



Whittier Elementary Community Schools Implementation Plan Summary

Whittier Elementary is proud to participate in Newport-Mesa Unified School District's **Community Schools** Initiative, which strengthens partnerships among schools, families, and community organizations to support the whole child. This initiative focuses on improving student success by connecting learning, family engagement, and community resources. Through the Community Schools program, our school is working toward three key goals:

Improve Student Attendance

Our goal is to **empower students and families at risk of chronic absenteeism to improve their attendance by 20% over the five-year period of the 2024 -2029 Community Schools grant.**

Actions to support this goal include:

- Monitor attendance data and review progress through regular attendance team meetings
- Strengthen partnerships with families through phone calls, meetings, and outreach to remove attendance barriers
- Create positive incentives and classroom activities that encourage students to come to school regularly

Increase Participation in Expanded Learning Programs

Our goal is to **sustain student participation in before and after-school expanded learning programs at 60%** of the Whittier school population. These programs provide students with engaging learning opportunities beyond the school day. Actions to support this goal include:

- Offer enrichment classes such as STEM, robotics, arts, sports, and music based on student and family survey results.
- Strengthening collaboration between school-day staff and expanded learning staff
- Increasing communication and outreach to students and families

Increase Family and Community Engagement

Our goal is to **increase participation in family engagement activities and events by 10%** over the five-year period of the 2024-2029 Community Schools grant so that families feel connected and supported in their child's education.

Actions to support this goal include:

- Hosting parent workshops and family learning events such as Literacy Night, Math Night, STEM Night, and AVID Family Mornings
- Providing opportunities for families to share input through surveys, meetings, and community discussions
- Partnering with local organizations to connect families with resources that support health, wellness, and learning



Through these efforts, our school is creating a welcoming environment where students, families, and community partners work together to support student achievement and well-being. By strengthening relationships and expanding opportunities, we aim to ensure that every student has the support they need to thrive.

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