

SIERRA MADRE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

History of Our School

Sierra Madre School was founded in 1882 as a one-room schoolhouse in the center of town, in Kersting Court. The original school bell still hangs in that location today.

The streetcar line came through town in 1905, and the school was moved to Highland and Auburn. A total renovation in 1930 created one of the most beautiful schools in the country, designed in the Spanish mission revival style.

Garden of Goodwill: The Japanese garden and koi pond were originally built by Japanese Americans in 1930, to celebrate the opening of the school at its new location. During World War II, Japanese Americans were moved to concentration camps and the garden was destroyed by vandals. In 1995 student, Natalie Sandoval and classmates partnered with landscape architect, Lew Watanabe, to recreate the lost garden. It is the jewel of the school.

Grounds: Playing field, Peaceful Playgrounds, Basketball Courts, Handball Courts, Three School Gardens, and largest public Native Garden in California.

Parent Options

Family Engagement Opportunities: Support learning at home, Welcome To School Event, Back To School Night, Parent Teacher Conferences, Family Nights, Open House, Parent Workshops, GATE Meetings, Annual Parent Summit.

Parent Councils:

Annual Fund Boosters, African American Parent Council, English Language Advisory Council, Parent Teacher Association, School Site Council.

Volunteer Opportunities:

Classroom volunteers, PE Coaches, Library Volunteers, Science Lab Volunteers, Costume Committee, Fall Festival, Father Daughter Dance, Mother Son Game Night, Jog-a-thon and Health Fair, Talent Show, Chill-Out Fridays, Book Fair, Annual Fund Auction, Spirit Day, Electives, Wisdom Day Presenters, Classroom readers, Lunch-time Chess, and more.



Eight Great Reasons to Choose Sierra Madre Elementary School

1. Celebrated visual and performing arts programs: Monthly Spotlight Assemblies, Winter and Spring performances, Dance, Violin for 3rd graders, Instrumental program for 4th and 5th graders, Song and Dance Maniacs for 4th and 5th graders.
2. Highly qualified professional educators: Highest number of GATE certified teachers, National Board Certified Teachers and Locally Awarded Teachers.
3. Involved School Community: enthusiastic and supportive families with the highest percentage of PTA membership and parent volunteers.
4. Tradition of Academic Excellence and Student Achievement: Local, District, Business and State Awards.
5. Established partnerships with community groups: Creative Arts Group, Municipal Water District, Pasadena Educational Foundation, Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club, Sierra Madre Police & Fire Department, Sierra Madre Rotary Club, Sierra Madre Civic Club, Sierra Madre Public Library, Friends of the Sierra Madre Library, Sierra Madre Garden Club, Sierra Madre Women's Club, Sierra Madre Community Foundation, Spero Foundation, Theodore Payne Foundation for Wildflowers and Native Plants, The Priscillas.
6. Beautiful learning environment: Architecture in the Spanish mission revival style and landscape with historic connections, Japanese Zen garden and Koi pond, and largest public native garden in California offset by sycamore trees and spectacular view of Mount Wilson.
7. After School Enrichment Classes: Spanish Immersion, Chess Club Lego Creativity Workshop, and Marine Biology (fee based).
8. Neighborhood School.

Community and Business Partners

Creative Arts Group, Municipal Water District, Pasadena Educational Foundation, Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club, Sierra Madre Police & Fire Department, Sierra Madre Rotary Club, Sierra Madre Civic Club, Sierra Madre Public Library, Friends of the Sierra Madre Library, Sierra Madre Garden Club, Sierra Madre Women's Club, Sierra Madre Community Foundation, Spero Foundation, Theodore Payne Foundation, The Priscillas

Attendance Area and Open Enrollment

Sierra Madre Elementary School is a school of residence for students whose home address is within the City of Sierra Madre. Visit www.pusd.us to see if your family resides in this attendance area. Families not residing in the school's area may apply through the District's annual Open Enrollment process. For more information or to apply online, please visit openenrollment.info.

SIERRA MADRE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

School Leadership

Principal: Dr. Jodi Marchesso

Facts About Our School

Grades Served: Pre-K - 5th

Number of Students: 630

Classrooms: 29, plus a Library, Arts Discovery Room, Auditorium, Science Lab

School Colors: Green and Gold

Motto: Nurturing Learners. Growing Leaders.

Dress Code: Free dress (no uniforms)

School Hours:

Monday: 7:50 a.m.- 12:35 p.m.

Tuesday-Friday: 7:50 a.m.– 2:15 p.m.

After School Options

LEARNs until 6:00 p.m. A fee based program with learning themes, sports, and homework assistance.

Homework Club until 6:00 p.m. A fee based program that offers a variety of supervised activities including homework assistance.

Parker Anderson enrichment classes featuring programs such as Spanish Immersion, Chess Club, and Lego Creativity Workshop.

Awards

Gold Ribbon Award; CBEE Honor Roll, Scholar School; Los Angeles County Bravo Award Finalist; California Distinguished School.

Community Leadership

School Board Representative:

Tina Fredricks

Sierra Madre City Council

Representative: Kelly Kriebs

Mission

The mission of Sierra Madre Elementary School is to nurture learners as they grow into brilliant, creative, strong and true hearted leaders within a safe and supportive community.

Core Values

Our mission is built upon four core values: Rigorous Academics, Innovative and Artistic Expression, Physical Education, and Ethical and Character Development. Students are challenged to be brilliant, creative, strong, and true hearted.

What Does Our School Offer?

BRILLIANT: *Rigorous Academics*

Engaged Learners who exhibit a passion for discovery; participate in a rigorous and meaningful curriculum; confidently explore new ideas; and discover the joy of collaborative learning within a safe and supportive environment, thus setting the foundation for a lifetime of learning.

Self-Motivators who practice self-disciplined thought and action, are reflective learners and self-evaluators, who set, persevere, and achieve realistic and challenging goals; and discover the personal satisfaction of pursuing excellence.

CREATIVE: *Innovative & Artistic Expression*

Complex Thinkers who engage their natural curiosity, demonstrate skill in mathematical computation, reasoning and logical analysis; consider options, make thoughtful decisions, employ technologies; exhibit creativity, originality, and invention; ask questions, solve problems and deepen their knowledge and understanding.

Effective Communicators who are skillful readers, writers, speakers, thoughtful listeners and viewers, technologists and artists; who understand multiple perspectives; and employ their literacy skills to interpret and creatively respond to their world.

STRONG: *Physical Education*

Growing children who benefit from developing wise habits in the areas of health and fitness; engage in research based activities, scientifically proven to increase nutritional intake, physical activity levels, and energy expenditures, while reducing confrontations and playground injuries; bring focus and concentration to classroom learning.

TRUE HEARTED: *Ethical Education & Character Development*

Respectful Individuals who understand and value the worth and dignity of all people; respect the rights, feelings and possessions of others as their own; empathize with others; extend courtesy and kindness to all; value honesty in all areas of life; and demonstrate loyalty and pride in our school, community and country.

Responsible Citizens who make informed choices regarding their social, emotional, and physical wellbeing; foster a culture in which diversity is respected and celebrated; demonstrate collaborative skills; live with integrity and purpose as contributing members in our diverse and global community.