

2025

# Sunrise Academy Annual Report

Building a Brighter Future

**Academic Year 2024–2025**  
ADMINISTRATION TEAM



SUNRISE ACADEMY | 5657 SCIOTO DARBY RD HILLIARD, OH 43026 - PHONE: (614) 527-0465  
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# Message from the Head of School

**Dr. Ghada Al-Sadoon**

Dear Sunrise Academy Community,

As we wrapped up another remarkable year at Sunrise Academy, I am filled with pride and gratitude for the growth and accomplishments of our students, staff, and community. The **2024–2025** school year has truly been a period of renewal, innovation, and academic excellence.

Our students continue to demonstrate exceptional curiosity, discipline, and leadership — from outstanding academic performances to meaningful community service and creative expression. Teachers and staff have worked tirelessly to provide a nurturing, faith-centered environment where every learner is encouraged to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

This year, we launched new instructional initiatives, strengthened our college and career readiness programs, and invested in professional development. These steps continue to move us closer to our mission — developing lifelong learners who are confident, compassionate, and globally minded citizens.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to our families, faculty, and board of educators for their unwavering support. Together, we are shaping a bright and purposeful future for every student at Sunrise Academy.

## About Sunrise Academy

Founded in 1996, Sunrise Academy is a faith-based, college-preparatory school dedicated to academic excellence and character development. Serving students from Pre-K through Grade 12, we aim to nurture the mind, body, and soul of every learner. Sunrise Academy is accredited through Cognia in June 30, 2024.



### Mission

Our mission is to provide the highest quality education to the diverse community of Muslim children in Central Ohio within an Islamic environment that nurtures and builds each child's identity as a Muslim American.

### Vision

Our vision is to be a national model for Islamic education, ranked academically among the top schools nationwide, and recognized for the excellence and global contributions of our graduates.

### Sunrise Stallion Values

We will focus on one value for each month and recognize students that displayed the value best.

*Responsibility*

*Integrity*

*Shine*

*Empathy*

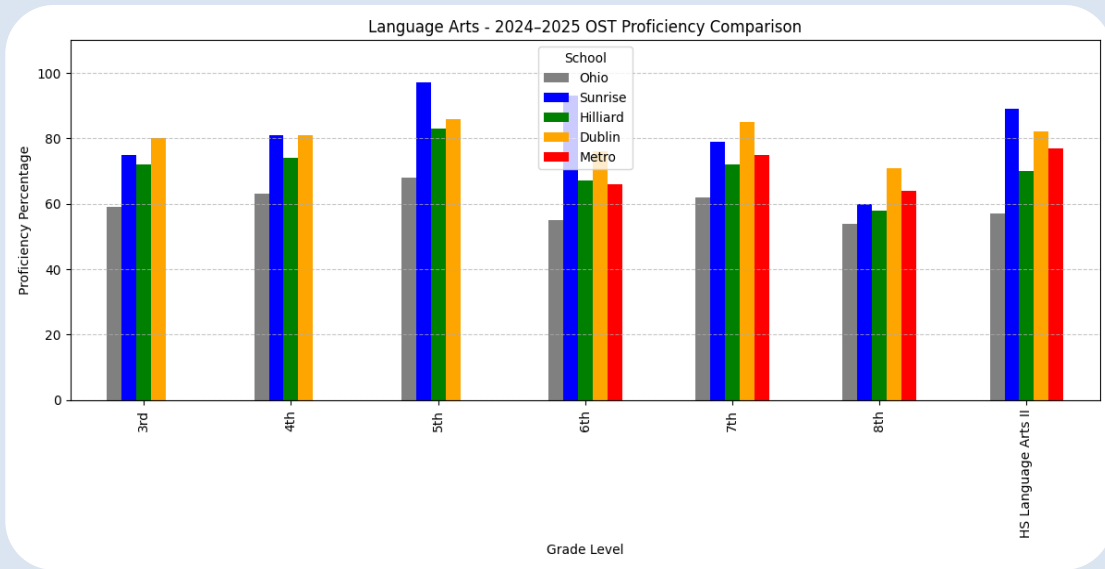


DESCRIPTION OF VALUES CLICK [HERE](#)

## Academic Highlights

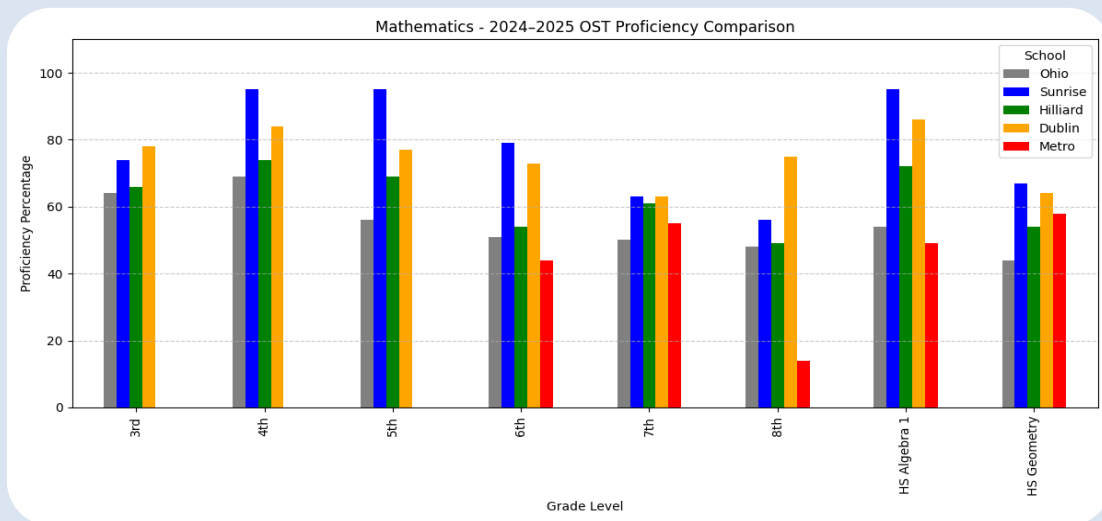
### Language Arts

- ✓ Sunrise Academy consistently outperforms the Ohio State Average.
- ✓ Standout: **5th Grade at 97%** vs. state average of 68%.
- ✓ Slight dip in **8th Grade (60%)**, still above state average.



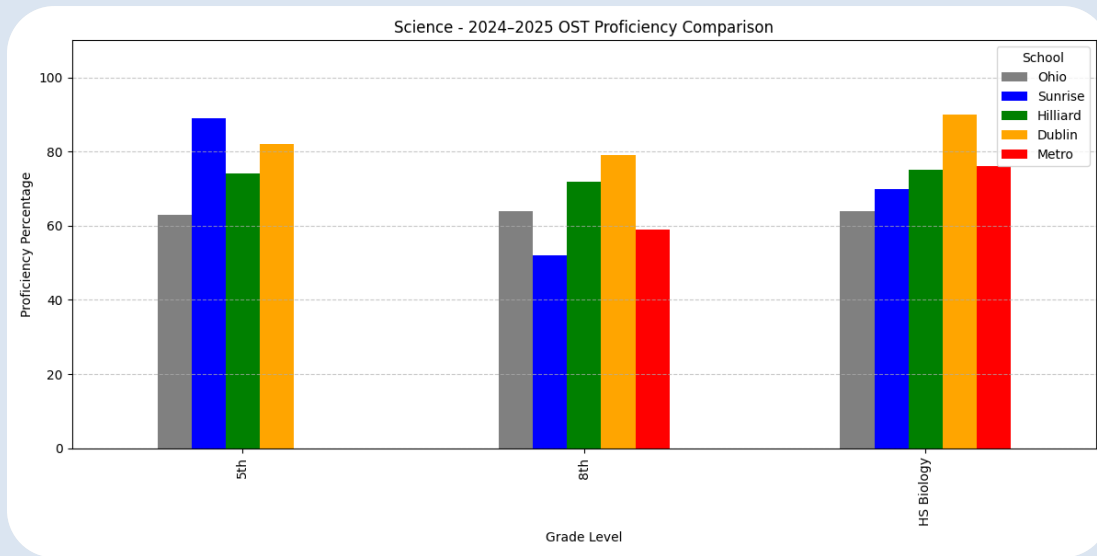
## Mathematics

- ✓ Exceptional performance in **4th and 5th Grades (95%)**.
- ✓ **High School Algebra 1:** Sunrise leads with **95%** proficiency.
- ✓ **8th Grade Math** shows room for growth at **56%**.



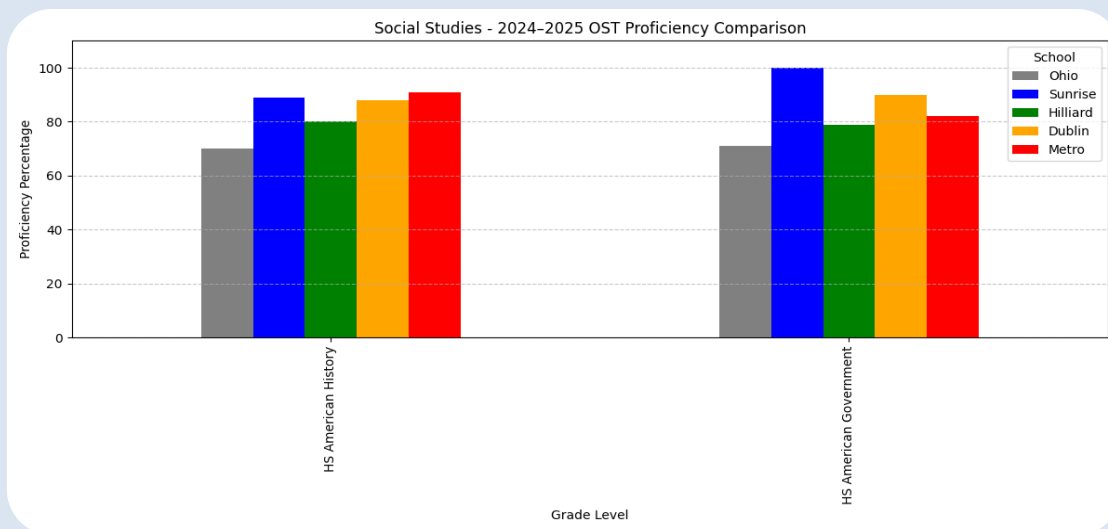
## Science

- ✓ **5th Grade Science:** Sunrise at **89%**, well above the state.
- ✓ **8th Grade Science:** Lower at **52%**, below state and district averages.
- ✓ **Biology:** Solid at **70%**, trailing Dublin's 90%.



## Social Studies (American History & Government)

- ✓ **American History:** Sunrise at **89%**, ahead of state and most districts.
- ✓ **American Government:** Perfect score of **100%**, leading all comparisons.



## Overall Academic Performance 2024-2025

- ✓ Sunrise Academy demonstrates **strong academic performance**, especially in **elementary grades and high school core subjects**.
- ✓ The school's emphasis on **data-driven instruction and targeted interventions** appears to be yielding high returns in key subjects.
- ✓ **Graduation Rate:** 100% - First 12th Grade Graduates 2025-2026
- ✓ **Advanced Coursework:** AP, Honors, CCP, and dual-enrollment classes offered.

## Sunrise Academy Staff

Based on the 2024–2025 staffing records, approximately 69% hold a bachelor's degree or higher (35% of teachers hold a bachelor's degree, while nearly 29% have earned a master's degree). A smaller portion of the instructional team—about 5%—holds doctoral-level degrees), bringing advanced expertise to the academic program. In addition, several staff members possess associate degrees, professional licenses such as middle childhood education, and specialized certifications in areas such as early childhood education, intervention support, curriculum development, and student services.

This diverse range of educational qualifications reflects a well-rounded instructional team with a strong foundation in both pedagogy and content knowledge. The combination of formal degrees and specialized training enables the school to offer comprehensive academic support, address a variety of student needs, and maintain a learning environment rooted in expertise, collaboration, and continuous professional growth.

## Arabic/Quran/Islamic Studies (AQIS) Department

The AQIS department at Sunrise Academy is dedicated to nurturing students' spiritual, intellectual, and linguistic growth. Its core focus areas include Qur'an mastery, Islamic studies, and Arabic language development, all taught through engaging and real-life applications.

- **Qur'an Mastery:** With leveled instruction, students learn proper Tajweed and memorization techniques, confidently reciting Surahs during class and school assemblies. This instills discipline, reverence, and a deep connection to the Qur'an.
- **Islamic Studies:** Lessons are designed to connect knowledge to daily life, encouraging moral and ethical growth. Students engage in hands-on projects and real-world scenarios that promote values such as charity, honesty, and responsibility.
- **Arabic Language Development:** Leveled instruction emphasizes reading, writing, and conversation. Students actively participate in dialogues, storytelling, presentations, and collaborative projects, which enhances their fluency and confidence in using Arabic.

These approaches produce measurable outcomes: improved Qur'an recitation, strong memorization skills, active engagement in faith-based learning, and confident communication in Arabic. Beyond academics, students demonstrate moral growth, leadership, and a sense of responsibility, reflecting the department's commitment to shaping well-rounded individuals grounded in Islamic knowledge and practice.

## Looking Ahead: 2025–2026 Goals

### Enhance Academic Excellence

- Strengthen core instruction by implementing consistent, data-driven teaching strategies across all grade levels.
- Expand enrichment and intervention programs to meet the needs of all learners—advanced, on-level, and those who need additional support.
- Promote cross-curricular learning projects that connect academic content to real-world applications and STEAM education in middle/high school.
- Increase focus on writing, problem-solving, and critical-thinking skills across all subjects.

## Build Strong Character and Leadership

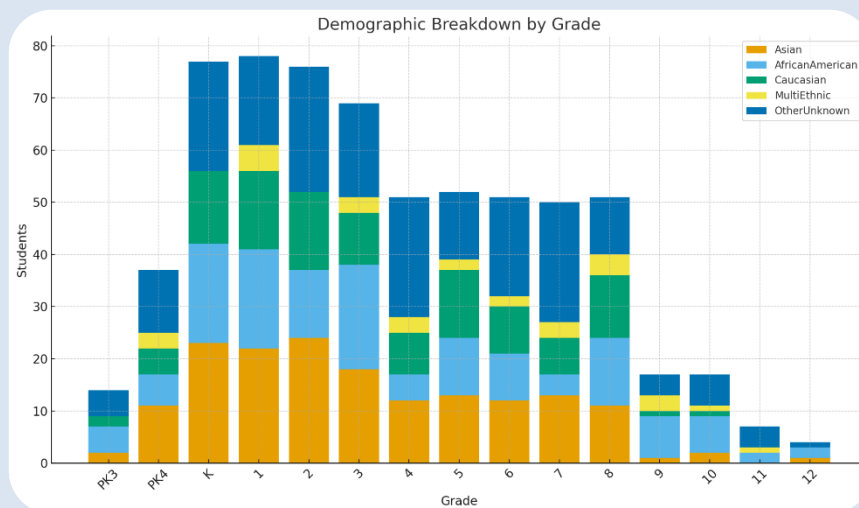
- Integrate character education and Islamic values into daily routines, lessons, and school-wide activities, and implementing Character Strong Curriculum into middle school schedule.
- Launch student-led initiatives that promote responsibility, respect, and community service.
- Provide leadership and mentoring opportunities through programs like student council, peer tutoring, and service clubs.
- Recognize and celebrate positive behavior and acts of kindness to reinforce a caring school culture.

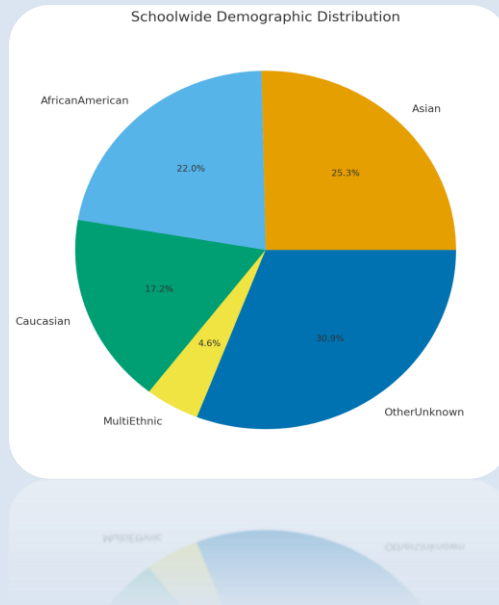
## High School Program

Sunrise Academy is proud to share the exciting growth of our high school program as we look forward to graduating our first cohort in the **2025–2026** school year. Over the past years, the program has expanded significantly to offer students a more rigorous and diverse academic experience. We have successfully implemented the College Credit Plus (CCP) program, introduced Advanced Placement (AP) and Honors courses, and continued to strengthen our dual enrollment offerings. These advancements reflect our commitment to providing students with exceptional opportunities that prepare them for college, careers, and lifelong success.

## Enrollment & Demographics

During the **2024–2025** school year, Sunrise Academy enrolled **599** students across grades PK–11, reflecting a diverse community that includes Asian/Pacific Islander, African American, Caucasian, Multi-Ethnic, and other backgrounds. Currently in **2025–2026**, Sunrise Academy enrolled approximately **651** students, which will include the graduation of its first senior class. The school remains committed to maintaining high academic standards, fostering student retention, and deepening family engagement, while providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all families.





## Financial Overview (2024-2025)

During the **2024–2025** school year, Sunrise Academy generated revenue from tuition, scholarship programs, nutrition services, leased facilities, and fundraising efforts. The largest portion of expenses was dedicated to payroll. Additional spending supported building maintenance, utilities, instructional materials, technology, and student programs. Alhamdulillah, Sunrise Academy concluded the fiscal year in a strong financial position, allowing for continued investment in staffing, facilities, and high-quality academic and student services.

## Student Life and Leadership

Sunrise Academy students actively engage in leadership, service, and extracurricular opportunities that build character and teamwork.

### Clubs and Activities:

- Clubs (Science, Drama, Art, and STEAM)
- National Honor Society (NHS) and National Junior Honor Society (NJHS)
- Weekly Halaqa for Boys and Girls
- Tarbiyah Club for Elementary
- Monthly Theme and Assembly
- Character-building Events, Spiritual Engagement and Reflection Programs
- Quran, Salah, Arabic Spelling Competition
- Weekly Morning Skit
- After school Hifz program
- Students Council

## **The Improvement Committee (IC)**

The Improvement Committee (IC), made up of parents, staff, students, and board members, works closely with the PTO to enhance Sunrise Academy academically through volunteer-led projects. Its vision is to strengthen the educational environment so students can reach their goals and become outstanding citizens, and its mission focuses on implementing high-quality improvement initiatives in collaboration with all school stakeholders. Completed projects for 2024–2025 include communication enhancements, CPR and AED training, and the first phase of an emotional wellness project. Upcoming projects require further planning, such as Emotional Wellness Part 2, composting, survey analysis, Health Islamic Education, and the Innovative Design Lab. This year, the main focus is the Innovative Design Lab, led by Rehab Shehna, who collaborates weekly with the PAST Foundation to bring innovation materials to and from the school.

## **Technology at Sunrise Academy**

The school has 51 teachers, each provided with a school laptop, all of which are fully utilized. Additionally, 600 students are provided with school Chromebooks, which are also consistently used. The school is equipped with 26 smartboards, which teachers utilize approximately 90% of the time.

For network and internet security, the school employs a Meraki firewall (SRA-MX-250) along with 5 Meraki switches. The campus is supported by 33 Meraki wireless access points (MR44), ensuring reliable connectivity throughout the school.

## **Board of Education**

Mr. Sohial Khan (Chairman)  
Mr. Saif Nawaz (Finance)  
Ms. Hend Al-Kharashi (Planning)  
Ms. Jathiya Abdullah-Simmons (Education)  
Ms. Heather O'Bannon (Human Resources)

# Gallery



**Project Based Learning Activity**



**STEM Activity**



**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation**



**100% OST Scores**



**Washington D.C. Trip**



**Arabic Spelling Bee Winners**



**Quran Competition Winners**



**Water Purification  
Science Experiment**



**Water Species  
Science Experiment**



**Multiplication Masters**



**Cardiovascular  
Scholars Camp**



**CPR/First Aid Training**



**Righteous Leaders**



**Respect Theme**



**Muslim Contribution Activity**



**20 Years of Halaqa**



**Holy Quran Practice**



**Girls' Basketball  
Team**



**12 Years of  
Summer Camp**

# Contact US

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