

# 2010-11

## School Accountability Report Card Template

Executive Summary School Accountability Report Card, 2009–10

### *Academy for Advancement of Children with Autism (AACA)*

**Address:** 20040 Parthenia St.  
**Director:** Donald Ghrist

**Phone:** (818-882-0200)  
**Grade Span:** K-12

This executive summary of the School Accountability Report Card (SARC) is intended to provide parents and community members with a quick snapshot of information related to individual public schools. The data presented in this report are reported for the 2009–10 school year, except the School Finances and School Completion data that are reported for the 2008–09 school year. For additional information about the school, parents and community members should review the entire SARC or contact the school principal or the district office.

#### About This School

The Academy for Advancement of Children with Autism (AACA) is a nonpublic school that offers information, education and treatment services for children with autism and other related disorders. The Academy is a full-time school and also offers clinic-based services—all under one roof. AACA’s team of outstanding, credentialed teachers works in tandem with licensed educational psychologists, speech pathologists, occupational therapists, adaptive physical educational specialists, and other specialists to help children who are being affected by a wide variety of psycho-educational issues. Our goal is to prepare students for return to the public school setting, post-secondary education, and/or the world of work.

#### Student Enrollment

Group	Enrollment
Number of students	19
Black or African American	n/a*
American Indian or Alaska Native	n/a*
Asian	n/a*
Filipino	n/a*
Hispanic or Latino	n/a*
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	n/a*
White (not of Hispanic origin)	n/a*
Two or More Races	n/a*
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	n/a*
English Learners	n/a*
Students with Disabilities	100%

#### Teachers

Indicator	Teachers
Teachers with full credential	2
Teachers without full credential	1
Teachers Teaching Outside Subject Area of Competence	#
Misassignments of Teachers of English Learners	#
Total Teacher Misassignments	#

\*Enrollment too small – ethnicity percentages would be misleading.

#### School Facilities

#### Summary of Most Recent Site Inspection

AACA is located at 20040 Parthenia St., Northridge, CA. Classroom buildings and the play areas are shared with a charter middle school. The site is inspected yearly by the Fire Marshall. AACA has received Fire Marshall approval. The classrooms have recently been painted. In addition, the site administrator inspects facilities daily. The facility is in good condition. No repairs are needed.

## **Curriculum and Instructional Materials**

All AACA students have appropriate curriculum and instructional materials. AACA uses K-8 core curricula that has been approved by the State and met State standards. AACA's high school students use curricula that have also met California's high content standards. AACA has selected materials that are in use in the Antelope Valley Union High School District and Los Angeles Unified School District, as well as curriculum that meets SEACO standards.

### **Our Approach**

AACA evaluates each child's strengths and weaknesses and then tailors a program to meet his/her specific educational needs, in accordance with the child's IEP.

### **Academic Programs**

AACA teachers and therapists work together collaboratively, utilizing individually tailored curriculum to create the most beneficial educational programs for every child.

Our K-12 programs include creative programming as well as curriculum approved by the L.A.U.S.D. including reading, writing, and mathematical skills. Community Based Instruction (CBI) and life skills are offered to students needing these educational components.

## **School Completion**

All students are meeting standards/criteria to be promoted to the next grade level.

AACA had 1 8<sup>th</sup> grade students promoted to 9<sup>th</sup> grade this year.

# School Accountability Report Card

## Reported Using Data from 2009–10 School Year

*Published During 2010–11*

### I. About This School

#### Contact Information (School Year 2010–11)

This section provides the school's contact information.

School			
<b>School Name</b>	Academy for Advancement of children with Autism (AACA)		
<b>Street</b>	10824 Topanga Cyn	<b>Phone Number</b>	(818)-882-0200
<b>City, State, Zip</b>	Chatsworth, CA 91311	<b>Web Site</b>	www.autismacademy.org
<b>Administrator</b>	Leslie Michelle	<b>E-mail Address</b>	Lmichellet@autismacademy.org
<b>CDS Code</b>	19 64733 0113001		

#### School Description and Mission Statement (School Year 2009–10)

This section provides information about the school, its programs, and its goals.

The Academy for Advancement of Children with Autism (AACA) is a nonpublic school that offers information, education and treatment services for children with autism and other related disorders. The Academy is a full-time school and also offers clinic-based services—all under one roof. AACA's team of outstanding, credentialed teachers works in tandem with licensed educational psychologists, speech pathologists, occupational therapists, adaptive physical educational specialists, and other specialists to help children who are being affected by a wide variety of psycho-educational issues. Our goal is to prepare students for return to the public school setting, post-secondary education, and/or the world of work.

#### Opportunities for Parental Involvement (School Year 2009–10)

This section provides information about opportunities for parents to become involved with school activities, including contact information pertaining to organized opportunities for parental involvement.

AACA feels that parental involvement is critical to a child's educational and social development. Parents may visit AACA at any time. We appreciate parents volunteering to assist with CBI trips and field trips. Parents have been generous and it is appreciated. We encourage parents of prospective students to call for a tour or to visit the classroom.

#### Student Enrollment by Grade Level (School Year 2009–10)

This table displays the number of students enrolled in each grade level at the school.

Grade Level	Number of Students	Grade Level	Number of Students
Kindergarten		Grade 8	2
Grade 1		Ungraded Elementary	
Grade 2		Grade 9	1
Grade 3		Grade 10	2
Grade 4	1	Grade 11	1
Grade 5	1	Grade 12	1
Grade 6	1	Ungraded Secondary	
Grade 7	2	Total Enrollment	

## Average Class Size

AACA current class size is 6 students. Current enrollment is twelve. Each classroom has one credentialed teacher and 4 or more paraeducators, depending on the time of day and services required for students. Some students have 1:1 paraeducators. Students who don't have a 1:1 paraeducator still have a ratio of at least one adult for every 2 children.

AACA believes that students will make progress if their classroom environment complements their skill level. Consequently, students are placed in one of our classrooms based on academic/social/behavioral skills. In the classroom, students are taught core curriculum and electives, based on student needs and IEP goals. AACA prepares high school students for graduation.

## II. School Climate

### School Safety Plan (School Year 2009–10)

This section provides information about the school's comprehensive safety plan.

AACA has safety procedures in place. Staff practices fire drills and earthquake drills and has emergency exit maps. Staff receives training in Crisis Prevention Intervention, First Aid, and CPR. Safety procedures are evaluated and updated yearly. Staff have received the most recent copy of Emergency Procedures/Disaster Plan (Safety Plan). Disaster Preparedness Kits are on-site. Classrooms and equipment are evaluated by the Fire Marshall yearly. AACA is approved by the fire Marshall.

## III. School Facilities

### School Facility Conditions and Planned Improvements (School Year 2010–11)

This section provides information about the condition of the school's grounds, buildings, and restrooms based on the most recent data available, and a description of any planned or recently completed facility improvements.

AACA is located at 20040 Parthenia St., Northridge, CA. Classroom buildings and the play area are shared with a charter middle school. The Site is inspected yearly by the Fire Marshall. AACA has received Fire Marshall approval. The classrooms have recently been painted. In addition, the site administrator inspects facilities daily. The facility is in good condition. Each classroom has at least two computers, one of which is connected to Internet.

## IV. Teachers

### Teacher Credentials

This table displays the number of teachers assigned to the school with a full credential, without a full credential, and those teaching outside of their subject area of competence. Detailed information about teacher qualifications can be found on the CDE *DataQuest* Web page at <http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/>.

Teachers	School		
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
With Full Credential	2	2	2
Without Full Credential	0	0	1
Teaching Outside Subject Area of Competence	0	0	0

## V. Support Staff

### Support Staff (School Year 2010-2011)

Title	Assigned to School
Licensed Educational Psychologist	Part-time
Adaptive Physical Education Specialist	Part-time
Occupational Therapist	Part-time
Speech/Language/Hearing Specialist	Full-time

## VI. Curriculum and Instructional Materials

### Quality, Currency, Availability of Textbooks and Instructional Materials (School Year 2010–11)

This table displays information about the quality, currency, and availability of the standards-aligned textbooks and other instructional materials used at the school and information about the school's use of any supplemental curriculum or non-adopted textbooks or instructional materials.

All AACA students have appropriate curriculum and instructional materials. AACA uses K-8 core curricula that has been approved by the State and met State standards. AACA's high school students use curricula that have also met California's high content standards. AACA has selected materials that are in use in the Antelope Valley Union High School District and Los Angeles Unified School District, as well as curriculum that meets SEACO standards.

CAHSEE preparation is provided for those students who are preparing to receive a high school diploma from AACA.

Students have access to computers. Technological tools (Teletalker), AlphaSmart, and other augmentative communication devices) are used, as appropriate, by students. Computer software programs are in place for those students who benefit from working on the computer.

Supplementary materials are used to assist scheduled Community Based instruction trips in order to assist students transitioning to adult life.

#### Our Approach

AACA evaluates each child's strengths and weaknesses and then tailors a program to meet his/her specific educational needs, in accordance with the child's IEP.

#### Academic Programs

AACA teachers and therapists work together collaboratively, utilizing individually tailored curriculum to create the most beneficial educational programs for every child.

Our K-12 programs include creative programming as well as curriculum approved by the L.A.U.S.D. including reading, writing, and mathematical skills. Community Based Instruction and life skills are offered to students needing these educational components.

## VII. Instructional Planning and Scheduling

### Professional Development

This section provides information on the annual number of school days dedicated to staff development.

AACA requires teachers, paraeducators, and administrative staff to continually upgrade their skills. AACA provides staff development for all staff. AACA has a full-time administrator that spends most of her time in the classroom working with staff and students. AACA believes that students come first. During the 2010/2011 school year, 6 staff development days were held.