



BENNETT SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Quick Facts

Approximately 30 scholars receive full GMS scholarship and wrap-around support each year

155 scholars have graduated from GMS

Scholar alums have a 100% high school graduation rate

“The program’s ultimate goal is to ensure that each Bennett Scholar, and her family, knows that when she leaves GMS, she can determine her path to whatever future she desires.”

— Maria Pérez, Director of the Bennett Scholars Program

The Bennett Scholars Program is at the heart of the GMS mission. Each year, ten high-achieving girls from under-resourced elementary schools across the Bay Area are offered a three year full-tuition scholarship to attend GMS.

Deeply committed to creating an equitable experience for all students, The Girls’ Middle School admits girls who are often the first in their families to be college-bound. While funding the basics like tuition is necessary, achieving true equity of opportunity requires a team of dedicated teachers and afterschool program coordinators to assist and support the scholar holistically.

Thanks to the commitment of our generous donors and the ongoing, sensitive attention of the program’s director, Maria Pérez, and key staff members, we can ensure that our scholars have the tools they need to thrive at GMS and beyond.

Student and Family Support

In addition to covering the costs of tuition, technology, field trips, and events, we are proud to meet our scholars and their families where they are and offer support as needed for:

- All school supplies
- Weekly one-on-one tutoring
- Transportation
- Daily lunch
- Credit toward uniform purchases
- Payment for one optional after-school course per semester
- High-speed wifi connectivity at home
- Language translation of school communication
- Academic testing for learning differences
- Mental health counseling (includes parent counseling to understand student learning differences)

Our commitment to our scholars doesn’t end when they graduate from GMS. We offer high school advising, test preparation for high school, and summer college prep courses for rising high school seniors.



Believing In Each Other

Bennett Scholars are culturally diverse and, more often than not, fluent in Spanish, which naturally enriches the educational experience everyone receives at GMS. This year's graduating GMS class couldn't agree more. By selecting their graduation gift to be a donation to the upcoming Bennett Scholars, they acknowledge how crucial it was for all of them to believe in one another.

“Our grade voted to donate to the Bennett Scholars program because it allows people of all [socioeconomic] classes to be together at a brilliant school.”

— GMS Class of 2022

Beyond GMS

Thanks to our continued partnership with Sacred Heart Schools, our Admissions team offers three new Bennett Scholars the opportunity to enroll in the Sophie Scholar program when they start high school and receive the outstanding support and education that Sacred Heart Preparatory provides.

After high school, many of our scholars go on to study at some of the best universities and colleges in the state and country. Some of this year's seniors will be heading to the University of California, Berkeley, the University of Southern California, and Santa Clara University.

The Bennett Scholars Breakfast

Each spring we gather as a community to honor and support the promise of our Bennett Scholars and to help raise the funds needed to enroll ten new scholars into the upcoming sixth grade class. The Breakfast features inspirational speakers, celebrates our GMS community and confirms our commitment to the life-changing educational opportunities provided through The Bennett Scholars Program.



“GMS allowed me to thrive and feel the most confident in my skin and my intellect that I have ever been.”

— DaVaughn Dillahunt, Class of 2009
GMS Bennett Scholar and alum speaker
at the 2022 Bennett Scholars Breakfast

For more information about the Bennett Scholars Program, please visit our website.

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The Girls' Middle School