



Isbell Middle School

Academy of College and Careers

2026-2027 CCSP Implementation Plan

School Overview

Isbell Middle School, located in the historic city of Santa Paula, serves 625 students in grades 7 and 8 and is the only middle school in the Santa Paula Unified School District. The school is a Title I site, with a student population that is 96.3% Hispanic, 31.1% English Learners, 21.3% students with disabilities, 80.7% qualifying for free or reduced-price meals, and includes students experiencing homelessness (7.5%) and other vulnerable populations.

Our school has a strong foundation of programs and partnerships, including academic support initiatives like AVID Excel, dual enrollment opportunities, exploratory CTE pathways, tutoring, advisory periods, and robust professional development. Social-emotional and mental health supports include full-time counselors, restorative justice practices, the Wellness Center, BRITE programming, and family-focused interventions. Physical fitness and health are promoted through athletics, wellness initiatives, and hands-on learning through our school garden.

Despite these assets, needs remain: reaching all families effectively, addressing gaps in English Language Arts and math achievement, expanding social-emotional supports, responding to homelessness and other basic needs, and systematically engaging parents in leadership and decision-making. Our vision is to build a **whole-family community school** that promotes academic rigor, equity, and inclusion while strengthening connections with families and the broader Santa Paula community.

Capacity Building Strategies

Isbell Middle School is committed to cultivating a shared vision that unites staff, students, families, and community partners in pursuit of academic, social-emotional, and civic outcomes. Guided by the district-wide Learner Profile, all staff engage in professional development focused on AVID strategies, social-emotional learning (SEL), trauma-informed practices, and restorative justice to ensure a common understanding of the community school approach. The Instructional Leadership Team (ILT) collaborates to review school-wide data, monitor progress toward goals,

and guide professional learning aligned to the needs of students and families, fostering a culture where the community school vision is consistently understood and enacted across the school.

Leadership at Isbell is intentionally collaborative, with the Community Schools Implementation Leader (Assistant Superintendent), Coordinator, and Outreach Specialist providing strategic direction and oversight. School-based shared governance structures—including the School Site Council (SSC), English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC), and Community Schools Advisory Group—actively engage staff, students, and parents in meaningful decision-making. Parent leadership is intentionally expanded through co-design opportunities for programs, workshops, and communication strategies, ensuring that family perspectives shape school priorities and initiatives. This approach strengthens alignment between instructional practices, school goals, and community needs while promoting transparency and shared accountability.

Professional learning and onboarding are structured to equip educators with the tools to deliver culturally responsive, student-centered instruction and support. Staff receive targeted training in social-emotional learning, project-based learning, school-wide AVID strategies, and restorative practices, and new staff participate in a formal onboarding process aligned to community school goals and the Learner Profile framework. Family and community engagement is prioritized through initiatives such as the Parent Academy, Parent Resource Center, Coffee with the Principal, and signature events like the Family Picnic, Día de Los Muertos, and World Fair, all reinforced with follow-up and participation incentives. Regular communication through Parent Square, the school website, social media, and newsletters ensures families have consistent access to school information, fostering authentic collaboration that advances both academic success and social-emotional well-being for students and families alike.

CCSPP Framework Alignment

Isbell Middle School's implementation plan is designed to fully align with the California Community Schools Partnership Program (CCSPP) Four Pillars, ensuring that students receive holistic support that extends beyond academics. Integrated student supports include full-time counselors, a Wellness Center, tiered interventions, SOAR lunch tutoring, restorative justice practices, and the Condor Closet to meet students' basic needs. Partnerships with community organizations such as EAOP, Food Share, BRITE, and First Five extend these supports beyond the school walls, connecting students and families with resources that foster social-emotional well-being, academic growth, and overall resilience.

Family and community engagement is central to Isbell's approach. Parent workshops, Academy classes, and advisory meetings empower families to actively participate as partners in learning, while family-focused events and culturally relevant programming strengthen connections to the school community. Collaborative leadership structures—including the Instructional Leadership Team (ILT), School Site Council (SSC), ELAC, and the Community Schools Advisory Group—ensure that students, staff, and families have meaningful input into school improvement initiatives and decision-making processes. This shared governance framework supports a culture of transparency, accountability, and collective ownership of school goals.

Extended learning time and opportunities further support student growth through before- and after-school tutoring, enrichment programs, athletics, CTE pathways, dual enrollment, and college excursions that provide hands-on and experiential learning. Advisory periods and targeted lunch interventions add additional opportunities for academic and social-emotional development during the school day. Across all initiatives, Isbell adheres to the Four Cornerstone Commitments by emphasizing assets-driven practices, fostering a racially just and restorative school climate, implementing culturally proficient instruction, and engaging in shared decision-making, ensuring that every student has the opportunity to thrive academically, socially, and civically.

Goals and Actions

Isbell Middle School's implementation plan is structured around five strategic goals that advance academic achievement, social-emotional wellness, family engagement, equity, and collaborative leadership. The first goal focuses on strengthening family engagement and leadership by increasing Parent Square participation to 100%, expanding Parent Academy offerings, and developing a parent leadership pipeline. Success will be measured through Parent Square usage reports, workshop attendance, and active participation in SSC, ELAC, and the Community Schools Advisory Group, ensuring families are authentic partners in the school community.

The second goal aims to enhance academic achievement and rigor. Actions include expanding AVID school-wide, implementing the OnTrac Initiative in math and ELA, and providing four daily intervention periods, including support specifically for Emergent Bilingual students. Progress will be monitored through multiple metrics, such as CAASPP and ELPAC scores, department benchmarks, exit tickets, SOAR tutoring participation, and course grades, providing a comprehensive view of student growth. Goal three promotes social-emotional learning and wellness through full-time counselors, a Wellness Center, tiered SEL interventions, restorative practices, and expanded wellness events and surveys. Effectiveness will be assessed using student climate surveys, the Healthy Kids Survey, pre- and post-activity wellness surveys, discipline reports, and attendance and tardiness data.

Goals four and five ensure equity, access, and cohesive leadership. To support equity and access, the Condor Closet will maintain consistent inventory, Food Share partnerships will provide additional support, and accessible family resources and workshops will be offered. Success will be measured through inventory usage, family engagement statistics, and participation rates in support programs. The fifth goal strengthens collaborative leadership by ensuring that the ILT, Community Schools Coordinator, and Outreach Specialist meet weekly and expand shared decision-making with staff, families, and students. Meeting notes, progress reports, and implementation of agreed-upon initiatives will serve as key indicators of progress. Together, these goals and actions create a comprehensive framework to advance student success, family engagement, wellness, and equity at Isbell Middle School.

Summary Reflection

Isbell Middle School is poised to advance its vision of a whole-family community school that integrates rigorous academics, social-emotional learning, wellness, and equity-focused initiatives. Strengths include robust academic supports, dedicated counseling services, professional development, and strong partnerships. Challenges remain in fully engaging parents, sustaining systematic communication, and embedding Learner Profile practices across all classrooms. Our implementation plan leverages existing assets while intentionally addressing these growth areas, aligning directly with the CCSPP framework and equity-centered outcomes.

Next Steps

1. **Parent Leadership Development:** Launch initiatives to recruit and train parent leaders to co-design programs and governance structures.
2. **Systematic Onboarding:** Develop an onboarding plan for new staff aligned with community school goals and Learner Profile expectations.
3. **Data Monitoring:** Implement a formal data collection and evaluation cycle for academic, SEL, and family engagement metrics.
4. **Expanded Communication:** Develop a parent resource newsletter, enhance the school website, and coordinate calendars for parent access.
5. **Sustainability Planning:** Establish multi-year plans for staffing, partnerships, and professional development to ensure long-term community school implementation.

Moving forward, Isbell Middle School will focus on strengthening parent leadership, improving communication systems, expanding community representation in decision-making structures, and developing clearer processes for evaluating program effectiveness. These efforts will help ensure that community school implementation continues to grow in a systematic and sustainable way.