

School Overview

Village School is an inclusive, parent participation school, that believes individual growth occurs best in a caring environment that promotes the development of the whole child through a rigorous, hands-on curriculum, and rich shared experiences. Combining standards-based education through standards, assessments and accountability with the skills of our highly qualified teachers, and the talents of our parent community, children benefit from a supportive atmosphere that recognizes and celebrates the whole child.

Village School not only fosters an attitude of strong personal responsibility, but responsibility as a member of a larger community. Following Jane Nelsen's Positive Discipline philosophy, children are encouraged to understand their role as a learner and respond accordingly. Parents are educated to help their children and take an active role in the classroom where they work with small groups of students, enrich the curriculum with artifacts corresponding to thematic instruction. The continuity of values results in home and school environments that effectively educate and shape thriving, successful children.

In 1993 a small group of parents approached the Governing Board of the Campbell Union School District with the idea of starting a small school-within-a-school whose practices would resemble those used in the old-fashioned one room schoolhouse. In November of 1994, the governing board voted to establish a parent participation program in the school district. Village school opened its doors in the fall of 1995 as an alternative program in the school district. It began with 32 students in two classrooms, one K-1, and one 2-3. Today, Village school sits on its own campus located on the Campbell-Los Gatos border. No longer a district program but rather a district "school of choice" and dependent charter school serving 269 students and their families. The tradition of the little schoolhouse and the close-knit community that thrives within still exists. As we continue to grow and change, we have stayed true to our vision over the last 18 years. Our community-centered vision guides each decision we make, every day.

Our community holds high expectations for us, both academically and socially, and our teaching staff consistently rises to the occasion, demonstrating API scores over 900 and California Distinguished School recognition in 2008. With a Positive School Climate team as an overarching umbrella and using Positive Behavior Intervention and Support, Positive Discipline, No Bully and the Cornerstone Project we teach social skills and conflict resolution, how to create win-win situations that foster a positive school climate for all. Arts education is alive and well at Village School with music, and art being taught on a weekly basis.

It is our belief that an enriched curriculum motivates students to become more engaged in their learning, thus fostering a love of learning. One way we build excitement about learning is through enrichment programs. These programs provide active hands-on learning and include Centers (similar to college electives), monthly field trips, art and music classes every week, technology in the classroom and numerous optional lunchtime activities for students such as Yarn Club, Crafts Thursdays and the Take-It-Apart Club.

This well-rounded curriculum, which includes a rigorous core curriculum, the arts, and character education ensures that ALL students have an access point, depending on their learning style, to the education offered at Village School. Welcome to our school, a place where families and educators come together to challenge and nurture all children.