



STANBRIDGE ACADEMY



ONLY AT STANBRIDGE



The core of Stanbridge Academy is our academic program. Small class sizes at all grade levels allow for **differentiated instruction** to meet the needs of all learners. California content standards form the foundation of our curriculum. Stanbridge is accredited by WASC and is a provisional member of CAIS.



Our program integrates **experiential learning** through overnight and day trips as well as on-campus assemblies and curriculum-based projects. We also provide a comprehensive school experience with **electives, afterschool clubs, and sports teams.**



The development of **social-emotional, self-regulation, and executive functioning skills** is embedded into our curriculum and throughout the school day. All students participate in social learning class once per week.



Transition counseling includes building life skills, preparing for college, and training for the workforce. Stanbridge also offers a post-secondary program for students needing additional assistance after graduating from high school.

Julie Smith, Head of School

“For the past 35 years, Stanbridge has been educating students in grades K–12 who have mild to moderate learning differences and social communication disorders.

“We take great pride in our unique program. From academic classes and overnight experiential trips to exciting electives and afterschool clubs, our students get a big school feel in a safe and nurturing environment.”



OUR STUDENTS

Stanbridge Academy best educates students with mild to moderate learning differences and social communication disorders. Many, if not most, of our students struggle with multiple challenges. We maintain an intentional balance of students with different learning and social challenges, including students diagnosed on the autism spectrum. We have found that this balance encourages students to benefit from their classmates' strengths and to respect their differences.

Our students have a range of learning differences and diagnoses. Stanbridge is not a therapeutic school and does not have services to adequately support students with either emotional or behavioral issues as their primary diagnosis.

Because we enroll students from across the Bay Area, the school operates a shuttle service from the San Mateo Caltrain station and two locations in San Francisco.





Tyler, 4th Grade

“When Tyler was younger, we experimented with the San Francisco Unified School District, but they had difficulty supporting his learning. He started losing confidence and frustrations grew for him and for us. Tyler finally hit a boiling point, so our family started evaluating alternative education options.

“We are now in our fourth year at Stanbridge and could not be happier for Tyler. Every morning, he cannot wait to go to school. He’s grown into a compassionate and confident person.”



Mia, 10th Grade

“We began to realize things were not typical with Mia socially or academically early in kindergarten. After being moved by the school district for the third time in three years to a special day class, we were done. I began searching online for hours on end and, after visiting a couple schools, we found Stanbridge and have never looked back!

“School life for her now is safe and comfortable. It sounds cliché, but the kids and staff ‘get her,’ and she is thriving with them.”



Connor, 9th Grade

“Connor is a student with very high functioning autism and, as students on the spectrum go, was both academically and socially successful. We felt, all things considered, he was coping very well. Until he wasn’t.

“After many various interventions and attempts to get Connor back into school, we finally awakened to the idea that perhaps public school was simply not going to meet his needs. Connor has been at Stanbridge now for two years. He is not only coping, he is truly thriving.”

Jonathan Murphy, Class of 2003

“Stanbridge cracked the shell I built around myself. My teachers helped me shed my anxieties and discover my true potential. I found my future path towards independence, because they never gave up on me.

“I’m not a technical genius nor an athlete, but when I act, people take notice and pay attention. I’ve done Shakespeare and children’s theater. Today, I am a member of the actors union and my character voices are on video games, apps, toys...even throughout a major theme park.”



OUR PROGRAM

The Stanbridge program provides students with opportunities to succeed academically and socially, allowing them to reach their highest potential.

A standards-based academic program forms the foundation of the Stanbridge experience. All classes are taught in small groups whereby differentiated instruction ensures that all students are engaged. Information is presented through a variety of modalities by highly-qualified faculty and staff.



SUPPORT SERVICES

Support services, provided by licensed counselors, learning specialists, and a speech-language pathologist, are designed specifically to meet the needs of our students. These resources enhance the development of both academic and social skills.

SOCIAL LEARNING

Students learn the thinking strategies required to foster social skill development. The speech-language pathologist and school counselors use a variety of resources, including concepts and vocabulary from Michelle Garcia Winner's Social Thinking methodology. Social learning concepts teach students to become better social observers and help deepen their understanding of their own and others' thoughts and emotions. These skills allow them to relate and connect to others as well as navigate the social world around them.



EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Carefully-planned activities in the classroom and during off-campus trips enhance and complement classroom learning to promote students' personal growth. Opportunities to improve communication and collaborative skills, promote mutual respect and acceptance, improve organizational skills, set goals, and engage in appropriate challenges are all part of experiential learning.

SMALL SCHOOL FEEL...

Electives — Students in grades K-8 receive physical education daily in addition to a special class each day such as art, music, or technology. High school students have a greater variety of options, from woodworking to drama.

Service — An important component of the Stanbridge program is teaching our students to give back to the local community. Our students have worked with various organizations including Habitat for Humanity, Second Harvest Food Bank, and Family Giving Tree.

Athletics — Stanbridge Academy is a member of the Bay Area Small School Athletic League (BASSAL) and competes in a variety of sports. The program instills lessons about responsibility, sportsmanship, commitment, and achieving one's goals.

Clubs — Afterschool clubs are offered throughout the school year. The selection of clubs changes per session depending on student interests and staff talent. The sessions are scheduled in nine-week terms. Previous club offerings include: Stage Improvisation, Games, Math, Ceramics, Cooking, and Drawing.

...BIG SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES



BEYOND STANBRIDGE

Planning for life after graduation is difficult for any high school senior, but even more so for students with learning differences. That is why post-secondary planning and counseling occurs throughout high school on both a group and individual level.

Our Transition Event Series includes a variety of informational programs and workshops to help students and families prepare for the transition from high school to adulthood and assist with their increased independence.

All Stanbridge high school students enroll in Bridges, a course that helps guide students in determining their post-secondary path. Bridges is an integral part of our program that combines individual and group work with community integration.

Stanbridge also offers a post-secondary program for students needing additional support as they make the transition from high school to adulthood. This program places an even greater emphasis on developing independent living skills and preparing for the workforce.





CONTACT US TODAY TO SCHEDULE A VISIT

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