



# Legacy Business Registry

# Application Review Sheet

*Application No.:* LBR-2025-26-004  
*Business Name:* Presidio Hill School  
*Business Address:* 3839 Washington St.  
*District:* District 2  
*Applicant:* Sarah Gaffney, Director of Marketing & Communications  
*Nomination Date:* July 28, 2025  
*Nominated By:* Supervisor Stephen Sherrill

**CRITERION 1:** Has the applicant has operated in San Francisco for 30 or more years, with no break in San Francisco operations exceeding two years?  
      X       Yes                          No

3839 Washington St. from 1918 to Present (107 years)  
233 Maple St. from 2013 to Present (12 years)

**CRITERION 2:** Has the applicant contributed to the neighborhood's history and/or the identity of a particular neighborhood or community?  
      X       Yes                          No

**CRITERION 3:** Is the applicant committed to maintaining the physical features or traditions that define the business, including craft, culinary, or art forms?  
      X       Yes                          No

**FEATURES OR TRADITIONS:** School

**NOTES:** NA

**DELIVERY DATE TO THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION:** August 18, 2025

Richard Kurylo and Michelle Reynolds  
Legacy Business Program

**Legacy Business Program**  
Office of Small Business  
City Hall Room 140  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
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Member, Board of  
Supervisors District 2



City and County of San  
Francisco

**STEPHEN SHERRILL**

February 27, 2025

Katy Tang  
Office of Small Businesses  
City Hall, Room 110  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102

**Re: Nomination of Presidio Hill School for the Legacy Business Registry**

Dear Director Tang,

I am pleased to nominate Presidio Hill School, owned by Lisa Jeli, for the Legacy Business Registry. Presidio Hill School has become important to the Presidio's history through their dedication to civic engagement, forward-thinking and inclusion.

Founded in 1918, by Helen Halz and Flora Arnstein, it has become the oldest continually running progressive school in California. The founders' mission, on project-based learning, is echoed through the curriculum it continues to offer its students.

One facet of Presidio Hill School's learning revolves around community outreach. Historically, the school has aided refugees in their adjustment to American life. The impact of this school extends far beyond the students, as it regularly holds clothing drives and sidewalk clean-ups. Students are encouraged to find the value in serving their community.

As an institution that has proven itself to be a driver of change and an asset to the community, I will gladly present them as a business worthy of the Legacy Business Registry.

The nominee can be contacted here: Lisa Jeli, 3839 Washington Street, San Francisco, CA 94118; (415) 751 - 9318; [lizzy@presidiohill.org](mailto:lizzy@presidiohill.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. Sherrill", with a stylized, flowing script.

Stephen Sherrill  
District 2 Supervisor  
City and County of San Francisco

City Hall • 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244 • San Francisco, California 94102-4689  
(415) 554-7752 • E-mail: [Stephen.Sherrill@sfgov.org](mailto:Stephen.Sherrill@sfgov.org)



# Legacy Business Registry Application



## Business Information

**Business name:** Presidio Hill School

**Business owner name(s):** Lisa Jeli

*Identify the person(s) with the highest ownership stake in the business*

**Current business address:** 3839 Washington St., San Francisco, CA 94118

**Telephone:** (415 ) 751 – 9318

**Email:** frontdesk@presidiohill.org

**Mailing address (if different than above):**

**Website:** www.presidiohill.org

**Facebook:** www.facebook.com/presidiohillschool

**Twitter:**

**7-digit San Francisco Business Account Number (BAN):** 1 1 4 6 4 8 0

**Do any of these describe your business?** (select all that apply)

*Requires at least 51% of the business be owned, operated, and controlled by the business designation below.*

☐ Immigrant-Owned Business

☐ Owned by Person with a Disability

☐ LGBTQ+-Owned Business

☐ Veteran-Owned Business

☐ Minority-Owned Business\*

☐ Woman-Owned Business

*\*Minority is defined as one or more of the following racial or ethnic groups: American Indian or Alaska Native; Asian; Black or African American; Hispanic or Latino; Middle Eastern or North African; Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander*

## Contact Person Information

**Contact person name:** Sarah Gaffney

**Contact person title:** Director of Marketing & Communications

**Contact telephone:** ( ) –

**Contact email:**

Business Location(s)

List the business address of the original San Francisco location, the start date of business, and the dates of operation at the original location. Check the box indicating whether the original location of the business in San Francisco is the founding location of the business.

If the business moved from its original location and has had additional addresses in San Francisco, identify all other addresses and the dates of operation at each address.

Original San Francisco address:

3839 Washington St.

Zip Code:

94118

Is this location the founding location of the business? (Y/N):

Y

Dates at this location: From:

1918

To:

Present

Other address (if applicable):

233 Maple St.

Zip Code:

94118

Dates at this location: From:

2013

To:

Present

Other address (if applicable):

Zip Code:

Dates at this location: From:

To:

Other address (if applicable):

Zip Code:

Dates at this location: From:

To:

Other Address (if applicable):

Zip Code:

Dates at this location: From:

To:

Other address (if applicable):

Zip Code:

Dates at this location: From:

To:



## Applicant Disclosures

**San Francisco Taxes, Business Registration, Licenses, Labor Laws and Public Information Release.**

This section is verification that all San Francisco taxes, business registration, and licenses are current and complete, and there are no current violations of San Francisco labor laws. This information will be verified. A business deemed not current with all San Francisco taxes, business registration, and licenses, or has current violations of San Francisco labor laws, will not be eligible to apply for grants through the Legacy Business Program.

In addition, we are required to inform you that all information provided in the application will become subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act.

Please read the following statements and check each to indicate that you agree with the statement. Then sign below in the space provided.

- ☒ I am authorized to submit this application on behalf of the business.
- ☒ I attest that the business is current on all of its San Francisco tax obligations.
- ☒ I attest that the business's business registration and any applicable regulatory license(s) are current.
- ☒ I attest that the Office of Labor Standards and Enforcement (OLSE) has not determined that the business is currently in violation of any of the City's labor laws, and that the business does not owe any outstanding penalties or payments ordered by the OLSE.
- ☒ I understand that documents submitted with this application may be made available to the public for inspection and copying pursuant to the California Public Records Act and San Francisco Sunshine Ordinance.
- ☒ I hereby acknowledge and authorize that all photographs and images submitted as part of the application may be used by the City without compensation.
- ☒ I understand that the Small Business Commission may revoke the placement of the business on the Registry if it finds that the business no longer qualifies, and that placement on the Registry does not entitle the business to a grant of City funds.

Name: Sarah Gaffney

Signature:

*Sarah Gaffney*

Date: 12/19/2024

# **PRESIDIO HILL SCHOOL**

## **Written Historical Narrative**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **a. Describe the business. What does it sell or provide?**

Founded in 1918 as the Presidio Open Air School, Presidio Hill School has grown and flourished over the last century. Its students continue to be caring community members who advocate for themselves, for others, and for what is right; they are intrepid and engaged learners. Presidio Hill staff members have encouraged and captivated students for over 100 years—learning alongside the students, fostering leadership, and inspiring civic engagement. Presidio Hill School, while having changed and grown in structure over the last century, maintains the progressive mission and inclusive values from its founding—values that have made the school an incredibly special and unique place throughout the years.

#### **b. Describe whom the business serves.**

Presidio Hill School serves students and families from throughout San Francisco and the Bay Area. Statistics about their students:

- Enrollment - 210
- Male | Female | Non Binary - 47% | 52% | 1%
- Total: Students of color - 49%
- Black | African-American - 3%
- Asian | Asian-American - 15%
- Latinx - 10%
- Middle Eastern - 2%
- Multiracial - 19%
- White | European-American - 49%
- International families - 3%
- Families speaking additional or non-English language at home - 26%
- Students with LGBTQ parents - 2%
- Geographic diversity (zip codes) - 36%
- Students receiving tuition assistance - 31%

#### **c. In about 2-5 words (15-30 characters), describe what the business is known for.**

Progressive education.

**CRITERION 1: The business has operated in San Francisco for 30 or more years, with no break in San Francisco operations exceeding two years**

**a. Provide a short history of the business, including locations and owners.**

In 1918, Helen Salz and Flora Arnstein opened the Presidio Open Air School to San Francisco children and families tired of the rote learning and boring, factory-model pedagogy of the times. The school's pedagogy was anchored in the progressive ideas of John Dewey, and it was the first such school in California. The school opened in a house on a property donated by the Salz family, and Presidio Hill School remains operating at its original location, 3839 Washington Street in the Presidio Heights neighborhood.

In 1968, the school became a membership co-operative including parents, staff, and board.

In the early 1990s, PHS began to move away from the co-op structure to a more mainstream non-profit board structure, and in 1990 PHS became an accredited member of the California Association of Independent Schools.

In 2013, Presidio Hill School purchased 233 Maple Street. This additional building was renovated and became a functioning part of the PHS campus in 2015.

**b. Provide the ownership history of the business in a consolidated year-to-year format.**

1918 to 1925	Flora Arnstein and Helen Salz, Founders of Presidio Open Air School
1925 to 1937	Marion Turner, Director
1937 to 1941	Josephine Duveneck, Director
1941 to 1942	Henry C. Fenn, Director
1942 to 1948	Emma Nuschi Plank, Director
1948 to 1958	Rheua Pearce, Director
1958 to 1968	Katherine Fromer, Director
1968 to 1974	Bob Muller, Director
1974 to 1980	Denise Hinckle, Director
1980 to 1996	Susan Andrews, Director
1996 to 1999	David Hochschartner, Presidio Hill Head of School
1999 to 2004	Carey Davis, Presidio Hill Head of School
2004 to 2006	Ann Meissner, Interim Presidio Hill Head of School
2006 to 2008	Brian Thomas, Presidio Hill Head of School
2008 to 2009	Susan Andrews, Interim Presidio Hill Head of School
2009 to 2016	Scott Duyan, Presidio Hill Head of School
2016 to 2018	Kevin Jacobson, Presidio Hill Head of School
2018 to Present	Lisa Jeli, Presidio Hill Head of School

**c. Describe any circumstances that required the business to cease operations in San Francisco for any significant length of time.**

Presidio Hill School has remained continuously open since its inception in 1918.

**CRITERION 2: The business has contributed to the neighborhood's history and/or the identity of a particular neighborhood or community**

**a. Describe the business' contribution to the history and/or identity of the neighborhood, community, business sector, or San Francisco as a whole.**

Presidio Hill School, the oldest continually operating progressive school in California, has contributed to the history and identity of Presidio Heights and San Francisco. Dedicated to progressive education since 1918, Presidio Hill School challenges young people to imagine, inquire, and create. Their students engage San Francisco and the Presidio as an extended classroom and become empowered learners who are responsible, committed to justice, and optimistic about the future.

**b. Is the business associated with significant people or events, either now or in the past?**

During the late 1930s and early '40s, former school director Josephine Whitney Duveneck was active with the American Friends Service Committee, which helped refugees from Hitler's Germany begin their lives anew in San Francisco, and the school was often used as a focal point for such activities. The school was also a locus for protest against the internment camps in which many Japanese Americans were held during World War II.

Just after the war, in 1946, the Williams family joined the Presidio Hill community. Rosalind and Stephanie, young girls at the time they came to the school, were, it is believed, the first African-American students at any independent school in San Francisco. They were welcomed, and they say today that the school was their best educational experience. Stephanie has recently served on the school's Board of Trustees.

A few years later, as intolerance for political activism became mainstream, blacklisted entertainers Paul Robeson and Pete Seeger were invited to sing for the Presidio Hill community, where they found a welcome audience. Seeger was joined by fellow singer-activist Malvina Reynolds for the Sunday sing-along, then popular at the school.

Today, the school carries on the tradition of preparing all students for a democratic society by educating a cross-section of San Francisco life. Approximately 45% of Presidio Hill students are children of color. Approximately 31% receive tuition assistance. Quite a few more come from families who are citizens of countries other than the United States. The curriculum stresses humanity's search for social justice and human rights. A Presidio Hill contingent marches with other independent schools in San Francisco's Pride Parade every year.

**c. How does the business demonstrate its commitment to the community?**

The Center for Progressive Education at Presidio Hill School, which opened in the fall of 2015, is building on the school's century-long legacy of progressive education to strengthen and expand the community dedicated to its philosophy and practices.

The CPE@PHS has several overlapping goals:

- To serve as the hub for information sharing and discussion regarding progressive education philosophy and practice among local Bay Area and West Coast educational institutions.
- To partner with like-minded educators in order to learn from each other and expand the depth and reach of progressive practices.
- To support the mission and vision of the Progressive Education Network of which the CPE is a regional affiliate.

In addition to serving their community by providing high-quality progressive education to their students, the school community members are engaged in community service beyond the walls of their school. Examples include:

- Hiring BATTI teachers in training.
- Collecting food for the SF/Marin Food Bank.
- Volunteering with Compass Family Services.
- Hosting community clothing, costume, and book swaps to reduce waste.
- Adopting a drain in the neighborhood to keep clear and prevent flooding during inclement weather.
- Collecting litter from streets and sidewalks in the neighborhood.

**d. Has the business ever been referenced in the media, business trade publication, and/or historical documents?**

- Progressive Education Network of which the CPE is a regional affiliate.
- Accredited by the California Association of Independent Schools (CAIS).
- Member of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), Progressive Educators Network (PEN), and People of Color in Independent Schools (POCIS).

**e. Has the business ever received any awards, recognition, or political commendations?**

On March 2nd each year, Presidio Hill School celebrates Founders Day because the San Francisco Board of Supervisors declared it to be Presidio Hill School Day on March 2, 2018.

**f. How would the community be diminished if the business were to be sold, relocated, shut down, etc.?**

If the school were to close, San Francisco would lose a vital institution with over a century of history rooted in progressive education and civil rights advocacy. Presidio Hill School has been a

cornerstone of the community since 1918, providing a unique learning environment that nurtures critical thinking, creativity, and social responsibility. The Presidio Heights neighborhood would lose a hub of intellectual and cultural enrichment, while families across the city would lose access to a pioneering educational model that prepares students to be thoughtful, engaged citizens. Additionally, the closure would result in the loss of employment for about 50 dedicated faculty and staff and diminish San Francisco's rich tradition of fostering innovative and inclusive educational opportunities.

### **CRITERION 3: The business is committed to maintaining the physical features or traditions that define the business**

**a. Is the business associated with a culturally significant building, structure, object, signage, mural, architectural detail, neon sign, or any other special physical feature that defines the business?**

Presidio Hill School has been a presence on Washington Street since 1918. The concrete seal from when the school was called the "Presidio Open Air School" remains at the entrance to the building.

**b. In a few words, describe the main business activity you commit to maintaining.**

Providing progressive education.

**c. What is the plan to keep the business open in the long term beyond the current ownership?**

Presidio Hill School has a long history of providing quality education under many different Heads of Schools. Through thoughtful strategic planning, an engaged board and family community, and the CAIS accreditation process, they are committed to continuing to provide a progressive education for many generations to come.

**d. What challenges is the business facing today?**

As the demographics of San Francisco change to include fewer families with elementary- and middle school-aged children, there is increased competition among independent schools to reach full enrollment.

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**Legacy Business Program staff will add the following details:**

**a. Features or traditions that define the business and should be maintained for the business to remain on the Legacy Business Registry.**

School.

**b. Other special features of the business location, such as if the property associated with the business is listed on a local, state, or federal historic resources registry.**

The Planning Department Historic Resource Status of the buildings at 3839 Washington Street and 233 Maple Street are “A - Historic Resource Present.” The buildings are contributors to the Eligible Presidio Heights Historic District.

























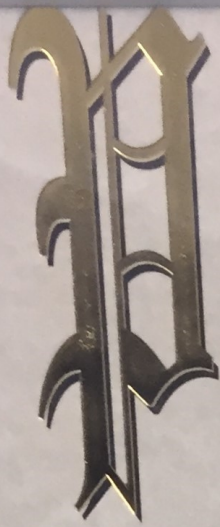












# Proclamation

City and County of San Francisco

**WHEREAS**, the City and County of San Francisco traditionally recognizes the achievements of notable organizations, achievements and the dedicated work of those who truly represents San Francisco values at their best; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2018, Presidio Hill School will celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of providing a transformative progressive education in the Presidio Heights neighborhood; and

**WHEREAS**, founded in 1918 by poet Helen Salz and painter Flora Arnstein, Presidio Hill School remains the oldest continuously operating progressive school in the State of California; and

**WHEREAS**, Presidio Hill school has a long and storied history of inspiring children to become their best selves; and

**WHEREAS**, since its founding, Presidio Hill School has emphasized artistic creativity, social justice, and the great outdoors; and

**WHEREAS**, Presidio Hill School strives each day to use the Presidio District and the City of San Francisco as a living classroom for our students; now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that I, Mark E. Farrell, Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco, in recognition of their 100 years of educating our best and brightest, do hereby proclaim March 2, 2018 as...

## PRESIDIO HILL SCHOOL DAY

*in San Francisco!*



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City and County of San Francisco to be affixed.

*Mark E. Farrell*

Mark E. Farrell  
Mayor





# Small Business Commission

Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

September 22, 2025

## PRESIDIO HILL SCHOOL

*Application No.:* LBR-2025-26-004  
*Business Name:* Presidio Hill School  
*Business Address:* 3839 Washington St.  
*District:* District 2  
*Applicant:* Sarah Gaffney, Director of Marketing & Communications  
*Nomination Date:* July 28, 2025  
*Nominated By:* Supervisor Stephen Sherrill  
*Staff Contact:* Richard Kurylo and Michelle Reynolds  
legacybusiness@sfgov.org

**Adopting findings approving the Legacy Business Registry application for Presidio Hill School, currently located at 3839 Washington St.**

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Administrative Code Section 2A.242, the Office of Small Business maintains a registry of Legacy Businesses in San Francisco (the "Registry") to recognize that longstanding, community-serving businesses can be valuable cultural assets of the City and to be a tool for providing educational and promotional assistance to Legacy Businesses to encourage their continued viability and success; and

**WHEREAS**, the subject business has operated in San Francisco for 30 or more years, with no break in San Francisco operations exceeding two years; or

**WHEREAS**, the subject business has operated in San Francisco for more than 20 years but less than 30 years, has had no break in San Francisco operations exceeding two years, has significantly contributed to the history or identity of a particular neighborhood or community and, if not included on the Registry, faces a significant risk of displacement; and

**WHEREAS**, the subject business has contributed to the neighborhood's history and identity; and

**WHEREAS**, the subject business is committed to maintaining the physical features and traditions that define the business; and

**WHEREAS**, at a duly noticed public hearing held on September 22, 2025, the San Francisco Small Business Commission reviewed documents and correspondence, and heard oral testimony on the Legacy Business Registry application; therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Small Business Commission hereby includes Presidio Hill School in the Legacy Business Registry as a Legacy Business under Administrative Code Section 2A.242.

### Legacy Business Program

Office of Small Business  
City Hall Room 140  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
(415) 554-6680  
legacybusiness@sfgov.org  
[www.legacybusiness.org](http://www.legacybusiness.org)





**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Small Business Commission recommends safeguarding the below listed physical features and traditions at Presidio Hill School.

Physical Features or Traditions that Define the Business:

- Progressive education.
- Community service activities.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Small Business Commission requires maintenance of the below listed core physical feature or tradition to maintain Presidio Hill School on the Legacy Business Registry:

- School.

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I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED by the Small Business Commission on September 22, 2025.

---

Katy Tang  
Director

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Ayes –  
Nays –  
Abstained –  
Absent –

**Legacy Business Program**

Office of Small Business  
City Hall Room 140  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
(415) 554-6680  
[legacybusiness@sfgov.org](mailto:legacybusiness@sfgov.org)  
[www.legacybusiness.org](http://www.legacybusiness.org)





# LEGACY BUSINESS REGISTRY EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**HEARING DATE: SEPTEMBER 17, 2025**

*Filing Date:* August 19, 2025  
*Case No.:* 2025-007613LBR  
*Business Name:* Presidio Hill School  
*Business Address:* 3839 Washington Street  
*Zoning:* RH-1 (RESIDENTIAL- HOUSE, ONE FAMILY) Zoning District  
40-X Height and Bulk District  
*Cultural District:* Not Applicable  
*Block/Lot:* 0992/034  
*Applicant:* Sarah Gaffney  
3839 Washington St  
*Nominated By:* Supervisor Stephen Sherrill  
*Located In:* District 2  
*Staff Contact:* Maggie Dong - 628.652.7426  
Maggie.Dong@sfgov.org

**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution to Recommend Approval

## Business Description

Presidio Hill School is a progressive school located at 3839 Washington Street in the Presidio Heights neighborhood. The school currently serves students from transitional kindergarten to 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The curriculum focuses on social justice and human rights. In terms of the student population, approximately 31% of students receive tuition assistance and 45% of the students are children of color.

The school was founded in 1918 as the Presidio Open Air School at 3839 Washington Street. Founders Helen Salz and Flora Arnstein based the school's pedagogy on John Dewey's progressive ideals and project-based curriculum. In the late 1930s to early 1940s, the school helped refugees from Germany settle into their new home in the United States. The school was also a place for protesting the internment camps where Japanese Americans were held during World War II. The school was the first independent school to serve African American students in 1946. Rosalind and Stephanie Williams were the first African American students to join the school. Stephanie Williams returned to serve on the school's Board of Trustees in recent years.

To expand the progressive education philosophy and practices, the Center for Progressive Education was open in 2015 at the school. Educators receive training and support to serve their own communities. In addition to providing support to educators, the school participates in community service events.

## Staff Analysis

### Review Criteria

**1. *When was business founded?***

The business was founded in 1918.

**2. *Does the business qualify for listing on the Legacy Business Registry? If so, how?***

Yes. Presidio Hill School qualifies for listing on the Legacy Business Registry because it meets all of the eligibility Criteria:

- a. Presidio Hill School has operated continuously in San Francisco for 107 years.
- b. Presidio Hill School has contributed to the history and identity of the Presidio Heights neighborhood and San Francisco.
- c. Presidio Hill School is committed to maintaining the physical features and traditions that define the organization.

**3. *Is the business associated with a culturally significant art / craft / cuisine / tradition?***

No.

**4. *Is the business or its building associated with significant events, persons, and / or architecture?***

The Washington Street property is located within the California Register-Eligible Presidio Heights Historic District. The district is eligible under Criterion 3 - Architecture. It is almost exclusively residential and primarily characterized by large, frequently formal, dwellings, typically two to three stories in height over a raised basement. Constructed mainly between 1905 to 1925, the buildings reflect mostly late-Victorian (typically Queen), Shingle (or First Bay Region), Arts & Crafts, Classical Revival, Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival, French Provincial, and Mediterranean Revival design influences.

**5. *Is the property associated with the business listed on a local, state, or federal historic resource registry?***

No.

**6. *Is the business mentioned in a local historic context statement?***

No, not as of the date of this Executive Summary.

**7. *Has the business been cited in published literature, newspapers, journals, etc.?***

No.

## Racial and Social Equity Analysis

On July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 the San Francisco Historic Preservation Commission adopted [Resolution No. 1127](#) centering Preservation Planning on racial and social equity. Understanding the benefits, burdens, and opportunities to advance racial and social equity that proposed Preservation Planning documents provide is part of the Department's Racial and Social Equity Initiative. This is also consistent with the Mayor's Citywide Strategic Initiatives for equity and accountability and with the Office of Racial Equity, which required all Departments to conduct this analysis.

The Legacy Business Program is deeply intertwined with these goals. One of the primary purposes of the Legacy Business Program is to maintain San Francisco's cultural fabric and to foster civic engagement and pride by assisting long-operating businesses remain in the city. The Legacy Business Registry was established to recognize longstanding, community-serving businesses that are valuable cultural assets of the city. These businesses, ranging from restaurants to art galleries to tire shops to community shelters, are key to sustaining the racial and social diversity in San Francisco and adding to the identity and character of our city and the many communities within it.

## Physical Features or Traditions that Define the Business

### Location(s) associated with the business:

Current Locations:

- 3839 Washington Street (1918 – Present)
- 233 Maple Street (2013 – Present)

### Recommended by Applicant

- Progressive education
- Community service activities

### Additional Recommended by Staff

- None

## Basis for Recommendation

The Department recommends the Historic Preservation Commission adopt a resolution recommending the business listed above be adopted by the Small Business Commission to the Legacy Business Registry.

## ATTACHMENTS

Draft Resolution

Legacy Business Registry Application:

- Application Review Sheet
- Section 1 – Business / Applicant Information
- Section 2 – Business Location(s)

- Section 3 – Disclosure Statement
- Section 4 – Written Historical Narrative
  - Criterion 1 – History and Description of Business
  - Criterion 2 – Contribution to Local History
  - Criterion 3 – Business Characteristics
- Contextual Photographs and Background Documentation



# HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION DRAFT RESOLUTION NO. ###

**HEARING DATE: SEPTEMBER 17, 2025**

*Case No.:* 2025-007613LBR  
*Business Name:* Presidio Hill School  
*Business Address:* 3839 Washington Street  
*Zoning:* RH-1 (RESIDENTIAL- HOUSE, ONE FAMILY) Zoning District  
40-X Height and Bulk District  
*Block/Lot:* 0992/034  
*Applicant:* Sarah Gaffney  
3839 Washington St  
*Nominated By:* Supervisor Stephen Sherrill  
*Located In:* District 2  
*Staff Contact:* Maggie Dong - 628.652.7426  
[Maggie.Dong@sfgov.org](mailto:Maggie.Dong@sfgov.org)

ADOPTING FINDINGS RECOMMENDING TO THE SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSION APPROVAL OF THE LEGACY BUSINESS REGISTRY NOMINATION FOR PRESIDIO HILL SCHOOL CURRENTLY LOCATED AT 3839 WASHINGTON ST (PRIMARY ADDRESS), BLOCK/LOT 0992/034; 233 MAPLE STREET, BLOCK/LOT 0992/002

WHEREAS, in accordance with Administrative Code Section 2A.242, the Office of Small Business maintains a registry of Legacy Businesses in San Francisco (the "Registry") to recognize that longstanding, community-serving businesses can be valuable cultural assets of the City and to be a tool for providing educational and promotional assistance to Legacy Businesses to encourage their continued viability and success; and

WHEREAS, the subject business has operated in San Francisco for 30 or more years, with no break in San Francisco operations exceeding two years; and

WHEREAS, the subject business has contributed to the City's history and identity; and

WHEREAS, the subject business is committed to maintaining the traditions that define the business; and

WHEREAS, at a duly noticed public hearing held on September 17, 2025, the Historic Preservation Commission reviewed documents, correspondence and heard oral testimony on the Legacy Business Registry nomination.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Historic Preservation Commission hereby recommends that Presidio Hill School qualifies for the Legacy Business Registry under Administrative Code Section 2A.242(b)(2) as it has operated for 30 or more years and has continued to contribute to the community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Historic Preservation Commission hereby recommends safeguarding of the below listed physical features and traditions for Presidio Hill School.

*Locations*

Current Locations:

- 3839 Washington Street (1918 – Present)
- 233 Maple Street (2013 – Present)

*Physical Features or Traditions that Define the Business*

- Progressive education
- Community service activities

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Historic Preservation Commission's findings and recommendations are made solely for the purpose of evaluating the subject business's eligibility for the Legacy Business Registry, and the Historic Preservation Commission makes no finding that the subject property or any of its features constitutes a historical resource pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Historic Preservation Commission hereby directs its Commission Secretary to transmit this Resolution and other pertinent materials in the case file to the Office of Small Business on September 17, 2025.

Jonas P. Ionin  
Commission Secretary

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

RECUSE:

ADOPTED: September 17, 2025