



THE PROMISE OF SYNERGY SCHOOL

Synergy graduates students with the skills they need to succeed in a challenging, multicultural, ever-changing world. How? Because of who we are—a teacher-run school.

Founded in 1973 by three teachers with passion and an ideal, Synergy School has grown into a vibrant, K-8 school with 23 teachers and 190 students, but we're the same unconventional school.

The founding teachers promised a school that could give children the best possible start in life, because it would be:

- A school offering a progressive curriculum,
- A school accessible to all and reflecting our community,
- A school that could hold to its high standards, because it would be a school run by its own teachers.

SYNERGY TODAY

Almost forty years later, Synergy's teacher cooperative, the only one based in San Francisco, is still delivering its promise.

We've succeeded in every way. Our graduates are in the world leading interesting, useful lives. We know, because they keep coming back to visit. We remain accessible—our tuition is 30% to 75% less than similar independent schools in the City. Our teacher turnover is the lowest in San Francisco. Our diversity extends in depth through all planes: economic, family make-up, gender, ethnicity. Student acceptance into the high schools and colleges of their choosing is outstanding.

We attribute our success to a single root, to an unwavering commitment to who we are—our cooperative structure. In addition to enabling an enriched, child-centered education, the structure keeps us accessible. It's because we are a cooperative that we can keep tuition down in the face of rising costs. It's by keeping tuition down plus offering financial aid to over a third of our families that we can remain accessible to San Francisco families. By remaining accessible we invite diversity on every front. This diversity is a vital and integral part of creating a cooperative school environment. We don't strive to attain a diversity quota, we live it. It's a daily reality as seen in the makeup of our students, our staff and our committed community. Our goal is to nurture and preserve it.