

Villa de Paz Elementary

SCHOOL PROFILE

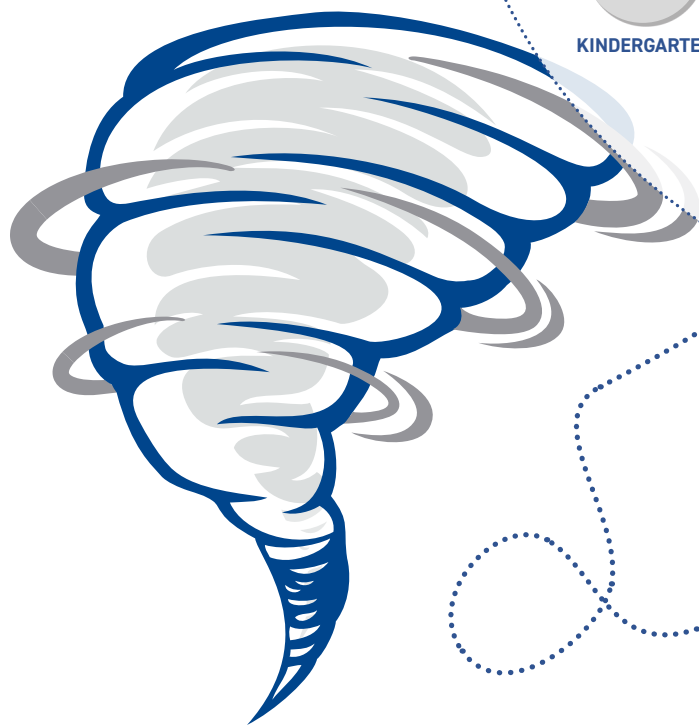
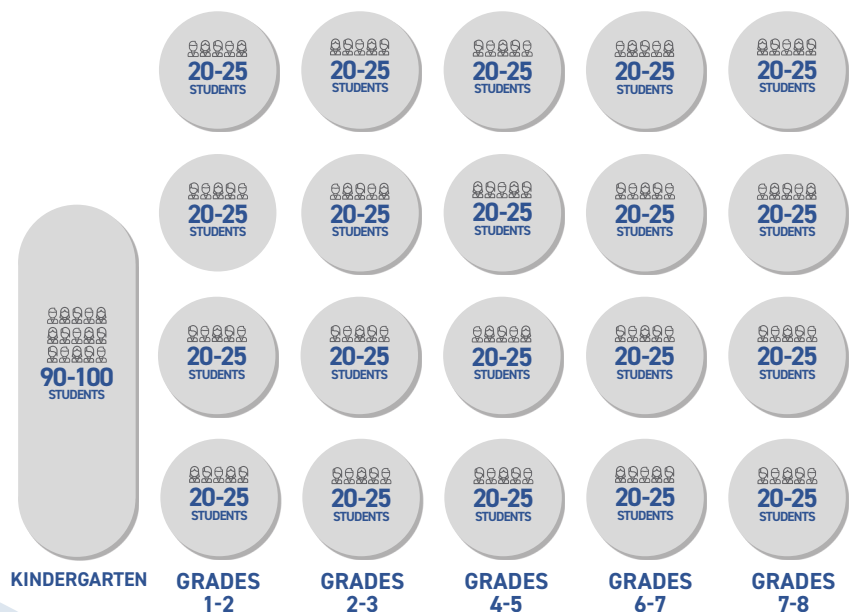
Team-Based Summary

The Pendergast Elementary School District's mission is to be a high-performing, collaborative community preparing students to compete in a globally connected society. To realize this mission, Villa de Paz Elementary teachers in grades 1-8 have embraced a team-based instructional approach, similar to one developed by the ASU Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College's Next Education Workforce.

By implementing a **team-based model** in elementary schools, numerous benefits are achieved. These include promoting improved collaboration and communication among teachers, facilitating increased sharing of resources and ideas, providing **customized learning experiences** for students, and promoting a **stronger sense of unity** within the school. Furthermore, the teacher teams formed under this model are specialized at identifying and addressing the unique needs of individual students, leading to **improved academic outcomes**. With their specialized subject expertise, these teams enable students to engage in deeper learning opportunities.

VILLA DE PAZ

CORE TEAMS



Teams of educators with distributed expertise

Each core educator team is made up of four teachers with expertise in English Language Arts (ELA), Math, Science/Social Studies, and Computer Science (CS). In addition to the unwavering support provided by their core educator team, students benefit from the extensive assistance offered by an extended team. This extended team includes professionals in Physical Education, Music, Art, Makerspace/Library, Reading Intervention, and Resource, ensuring that students receive comprehensive support in multiple areas.

Villa de Paz Elementary School teams are comprised of 6 multi-grade communities, each serving 90-100 students. Each team serves Grades 1-2, Grades 2-3, Grades 4-5, Grades 6-7, and Grades 7-8. Although teachers instruct multiple grade levels, each class is taught according to the corresponding grade-appropriate Arizona State Standards.

Core Team Descriptions:

All teachers distribute expertise by content area, with educators specializing in ELA, Math, Science/Social Studies, and Computer Science.

English Language Arts Teacher

Our ELA teacher delivers reading and writing instruction through EL Education curricular resource. Each grade level includes four modules which span a full school year. The four modules allow students to build important content knowledge based on a compelling topic related to science, social studies, or literature.

Math Teacher

Our Math is delivered using our Open-Up curricular resource. The curriculum encourages student growth through problem-solving and hands-on learning. Teachers immerse students in real-world learning opportunities.

Science/ Social Studies Teacher

Our Science/Social Studies teacher supports both Math and ELA by teaching cross-curricular topics and tasks. Teacher focuses on hands on learning and scientific inquiry..

Computer Science Teacher

Our CS teachers have all been trained in algorithmic, block, and line coding. All teachers use a research-based computer science curriculum based on the Arizona Computer Science Standards.

Support Team Descriptions:

Special Area Teacher

All students participate in Art, Music, and Physical Education. All special area teachers follow a content specific curriculum.

Reading Intervention Team

Our Reading Intervention Team (Interventionist & Instructional Assistants) works with students in the area of literacy, working with small groups to improve their reading skills.

Exceptional Student Services Teacher

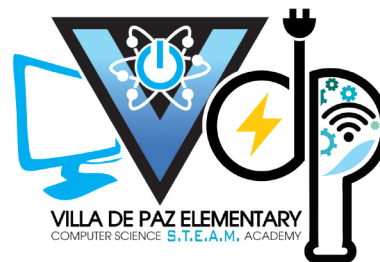
Exceptional Student Services teachers play a crucial role in supporting students with individual education plans (IEPs). They collaborate with core education teams to co-plan and provide specialized instruction to meet the unique needs of our exceptional students. They also work closely with instructional assistants to ensure student success..

School Counselor

The school counselor provides support and guidance to students. They help students with academic, social, emotional, and career development. School counselors may meet with students individually or in groups to discuss their concerns, mediate, and help them develop coping strategies. They also collaborate with teachers, parents, and other professionals to create a supportive and inclusive learning environment for students.

Social Worker

The school social worker provides support and assistance to students and their families in addressing social, emotional, and behavioral issues that may affect their academic performance and overall well-being. School social workers also collaborate with community resources and agencies to connect students and families with additional support services when needed.



RESILIENT & INNOVATIVE

VILLA DE PAZ
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



NEW BUILDING F



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4th and 5th-grade Learning Community

This innovative space fosters collaboration and adaptability. Divided into two halves, each offers flexible, inter-connected learning studios with sliding doors, allowing free movement for teachers and students. The central “learning common” serves as a library, study area, and resource space, encouraging concentration and novelty for students. This area also doubles as a gathering and presentation space for special functions. The flex classroom provides versatility for extra programming throughout the day.

Teacher Amenities

Apart from creating new student spaces, a primary objective of this project was to enhance amenities for teachers. Whereas before, teachers had to commute to the admin building to get a drink of water, eat lunch, or even use the restroom, the new building provides a couple of additional convenience amenities for the teachers. These include a set of teacher restrooms within each learning community. In addition, the teachers have also been provided with a kitchenette and a new smaller meeting room for team meetings, training, and small conferences.

Dreamscape Room

The Dreamscape Room is an open and unobstructed standalone room, ready to receive ASU’s VR Learning platform, Dreamscape. Here, students from the middle school community will engage in virtual reality learning sessions, spanning from science (biology, chemistry, physics, etc.) to math and explorative learning. The district has provided this special opportunity first to Villa de Paz where it will pair well with the school’s computer science and coding focus.

Safety & Security

The new building features additional safety measures, providing extra layers of protection in the event of a lockdown scenario. Each learning community is equipped with a dedicated safety lockdown room. These rooms have been specially designed with masonry walls and security film on all glass openings, creating a secure space for students to gather and remain protected. The building also has security vestibules that automatically lock down in emergencies. If an intruder were to breach the first layer of doors with security glass film, they would face a second layer of formidable steel doors, serving as an additional obstacle to prevent access to the building.

Art Room

The new building also includes a new Art Room, now centrally located within the campus. The art room’s new location will help teachers save hours of their time in a week that was previously spent on commuting the students from one side of the campus to the other. The art room provides new furniture, cabinets, and sinks for a multi-function space that can accommodate digital, dry, and wet mediums; making this art room ready for any “activity” the students may want to engage in.

Kindergarten Learning Community

The Kinder community consists of four learning studios designed with your child’s comfort and convenience in mind. Two studios are connected by a Jack & Jill style bathroom, ensuring easy access for students and assistance when needed. These classrooms have direct connections to the kinder community learning commons. This space serves as a cozy reading area and a distributed library, promoting a love for books among our young learners. The commons also provides a safe environment for student gatherings, breakout lessons, pull-out interventions, and serves as an extra learning or presentation space.



Kinder Commons East



4th/5th Commons South



Kinder Commons West



4th/5th Learning Area



Kinder Learning Area