PSUSD Secondary Agreements 2025-2026

6-12 Expectations

Palm Springs Unified School District (PSUSD) is committed to using state-adopted curricula to ensure high-quality, standards-based instruction for all students. A Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) is implemented to ensure students receive targeted intervention and enrichment to meet standards. All students are given the STAR test, common formative assessments (CFA), and other interim assessments to progress monitor. PSUSD is dedicated to ensuring access for all students to resources, diverse cultural representation, data-informed instruction, and equitable participation.

Integrated ELD

Math

What is it?

Instruction is centered around the ***McGraw-Hill Reveal Math*** textbook, with ***ALEKS*** used as an online supplement to offer personalized, adaptive support that fills learning gaps and reinforces procedural skills. To strengthen conceptual understanding, teachers incorporate lessons from the ***Irvine Math Project***. Additional digital platforms, such as ***Delta Math***, ***Edia***, and ***Freckle*** provide further personalized and adaptive skills practice. Teachers are expected to use all district-adopted resources to deliver instruction that balances conceptual understanding, procedural fluency, and problem-solving.

What it looks like:

- Hands-on conceptual exploration
- Student-centered instruction
- Structured student discourse and collaboration strategies

Science

What is it?

Engaging students in inquiry-based instruction using **AMPLIFY, DISCOVERY,** & **STEMSCOPES** curriculum aligned with district-adopted scope & sequence. Instruction aligns with the NGSS performance expectations, highlighting Science & Engineering Practices, & cross-cutting concepts as thinking tools to promote critical thinking skills and a scientifically based understanding of the universe.

What it looks like:

- Inquiry-based
- Phenomenon-first, 3-dimensional
- Supporting peer collaboration
- Modeling, claim-evidence-reasoning, data analysis

7th & 9th Grade will have 2 weeks of teen talk *Connected Health* lessons.

Social Studies

What is it?

Use **McGraw-Hill/Impact (MS) or TCI (HS), Content Standards, State Frameworks, and District Scope and Sequences** to engage students in interactive learning about history beyond rote memorization to focus on critical thinking.

What it looks like (Four Shifts in the state Framework)**:**

- Content: Teach global themes sequentially through engaging instruction.
- Inquiry: Investigate significant questions to form personal interpretations.
- Literacy: Analyze informational texts to construct evidence-based writing.
- Citizenship: Promote democratic values, human rights, and civic virtues.

8th/11th grade students also explore content through the **Agua Caliente units** and district-approved **FAIR Act lessons**. 12th grade participates in the **State Seal of Civic Engagement** Project.

Designated ELD

English Language Arts

What is it?

Instruction is grounded in both California State Standards and English Language Development State Standards (CA ELD), delivered through district-adopted curriculum (**StudySync**), and designed to build students' critical reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Through a balance of literary and informational texts, students learn to analyze, interpret, and communicate effectively across genres and purposes.

What it looks like:

- Critical thinking through close reading and analysis of diverse, grade-level texts
- Collaborative learning structures (e.g., Think-Pair-Share, Socratic Seminar, Jigsaw)
- Effective communication across modes: written, spoken, and digital
- Metacognition through self-assessment and reflection routines

Universal Design for Learning, Structured Student Discourse

Integrated ELD

- **Routinely** and frequently engage in collaborative conversations about content and texts to develop content knowledge.
- Use Comprehension strategies and analytical skills to interpret complex text.
- Produce oral and written English that increasingly meets the expectation of the content.

Designated ELD

Designated ELD is embedded into core ELA instruction through intentional, leveled language support that aligns to ELD standards and helps English learners access and engage with grade-level content.

Embedded Designated ELD Structures:

- 15 minutes D-ELD / 4 days a week
- 30 minutes D-ELD / 3 days a week
- 60 minutes D-ELD / 1 day a week