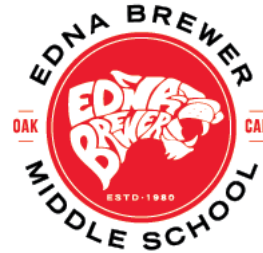


# Edna Brewer Middle School

3748 13th Ave, Oakland, CA 94610 | <https://www.ednabrewer.net>

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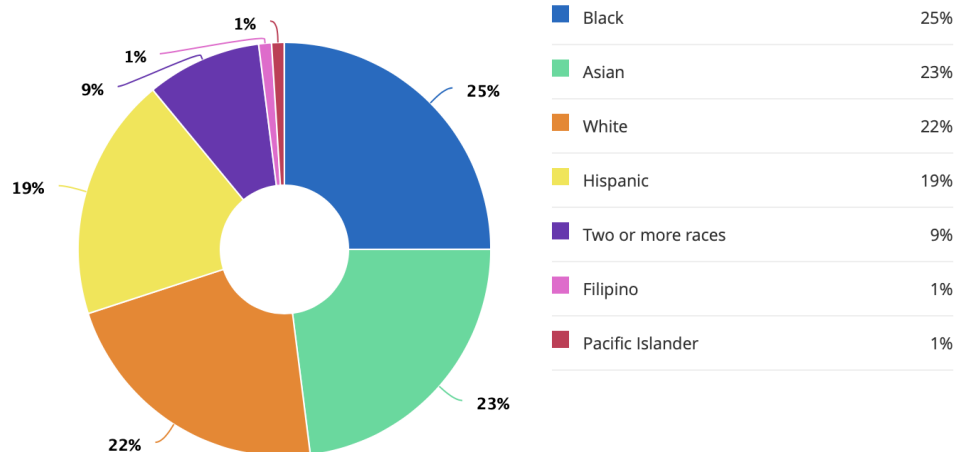
## Overview

**Mission/Vision:** Edna Brewer is an inclusive school community where social and emotional learning are prioritized. Proudly, Edna Brewer is one of the most diverse schools in Oakland, with students from every corner of the city representing many different cultural backgrounds. Principal: Aubrey Layne

## Demographics:

Total # of Students	Under-Resourced Students	Dual/Multi Language	Equity Rating	Students to Teacher Ratio	Students: Counselor
805	56%	8%	4/10	21:1	824:1

## Race/Ethnicity:



## What Makes This School Unique

[Edna Brewer Middle School](#) has a rigorous academic program featuring a heavy focus on project-based group work across all core disciplines, and is implemented by an exceptionally innovative, collaborative and dedicated teaching staff. They prioritize physical health with a dynamic PE program. 90-minute block periods are broken up by recess and lunch, so that students have opportunities for movement and socializing. A weekly Advisory class allows for homework check-ins and further community building.



Edna Brewer offers robust Music, Art, Drama, and Sports programs that they are committed to expanding year-to-year with the support of the Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA).

Restorative Justice is at the heart of their successful social- emotional learning program. Designed to put the student's voice at the center, it emphasizes community, discipline and empathy.

Edna Brewer is proud of their thriving school community. They care about children and learning, and strive to offer a balanced educational experience in a positive and inclusive environment.

## School and Neighborhood History

Edna Brewer, originally named [McChesney Elementary](#), was built in 1913 at the intersection of 13th Avenue and East 38th Street. It then changed to McChesney Junior High in honor of educator Joseph B. McChesney (1832-1912), Oakland High School's first Principal, who died the year before this school's construction was finished. In 1989, Oakland Unified School District renamed the school for Edna Brewer. She was the school's beloved principal of 14 years, who passed away 2 years after retiring. Edna Brewer was described as spirited, positive and upbeat, but also strong-willed. Apparently it was not uncommon to see her battle the central administration on behalf of her school and her students. Brewer is only the second school in Oakland to be renamed in honor of a woman!

The [Ohlone and Chochenyo nations](#) inhabited the coastal region of Central and Northern California that includes Oakland.<sup>4</sup> Due to [Spanish colonization of the Ohlone and Chochenyo lands](#), there was a drastic change and evolution of the region over the years that leads us to its physical layout today.

Edna Brewer is located in the Glenview neighborhood. Glenview is a neighborhood in the [Lower Hills](#) of Oakland with a gentle, residential vibe. It stretches from the Piedmont border to MacArthur Blvd. and this is reflective in its socio-economic diversity.

Park Blvd. is the main artery of Glenview with a number of shops, restaurants, and grocery stores. Some of the historic areas/neighborhoods and tracts that form Glenview are the Fourth Avenue District (1907), by Wickham Havens, Cameron Tract and the Carmony Property. Cameron and Carmony were ranchers. These areas were designed for "medium-wage earners" as opposed to the nearby [Trestle Glen](#) and [Crocker Highlands](#) neighborhoods.

**Development:** Glenview is part of [District 5](#), which is predominantly located below [580](#) and predominantly Latino. At one of the [redistricting meetings](#) in July, 2013, speakers attending (not city officials) said that the inclusion of Glenview in D5 came about for two reasons. First, previous city councils had decided that districts must include areas in the hills and the flats and Glenview was the hill area for D5. Secondly, [Ignacio de la Fuente](#) allegedly advocated for the inclusion of Glenview in D5 to get more wealthy, white voters in his district.<sup>2</sup> Although the reasons for the inclusion still need to be researched, you can see that Glenview was indeed added to District 5 during the 2003 redistricting process

**Gentrification within the Neighborhood:** [Gentrification](#) is a process that includes economic and demographic changes to historically disinvested neighborhoods. It's important to be aware of the process because new, affluent residents moving to a neighborhood for housing or business can contribute to significant increases in rent and real estate prices. These increases impact the most vulnerable and pressure low-income residents to meet the demand which alters their own household/family budget.<sup>6</sup> Many Bay Area neighborhoods have [changed culturally and financially due to gentrification](#).

By large numbers, homeowners are selling their homes and moving out of the Glenview area and with that unfortunately so are the residents of color. Other than the local shops and restaurants in the plaza, the neighborhood is regressing and losing an abundance of its identity. The majority of these homes are being purchased by white collar individuals who are new to the area and oftentimes will keep to themselves. There is a severe lack of communication amongst the neighbors which has led to minimal trust and selective interactions. In order for the neighborhood to improve, neighbors must become more interactive with each other.

## Endnotes:

1. <https://www.ednabrewer.net/about-our-school/>
2. <https://www.greatschools.org>
3. <https://oaklandplanninghistory.weebly.com/early-history.html>
4. <https://abitofhistory.website/?s=edna+brewer>
5. <https://native-land.ca/>
6. [https://localwiki.org/oakland/History of Mexican and Latino Americans](https://localwiki.org/oakland/History_of_Mexican_and_Latino_Americans)
7. <https://localwiki.org/oakland/Glenview>