

Miller (Isaac) Elementary School

Principal: Kathy Blackburn

Grant: California Community Schools Partnership Program (CCSPP) — Updated Implementation Plan 2025–2026

Goals and Priorities

Miller (Isaac) Elementary School is seeking to continue and strengthen its investment in building a whole-child focused community school. We recognize that the key components of a community school include integrated student support, family and community engagement, collaborative leadership practices, and extended learning opportunities. With the continued support of a Community Schools Specialist, we are deepening our implementation across all five Capacity-Building Strategies: Shared Commitment, Centering Community-Based Learning, Collaborative Leadership, Sustaining Staff and Resources, and Strategic Community Partnerships.

School Overview, Needs and Assets

We serve a beautifully diverse community, including significant populations of students who have been historically underserved:

Student Population Demographics

- 95% Hispanic, 0.2% Native American
- 94.7% eligible for free or reduced lunch
- 55.5% English learners
- 8.7% students with IEPs
- 0.3% foster youth

Our mission is to provide an equitable and inclusive education that meets the needs of every child in our diverse learning community. To gain deeper insights into the needs of our students and community, we conducted and continue to update our comprehensive needs and assets assessment using multiple sources and platforms. These include our district's LCAP survey, our Panorama climate and culture survey, CA Dashboard indicators, NWEA MAP data, and in-depth needs and assets assessment workshops.

Summary of Assets

We have invested significantly in our school model to support our student population. The following systems of support are in place and have been strengthened through CCSPP implementation:

- Coordination of Services Team (COST) identifying student needs with a multi-skilled team collaborating and monitoring tiered interventions through MTSS

- Full-time counselor and wellness support staff addressing student mental and behavioral health
- Designated SEL time integrated into the school day
- Parent and community partner forums (ELAC & SSC) supporting collaborative decision-making
- Professional Learning Communities ensuring data-driven dialogue in team meetings
- Community Schools Specialist coordinating integrated supports and family engagement

Summary of Needs Assessment

Despite our assets and progress, we continue to have significant needs that we are working to address holistically:

- Student self-disclosure of social-emotional needs and concerns to adults has risen 300% since 2023; staff capacity to respond must be expanded
- Chronic absenteeism rate of 14.2% places Miller in the high category on the CA Dashboard; targeted outreach needed for students with disabilities
- EL academic proficiency rates require focused intervention; ELPAC progress monitoring is a priority
- Family engagement programming needs to expand; parent participation in school governance is an area for growth

Core Commitments

As a leadership team, we are deeply committed to the Cornerstone Commitments identified in the CCSPP Framework. Our commitments continue to evolve as we deepen implementation:

- **Assets-Driven and Strength-Based Practice:** Our community's resilience and cultural wealth enrich our educational environment. We integrate family strengths and experiences into our teaching approach, creating an inclusive ecosystem where diverse capabilities and cultural knowledge enhance learning for all.
- **Racially Just and Restorative School Climate:** Our school prioritizes restorative practices and positive behavior support to foster student growth, build strong relationships, and create a welcoming community where students feel valued, understood, and empowered.
- **Culturally Proficient and Relevant Instruction:** Through professional development and data-driven practices, we build cultural competency, support English learners, and celebrate student identities throughout their academic journey.
- **Shared Decision Making:** Our governance model incorporates education partners' voices through site councils, leadership teams, and parent advisory groups. Our community schools steering committee uses collective expertise to set strategic priorities.

Measurable Goals and Activities

Using these grant funds, our school will continue investing in the following community school priorities:

- A Community Schools Specialist to coordinate the implementation of our site plans
- Ongoing professional development and training to ensure all staff members are aligned and committed to the core aspects of our community school practices
- Expanded extracurricular activities that reflect our students' interests and nurture their aspirations
- Expanded staffing to support the specialized learning needs of our student population, including English Learners and students with IEPs
- A comprehensive social-emotional growth program where students can share their emotional wellbeing and also build critical SEL skills over time
- Hire and/or extend the work year of community liaisons to support the significant needs of our school community
- Expand restorative justice programming to reduce suspensions from school
- Time for classified staff to be fully trained in inclusive and restorative practices
- Ensure family and student access to community services both within and beyond the school day

In support of our updated plan, we have established the following clear and measurable goals for 2025–2026 and beyond:

- Chronic absenteeism rate reduced from 14.2% toward state average by end of 2026–27
- 100% of teachers trained on community school and trauma-informed practices; CSS coordinates professional development
- Student self-disclosures of SEL need result in timely Tier II/III intervention through MTSS
- EL reclassification rates increase by a measurable percentage with quarterly ELPAC monitoring
- A site steering committee established by July 31, 2026, with diverse stakeholder representation
- Family engagement score on Panorama Parent Survey increases by 10% by end of 2026–27

2025–2026 Goal Analysis and Continuous Improvement Reflection

In 2025–2026, Miller Elementary made progress in expanding COST/MTSS systems and increasing staff capacity to respond to elevated social-emotional needs. The CSS coordinated family outreach and built relationships with families to increase awareness of available supports. Panorama data guided reflection on school climate and student belonging. Priorities for 2026–27 include reducing chronic absenteeism, deepening staff capacity for SEL and trauma response, and expanding EL academic supports.

Coherence Policy and Initiative — LCAP Connections

Our community school goals are fully aligned with our district's LCAP, specifically under these goals and action steps:

LCAP Goal	Supporting Action Steps
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LCAP Goal 1: We will engage families and communities to fulfill our mission.	• Build multilingual two-way communication systems with families • Create inclusive events and forums that engage families in school decision-making • Foster collaborative relationships that honor cultural and community strengths
LCAP Goal 3: We will provide structures and facilities to support inclusive learning experiences.	• Strengthen COST/MTSS with emotional wellbeing and attendance data inputs • Expand targeted supports for ELs and students with IEPs • Develop targeted chronic absenteeism intervention and re-engagement strategies
LCAP Goal 4: We will nurture the whole child.	• Expand mental health access and SEL programming through community partnerships • Integrate trauma-informed practices into daily school structures • Create safe, welcoming environments where all students feel connected and valued

Strategic Community Partnerships

We continue to partner with the following organizations to support our community schools model and implement our shared vision:

- **Fighting Back Santa Maria Valley (FBSMV):** Focusing on the whole child, including academic success, character development, teen substance abuse education/prevention, and improving family engagement.
- **Family Service Agency (FSA):** Offering mental health services and extensive trilingual basic needs support and parent education for Santa Maria-Bonita's children and families.
- **Effective School Solutions (ESS):** Through a collaborative Wellness Coach program, supporting academic growth, positive and sustained behavioral outcomes, and social and emotional wellbeing for students.
- **Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (CADA):** Offering tailored programs and services focused on the education, prevention, and treatment of substance abuse and co-occurring mental health conditions affecting youth and adults.
- **CommUnify / Familias Segura:** A family-centered violence prevention collaboration addressing the root causes of violence in Santa Maria, focusing on students aged 10–14 and providing wraparound services including trauma-informed therapy, mentoring, and intensive case management.