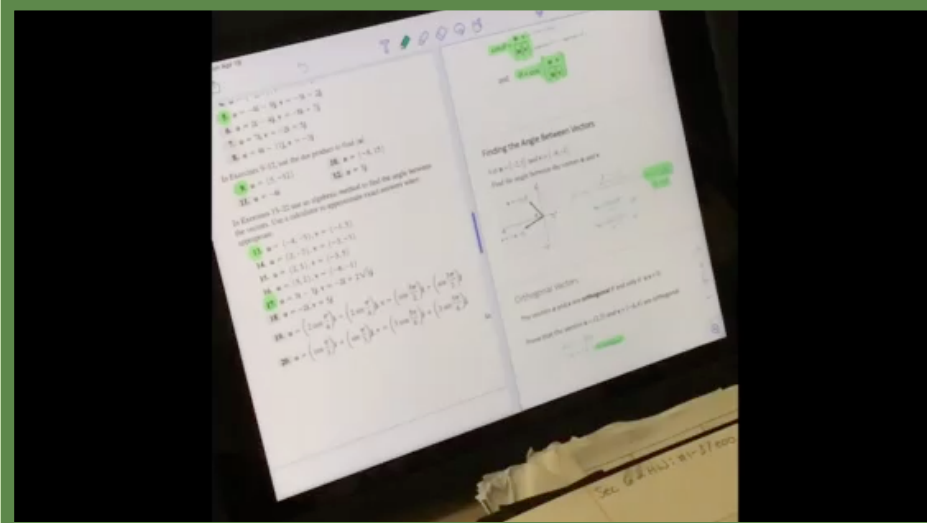
Virtual Learning



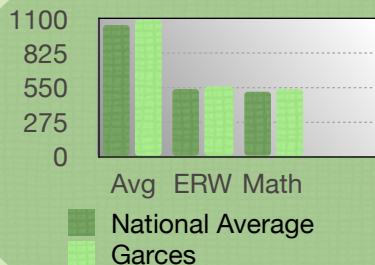
SUCCESS

Since the beginning of our 1:1 iPad initiative seven years ago, our community and administration have been excited to push the digital learning envelope. On Campus, we have added three new Learning Pathways, a General curriculum, a full PLTW lab, and robotics room. We have also created a Resource team to help students that need academic help. Off campus we have helped all three local Catholic feeder schools institute their iPad initiatives, which readies a significant number of freshman for digital learning and with their devices. Not only do 100% of our Students graduate, but 95% move on to college of which 63% go to 4 year institutions. Garces Memorial students also perform well above the national and state averages on college entrance tests. Connected. Always.

Garces Facts



SAT Scores



WHAT'S NEXT

The global pandemic revealed the potentials of virtual teaching and learning. The iPad gave us the ability to shape personal and subjective lessons while distance learning. A fully accredited online school, with classes created by our faculty is an amazing, tangible plan currently in the works. With exchange students from as far away as China, this plan would benefit students with cultural, family, and medical issues as well as those who are chasing their performing arts or athletic dreams. Most important, at this time, is creating a way to supplant the benefits of on-campus activities, Developing the “whole person” is an essential part of the Garces experience, and moving forward without those virtues is not an option. Connected. Always.

Drive Thru Graduation

