



Citizen-Centric Report: FY 2021

(OCT. 1, 2020 – SEP. 30, 2021)

ABOUT US

SIFA Learning Academy Charter School (SIFA LACS) is a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) School that caters to grades 6 to 8. SIFA LACS opened in October 2018 with 102 students. As of September 30, 2021, SIFA LACS has a total of 346 students.

VISION

SIFA Learning Academy Charter School envisions itself as a leading STEAM-based secondary middle school on Guam, dedicated to the academic and personal development of its students.

MISSION

The mission of SIFA LACS is to prepare middle school students through rigorous and relevant STEAM content, and to be successful and productive citizens by developing strong critical thinking skills needed to solve problems for Guam and the world.

GOALS

The goals of SIFA LACS are to:

- Provide effective, innovating, and challenging teaching and learning environment using STEAM as a platform;
- Maximize student potential and ensure students are well-equipped to meet the challenges of today's world; and to
- Engage the family and community in all aspects of the charter school, from teaching and learning to field experiences.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Student enrollment by grade level as of September 30, 2021.

	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade	TOTAL
Male	77	65	50	192
Female	50	45	59	154
Total	127	110	109	346

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For more information,
visit our website at
www.sifalacs.com

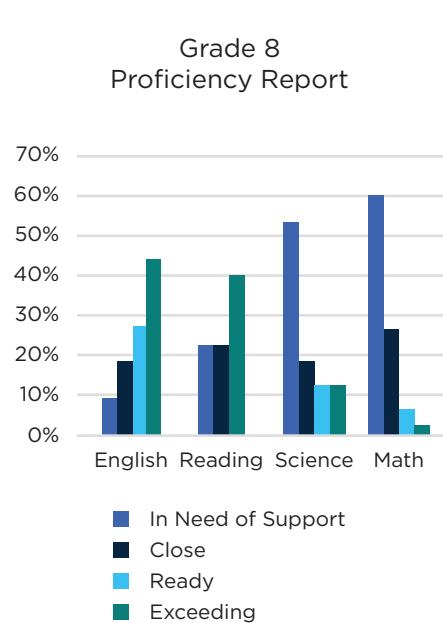
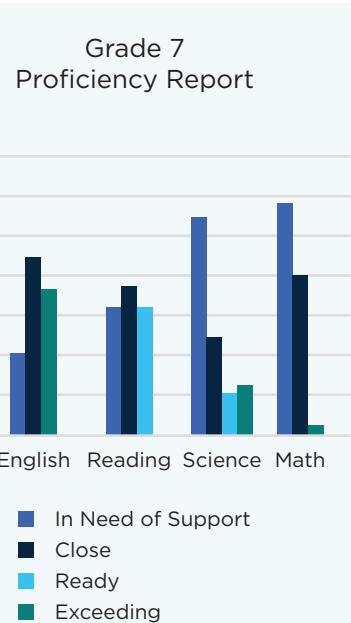
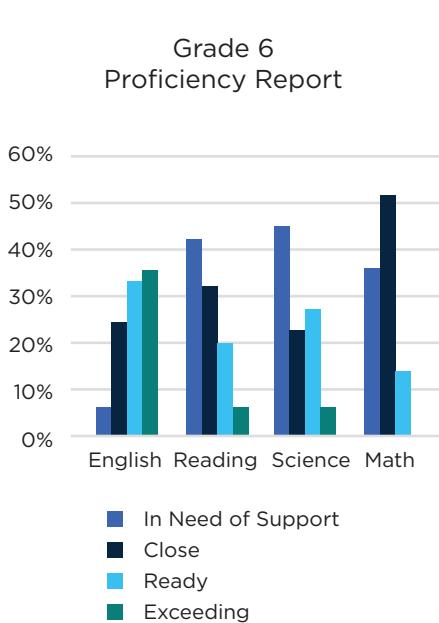
ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

TESTING

Since the mandated lockdown and the island-wide shutdown of all schools in March 2020, SiFA Learning Academy has offered instruction via distance learning. Due to the change to distance learning, the administration decided against implementing the usual assessment tests based on guidance from the US Department of Education. The only test given during SY 20-21 was the ACT Aspire due to changes in the pandemic restrictions at the end of the school year.

ACT ASPIRE TESTING

The ACT Aspire Test is an end-of-year district-wide assessment that measures what students have learned in the areas of English, Reading, Science, and Math. Due to changes in the pandemic restrictions, the district announced that the ACT Aspire Test would take place during the second semester and with optional student participation. Because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, an average of 152 students out of 303 took part in the ACT Aspire Test from April 26, 2021 to May 6, 2021. The following graphs will share the results.



FINANCES

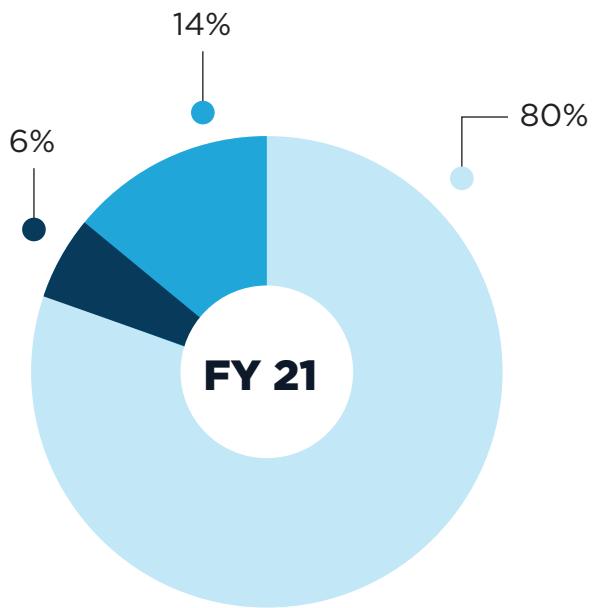
FY2021 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- As a charter school, SiFA LACS receives Government of Guam (GovGuam) appropriation based on enrollment at \$6,150 per pupil.
- SiFA LACS received the necessary Pandemic Protective Equipment through the Educational Stabilization Fund (CARES ACT) and the Guam Department of Education (GDOE) Consolidated Grant.
- SiFA LACS received an additional \$1.1 million to pay for prior year obligations related to the PLEASE contract.

REVENUE

- Appropriation - Student: \$3,129,433
- Grants: \$218,792
- Other Income: \$544,316

Total Revenue: \$3,892,541



EXPENSES

- Contractual Services: \$1,672,207
- Others: \$1,029,766
- Salary and Wages: \$1,672,207
- Supplies and Materials: \$110,235
- Professional Services: \$13,800
- Taxes and Licenses: \$1,554
- Bank Charges and Fees: \$518

Total Expenses: \$2,701,913



FUTURE OUTLOOK

ACCREDITATION

SiFA LACS has submitted the application for WASC Accreditation. Our team is currently preparing the Initial Visit School Description for submission tentatively scheduled for March 2022.

PANDEMIC READINESS

Thanks to the integration of technology throughout the curriculum, SiFA LACS has been able to provide regular instruction since the island-wide shutdown of schools was mandated in March 2020. Our distance learning instruction continued throughout SY 2020-2021 with two learning modes: 100% virtual and 100% hard copy. The virtual program included regular synchronous online instruction via Google Classroom from Monday to Thursday. Fridays were set aside to implement a new House system, where students of all grade levels are placed into one of four Houses to promote social-emotional learning via counseling modules and various interactive activities.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Despite an abrupt switch to a distance learning program for SY 2020-2021, SiFA LACS was able to complete the academic year without losing any instructional days. SiFA students were able to perform well in academic challenges with students earning awards in the island-wide Science Fair and MathCounts. The end-of-year ACT Aspire assessment showed a minimal learning loss compared to the previous assessment conducted in SY 2018-2019.

CHALLENGES

The SiFA LACS curriculum is aligned to Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) with a scaffolding structure that introduces students to multiple disciplines throughout the school year. We do see success in classroom assessments, but have also seen that student learning does not necessarily reflect on assessments that do not cater to scaffolded learning. So while our students scored well in the ACT Aspire assessment for English and Reading, the scores reflected a need for improvement in Math and Science. Our team is reviewing our program so that we can bridge the expectations of standardized assessments and maintain our NGSS scaffolded curriculum.

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has taken a toll on the island-wide education community, including SiFA LACS. Like other schools, SiFA LACS has needed to adjust its mode of instruction and the duration of the pandemic has caused some uncertainty for future planning. The school continues to make multiple plans in order to respond to government mandates.





Mariella Cruz <mcruz@guamopa.com>

SiFA LACS FY 2021 Citizen-Centric Report

Office of the Principal <principal@sifalacs.com>
To: Mariella Cruz <mcruz@guamopa.com>

Fri, Mar 4, 2022 at 4:04 PM

Cc: Clariza Roque <croque@guamopa.com>, Kella Marie Hernandez <khernandez@sifalacs.com>, Ajay Sunga <aj.sunga@sifalacs.com>

Hello Mariella,

I hope all is well. Please see attached for SiFA LACS's CCR for fiscal year 2021.

Our team is also working on posting the report at the SiFA LACS website. It will be there by Monday, March 7, 2022.

Please let me know if you need anything else. Thank you!

Have a great weekend,

JDG

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Kind regards,

Jayne J. de Guzman
Principal
SiFA Learning Academy Charter School

Phone: (671) 734-7432

[Website: www.sifalacs.com](http://www.sifalacs.com)

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"Be the change that you wish to see in the world." - Mahatma Gandhi

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[SiFA LACS CCR FY 2021.pdf](#)
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