After School Programs
(A-OK Expanded, Elementary and La Cumbre)
KATHY SERRANO, PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Kathy Serrano was born in Michoacan, Mexico and migrated to the United States at the age of eight. She attended local schools and earned her Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees from UCSB. Kathy has been an educator since 2006 and it is a privilege for her to work for this amazing program with so much history and community connections.

Providing access to quality after school enrichment opportunities is something that is important to Kathy as she knows that many low income students, would not have these opportunities otherwise.
Daisy was born and raised in Santa Barbara and went through SBUSD’s school system. Daisy has received her B.A., M.Ed, and Teaching Credentials from UCSB. Since 2007, Daisy’s educational experience has been teaching in our local schools and for the past four years was Program Coordinator for the Year Round After School Program. Currently, Daisy is the Program Coordinator for Early Childhood Education for SBUSD, serving over 300 children from 0-5 years old. It’s always been a goal as an educator to serve her own community and the children that are part of it, and is humbled with the responsibility of ensuring that we continue to prepare students for a world that is yet to be created.
SHARON ROTH, A-OK PROGRAM SUPERVISOR

Sharon has been with the A-OK Program for the entirety of the grant (21 years). She has a B.A degree in Sociology (Counseling) from Cal State University, Northridge. This has been her favorite job in her 37 years working with children and families. She is honored to have seen the program flourish and grow over the 20 years. Her favorite thing is to see A-OK alumni around town (the oldest students from year 1 are now 33) and see what they have accomplished over the years!! Her heart and soul will always be with A-OK!
EMMITT JENKINS, A-OK PROGRAM CORA

Emmitt has been with the A-OK Program for three years. Coming from the great state of Michigan, he graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a B.A in Communications, while obtaining a Master’s Degree in Business. Before joining A-OK, Emmitt was a counselor and coach for Grand Blanc Community Schools in Grand Blanc, MI.

After School was never the route planned but it’s the route he’s taken to really try and make an impact in today’s youth through recreation and physical activity.
GLORIA MEDINA, OFFICE MANAGER

Gloria Medina is a Santa Barbara Native. She graduated from Santa Barbara High School and Santa Barbara Business College. She began working for the Santa Barbara Unified School District in 1995 and as the Office Manager with the After School Expanded Learning Program since 2005. Gloria enjoys assisting all three programs under our After School Expanded Learning Department and truly loves assisting staff and coming to work everyday!
Cecilia Valencia is the Assistant Office Coordinator for the After School Expanded Program. She was born and raised in beautiful Santa Barbara, California. She is the proud mother of three beautiful children that have attended SBUSD schools. She graduated from Santa Barbara High School and Santa Barbara Business College. She has enjoyed working with SBUSD and the After School Program since 2008. Prior to working for SBUSD, she worked as the Office Manager for the Head Start Program (CAC) for 8 years. Working with families and children gives me the opportunity to have a positive impact on people’s lives and make a difference every day.
MONICA MORGAN, INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST

Monica grew up in Los Angeles, California and moved to Santa Barbara when she started to attend UCSB. She earned her Bachelor’s Degree at UCSB and her Master’s in Education at Antioch University. Monica has been an educator since 2009 and has had the most amazing time working with parents and students from all around Santa Barbara. She is also the proud mother of three beautiful children.

She enjoys supporting students and their families through the wonderful After School Program in which she has been a part of for the last 5 years. She is very passionate about teaching and loves to engage students in learning with fun projects and keep them motivated to learn and experience new things. Another passion of Monica’s is travel and wishes she had time to explore new places.
Andrew Thill, was born in Victorville, CA. He earned his B.A in Digital Design from California Baptist University, Completed M.F.A study in fine art from Brooks Institute, and received a certificate in architectural and media design from UCLA. He is dedicated to constantly learning. He moved to Santa Barbara, CA in 2012, and immediately started working with A-OK! Over the years he has worked with all grade levels. He currently runs the ASES program at La Cumbre Junior High School.
Karen Reyes was born in Michoacan, Mexico and moved to Santa Barbara at the age of 1. She attended local schools, and is currently in school at SBCC to obtain her AA degree in Sociology. Karen grew up going to many community evening programs, including many Mayan centered programs, with La Casa de La Raza. She was raised within a great community, and so being able to work with youth in the A-OK program is her way of giving back to the community that raised her. Providing a fun and safe environment is her top priority while working with students, as well as being able to connect with the students as they can look up to someone who looks like them. Which is something that can spark inspiration for them to see that anything is possible.
Jessica Navarro was born and raised in Santa Barbara. Jessica has been working with A-OK / SB Unified School District since 2018. She’s enjoys being able to work in a wonderful community. The most rewarding part is to see children have growth and boost their confidence in the program. Her main goal is to provide a safe learning environment for the students and staff members while having an amazing experience at A-OK.
STEVE FANCHER, CLEVELAND SITE COORDINATOR

Steve Fancher is entering his 15th year as the Cleveland A-OK Site Coordinator. He has attended some college courses and has completed 13 ECE units. His interests include spending time with his children, skateboarding, movies and music. His future goal is to continue working with youth and help the Santa Barbara youth prosper. He also wants to be a great role model for his own two children. He chose to work for A-OK to build positive relationships with children.
NANCY MARTINEZ, FRANKLIN SITE COORDINATOR

Nancy Martinez has been working with A-OK for seven years, her fifth year as the Franklin A-OK Site Coordinator. She has a Bachelor’s degree in Liberal Studies, with an emphasis in Education from Antioch University. She hopes to return to school to obtain her teaching credential. Nancy enjoys spending time with her family (especially her 6 year old daughter and 1 year old son), playing soccer and going shopping. She chose to work for A-OK because she wants to gain more experience in an educational/school setting.
Alondra Vazquez was born in San Jose, California. She moved to Santa Barbara at a young age, she attended local schools. She is currently taking classes to earn a degree in Early Childhood Education.

Having gone through the A-OK program as a child, she is very grateful that now she is able to give back to her community.
Kevin Ruiz has been employed by SBUSD, A-OK for ten years. He is currently enrolled at SBCC. He enjoys playing soccer, football and basketball. In the future, he would love to travel the world and give back to his community any way he can.

Kevin chose to work for A-OK so he could make a difference in the lives of children.
Ana Muniz is the Site Coordinator for SBCA, employed by SBUSD. This is her 14th year with A-OK. She has been a volunteer, Program Leader, Assistant Site Coordinator and Site Coordinator. Ana grew up attending Santa Barbara Schools and obtained a Bachelor’s degree from UCSB, majoring in Spanish with an Education minor. Her interests include arts and crafts (i.e. drawing/painting), dancing, listening to music, and attending concerts and rodeos. She chose to work for A-OK because she has loved working with children since she was thirteen years old. She enjoys growing and learning new skills.
ARLENE VARGAS, SBCA/LA CUMBRE ASSISTANT SITE COORDINATOR

Arlene Vargas was born and raised in Santa Barbara California and attended Roosevelt Elementary School, Santa Barbara Junior High School, and Santa Barbara High and will be graduating from UCSB with her Bachelors. Arlene has been serving schools as a tutor and mentor since she first volunteered for A-OK back in 2013. She is so grateful to bring it back full circle and be an assistant site coordinator for A-OK.

Contributing to the social emotional well-being of students and offering students a safe place where they can develop skills outside of the classroom is important to Arlene. Aware of how necessary it is to have a role model, especially for low income families, Arlene finds fulfillment in being able to provide that to students and families.
Jonathan was born and raised in Santa Barbara. He attended public schools within SBUSD and graduated from Santa Barbara High School. He is pursuing a career in Education at Santa Barbara City College and has been working with the After School Department for four years.

Jonathan is passionate about sports, traveling and education. He loves working with the A-OK program as an assistant site coordinator and his future goal is to be an educator in our district.
CRISTINA PEREZ-VERSOLA, ADAMS/CLEVELAND, ASSISTANT SITE COORDINATOR

Cristina was born and raised in Santa Barbara California and attended local schools within our district. She graduated from SBCC with a Degree in Early Childhood Education. She has been working for the SBUSD for 20 years as a para-professional, reading specialist and she has been with the A-OK program for 10 years.

Ms. Cristina is passionate about family and traveling. She is a big Disney fan and in her spare time she likes to hang out with her nephews and bake.
Year-Round After School Program (A-OK Expanded)
Laurie Maas has been working in education for over 20 years. She currently works with the Headstart CAC program and with the After School (A-OKJ) Expanded Learning Program since 2012.

Laurie is passionate about teaching students lifelong health and fitness habits and incorporating outdoor education in her curriculum and instruction.
Esther Ortega was born in Mexico City and raised in Santa Barbara, as a child she attended Roosevelt Elementary School.

Her husband Max and have been married for 24 years and have three children: Max Jr. 24 years old, Kiara 20 years old and Raymond 17 years old. Her son Max and daughter Kiara are attending College, and her son Raymond is at Dos Pueblos High School.

She received an Associate in Science Degree in Early Childhood Education, from SBCC, she also hold a Child Development Teachers Permit from the State of California. She has been fortunate enough to be working with children for the past twenty-four years, and this year couldn’t be the exception. She is currently a preschool teacher at Fairview Preschool in Goleta and an After School Teacher at Cleveland Elementary School.
Mary Beth McLain, Franklin A-OK Expanded Teacher

Mary Beth McLain is so excited to be part of the After School Program. She works with the kindergarteners at Franklin Elementary, and she just loves it. She has been a teacher since 2003, and was doing social work in Santa Barbara prior to that. She has a BA in Human Services and a Master's Degree in Education. She enjoys teaching because being surrounded by children is inspiring and challenging at the same time. Children have a way of seeing the world that is so pure, honest and innocent. We could all use more of that inspiration in our lives. And every day, working in a group setting, there is a new challenge that offers her the opportunity to grow as a person. She feels very fortunate to be at Franklin and am looking forward to a year of growth and discovery.
Hector Sanchez was born in Mexico City and migrated to the United States at the age of 7. He attended local schools and graduated from Goleta Valley Jr. High, Dos Pueblos High School and earned his Bachelor’s Degree in Sociology from UCSB. Mr. Sanchez also attended the Teacher Education Program at UCSB and he is also a dance instructor and movement specialist.

Mr. Sanchez is passionate about diverse education and quality enrichment opportunities.
Marina Gross was born and raised in Santa Barbara and attended local schools. She graduated from UCSB with a BA in history and went on to obtain my teaching credential from CSUN. She started teaching in 1995, taking eight years off to raise her children. Marina has taught a variety of grades, but enjoys working with younger children the most. She has been teaching the After School/Expanded Learning Program at Monroe School for the last six years. Marina enjoys working with the different grades and getting to know the children and their families. She especially enjoys finding new enriching lessons for her students to experience.

In her free time, she enjoys walking her shelter dog Sadie, collecting sea glass on the beach, reading and baking.
Maria Lorenzana was born and raised in Michoacán, Mexico and moved to Santa Barbara with her family at 15 years of age. She received an Associate in Science Degree in Early Childhood Education, from SBCC, and also holds a Child Development Teachers Permit from the State of California. This will be her 8th-year as the lead teacher at the Ellwood Preschool during the mornings and my second year working with the SBUSD after school program. She has been fortunate enough to be working with children for the past twenty years. She has worked at both the Santa Barbara Unified School District and the Goleta Unified School District as a Playground Supervisor, Translator, Instructional Aide, Preschool Aide, Teacher substitute, and After School Teacher as well.
Bob Traner-McDermott, Peabody A-OK Expanded Teacher

Bob McDermott is originally from New York but moved to Santa Barbara for his Junior year at Santa Barbara High. He enrolled in the Early Childhood Development Program at SBCC and studied under the awesome Yolanda Medina-Garcia.

He was the Childcare Director at Open Alternative School for 30 years before moving to be the teacher in the After School Expanded Learning Program at Peabody Elementary. He has also been an Assistant Director for the Early Child Preschool in Buffalo, New York as well as holding the same position at Goleta Girls Inc. for ten years during the summer session, teaching the 5-7 year olds there. He also loved being a School Librarian for the Santa Barbara School District.

He loves helping students to develop their strengths and skills and encouraging the love of lifelong learning. Raising children to have a strong sense of Self Esteem and Social Justice is also a priority, as well as setting a good example of a male teacher who nurtures young children. Providing a safe, inclusive and fun environment in the After-School setting is important to him as well!
Amy Baggett is the After School Expanded Learning Teacher at Roosevelt Elementary. Her classroom learning environment promotes fun, growth, and a sense of community. She holds a Master's degree from the University of North Alabama and a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Central Florida, both in Elementary Education. She has been a teacher for over ten years.

She first started her teaching career in Florida. She has also taught in Alabama, San Jose, and Sacramento. Amy is very excited to be working for Santa Barbara Unified School District and she firmly believes that success in education is about building relationships. She is a passionate educator and always looks forward to building positive relationships and helping students overcome barriers that impact their learning.
Mr. E graduated from University of California Santa Barbara in the 1900s with a double major in Political Science and Economics. Then he started several rock bands, released records and toured. Later he ran clubs and concerts, lifeguards with the YMCA and worked in publishing.

He then went back to school and got a teaching credential from Antioch University and became a teacher with the Santa Barbara Unified After School Program.
Partner Introductions
The Students We Serve
A-OK Elementary
La Cumbre
SCHOOLS in A-OK Elementary and La Cumbre

- Adams Elementary School-99
- Adelante Charter School-83
- Cleveland Elementary-75
- Franklin Elementary-119
- Harding University Partnership School-81
- McKinley Elementary-97
- Santa Barbara Community Academy-76
- La Cumbre Jr. High School-76

January 2020 Snapshot:
706 Students Enrolled in A-OK Elementary and La Cumbre
100% of the students being served in A-OK Elementary and A-OK La Cumbre are enrolled in Title I Schools which indicate a high percentage of Free/Reduced Lunch eligible population
A-OK Expanded
SCHOOLS in A-OK Expanded

- Adams Elementary School (TK/K)-27
- Cleveland Elementary School (TK-2nd)-22
- Franklin Elementary School (TK-2nd)-21
- Harding University Partnership School (TK-2nd)-26
- McKinley Elementary School (TK-2nd)-19
- Monroe Elementary School (TK-2nd)-30
- Peabody Charter School (K)- 32
- Roosevelt Elementary School (TK/K)-25
- Washington Elementary School (K-2nd)-27

January 2020 Snapshot:

229 Students enrolled in the A-OK Expanded Programs
A-OK Expanded Program

The target population for this program are:

1. Families who are recipients of public assistance
2. Families who are income eligible
3. Families who are homeless
4. Families who have a children at risk of abuse, neglect, or exploitation, or receiving child protective services through the county welfare department
California Quality Standards for Expanded Learning
CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

➢ **Point of Service Quality Standards**

1. Safe and supportive environment
2. Active and engaged learning
3. Skill building
4. Youth and voice leadership
5. Healthy choices and behaviors
6. Diversity, access, and equity
CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

➢ Programmatic Quality Standards

1. Quality of staff
2. Clear vision, mission, purpose
3. Collaborative partners
4. Continuous quality improvement
5. Program management
6. Sustainability
PARENT AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
ENGAGEMENT

- Parent Orientations
- Back to School Night Presentations
- Daily contact with parents at elementary sites
- Lights On After-School Annual Event / 2018 Disaster Preparedness, 2019 A-OK Goes to College
- End of the year celebrations
- A-OK/SBDI Performing Arts Showcase
- LOUD Band Presentation
- A-OK/ SOPA Theater Performances
- Holiday Parade Participation
- After School Sporting Events
- Que Padre Ser Padres Conference
Qué Padre Ser Padres

Overcoming barriers together

A community conference for parents with the goal of strengthening dialogue and family relations. This year’s workshops and panel will include the following topics:

- Immigration resources
- Coping with stress and finances; specific workshops for moms and dads
- Learning to advocate for your student

Bring the whole family! Event will be in Spanish with English interpretation available.

May 17
5:00pm- 8:30pm
Globe Theatre at Santa Barbara Junior High
721 E Cota St.

Free Dinner, Childcare and Raffle Prizes

For more information and to RSVP contact
Cindy Escobar
(805)963-4338 x 6213
cesco@sbunified.org

In collaboration with:
Back to School Nights

Partnerships
- UCSB
- HUPS Foundation
- SB Food Bank
- Music Academy of the West
- United Way
- SB Library
- SBUSD Parent and Community Engagement
- Boys and Girls Club
- SBACT
- AOK
- FSA
- Girls, Inc.
- CALM
- Chaucer’s
Join us for an informative night where we will have information on how to support your student on their way to college.

RAFFLES
COUNTY-WIDE AGENCY TABLING
CHILDcare & DINNER
PARENT WORKSHOPS:
  * A-G REQUIREMENTS
  * SBCC PROMISE
  * SANTA BARBARA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT ACADEMIES
  * HOW TO MANAGE YOUR $$$
  * HOW TO ADVOCATE FOR YOUR STUDENT
  * 4 SYSTEMS OF HIGHER EDUCATION
  * FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIPS

EVERYTHING IS FREE!
FRESH PRODUCE GIVE AWAY

October 24
5 PM - 7:30 PM
MCKINLEY ELEMENTARY
350 LOMA ALTA DRIVE

Event will be in Spanish with English interpretation. For more information call 805-451-5216.
A-OK AFTER SCHOOL SHOWCASE

December 18, 2019
Doors open at 5:00pm

Marjorie Luke Theatre
721 E. Cota St.
Santa Barbara, CA

Watch A-OK
Dance the night away!
A-OK! CURRICULUM AND SCHOLAR HOUR
How we create our curriculum/enrichment

Other Factors:
- Staff abilities and backgrounds
- Cultural and diversity awareness
- Time of year: holidays, culture, etc.
- Time of year: depth of relationships, skills of staff, group dynamics, developmental stages of students
- District & Principals & Teacher Input
- Partnerships

Scholar Hour:
- “Building Smarter Brains”
- Dr. Dweck’s Growth Mindset
- Much more than homework completion
- Non-rotational for deep relationships
- CCSS/AR/SEL/A-OK system staff trainings
- Special fun materials only available in Scholar Hour
OUR WONDERFUL PARTNERS
COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS

- In 2018-2019, A-OK had 26 active partners providing either services and/or cash totaling **$536,063** on a **$1,113,462** grant (approximately 48.1%).

- We have had a long-standing relationship of 21 years with the City of Santa Barbara/Parks & Recreation Department.

- In 2019-2020, ASES/A-OK has **29 active partners** with the following new additions:
  - Santa Barbara Dance Institute
  - UCSB’s Coders SB
  - UCSB’s Hawaiian/Tahitian Dance Club
  - Kiwanis Club of Santa Barbara
  - Santa Barbara Scholarship Foundation
City of Santa Barbara Parks and Recreation
UCSB South Coast Aquatics Center
“Swim to College Program”
Village Properties Teachers’ Fund
Community Action Commission Cal SOAP
Santa Barbara Bowl Foundation
Santa Barbara Scholarship Foundation: Lights On After School 2019
Santa Barbara Food Bank
Santa Barbara Police Activities League Program
Santa Barbara Fire Department- Lights on 2018 Disaster Preparedness Event
LISTOS: Lights On 2018 Disaster Preparedness Event
Direct Relief: Lights On 2018, Disaster Preparedness Event
Hawaiian/Tahitian Dance Team
Explore Ecology
Santa Barbara Museum of Art
THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP FROM SBUSD AFTER SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES FOR KIDS PROGRAMS (A-OK!)