School Plan for Student Achievement: Executive Summary 2026-2027

Valencia Park Elementary

Melanie Carmona, Principal

School Mission/Vision/Demographics

Home of the Lions, Valencia Park Elementary serves a vibrant and diverse student population of approximately 400 students, each bringing unique backgrounds, strengths, and perspectives to our learning community. Approximately 90% of students are identified as socioeconomically disadvantaged, about 40% are English Learners, and a small percentage are foster youth. These demographics reflect both the richness of our school community and the importance of providing targeted supports, inclusive practices, and equitable access to high-quality educational opportunities.

At the heart of Valencia Park's work is a clear and shared mission that drives every decision and initiative on campus: The Valencia Park community of teachers, staff, and parents is committed to providing all students with a 21st Century learning experience in an individualized learning setting where engaged students think critically, collaborate, and problem solve. This mission is grounded in a belief that all students can achieve at high levels when provided with strong instruction, meaningful support, and a positive school environment.

Valencia Park's vision reflects a continued commitment to equity, innovation, and continuous improvement. As a Title I and Community School, we focus on supporting the whole child by integrating academic instruction with social-emotional supports, attendance systems, and strong family partnerships. Together, these efforts ensure that every student is supported, challenged, and prepared for long-term success.













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School Data

Recent California School Dashboard data reflects positive momentum in student achievement at Valencia Park. The school is currently performing in the Yellow category for English Language Arts and Mathematics, with students showing significant growth. English Language Arts performance improved by +13.6 points, and Mathematics improved by +18.1 points, indicating that instructional strategies and targeted interventions are supporting accelerated learning. While overall performance remains below standard, these gains demonstrate meaningful progress toward closing achievement gaps.

In addition, Valencia Park is in the Green category for English Learner Progress and Suspension Rate, reflecting strong supports for language development and a positive school climate. Chronic absenteeism has improved, declining to 12.5%, though it remains an area of continued focus, particularly for specific student groups.

Locally collected data further supports these trends. i-Ready diagnostic results show continued growth in both reading and mathematics, with increases in the percentage of students performing at or above grade level across the year. Instructional practices, including the implementation of IMSE structured literacy strategies, targeted intervention programs, and ongoing progress monitoring, have contributed to these gains.

While challenges remain, particularly in increasing overall proficiency levels in ELA and Math, Valencia Park continues to demonstrate steady improvement. The school will build on this momentum by strengthening Tier 1 instruction, expanding targeted supports, and maintaining a focus on attendance and engagement to ensure continued growth for all students.

Fiscal Information

Budget Information	
LCFF Supplemental	$178,394
LCFF Base	$168,834
Title I	$154,226

SPSA Goal	Total Expenditures
Goal 1	$271,201
Goal 2	$19,534
Goal 3	$55,159
Goal 4	$27,034

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Goal 1: Student Achievement

Valencia Park Elementary continues to focus on accelerating student achievement in both English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics, building on strong growth trends from the previous year. Recent Dashboard data shows significant increases in student performance, with gains of +13.6 points in ELA and +18.1 points in Math, reflecting the impact of targeted instructional practices and a schoolwide focus on improving Tier 1 instruction. While performance remains in the Yellow category, the upward trend demonstrates that current strategies are effectively moving students toward proficiency.

To sustain and accelerate this growth, the school has deepened its implementation of IMSE (Institute for Multi-Sensory Education) practices, including structured literacy routines in grades K–3 and morphology instruction in grades 4–6. These approaches provide systematic, explicit instruction in foundational reading skills and support students in accessing increasingly complex text. Instruction is further supported through the use of i-Ready and iXL for targeted intervention, as well as ongoing progress monitoring and data analysis during PLCs and intervention cycles.

Expanded student supports—including counseling, mental health services, RtI structures, and instructional aides—ensure that both academic and social-emotional needs are addressed. The Assistant Principal and leadership team continue to support instructional coaching, data conversations, and intervention planning. These combined efforts reflect a refined and intentional approach to improving student outcomes, with a strong emphasis on foundational literacy, data-driven instruction, and equitable access to high-quality learning experiences for all students.

Goal 2: Digital and Informational Literacy

Valencia Park remains committed to ensuring all students and staff have access to high-quality technology and opportunities to develop digital literacy skills necessary for success in a 21st-century learning environment. This year, the school continues its focus on maintaining, upgrading, and replacing aging technology and infrastructure to ensure that all students have reliable access to instructional tools that support both learning and assessment.

Instructional technology—including iPads, laptops, smart TVs, and other classroom devices—is being updated and maintained to support student engagement and participation in digital learning platforms such as i-Ready and other intervention programs. These tools allow for personalized learning experiences and provide teachers with valuable data to inform instruction. In addition to access, there is an increased emphasis on intentional integration of technology into daily instruction, ensuring that digital tools are used meaningfully to enhance teaching and learning rather than as stand-alone resources.

Students are also receiving digital citizenship instruction through Common Sense Media lessons, helping them develop safe, responsible, and ethical technology habits. Ongoing technical support from a Computer Technician ensures that devices and systems remain functional and accessible, minimizing disruptions to instruction. These efforts support the creation of a modern, technology-rich learning environment where students are equipped with the skills necessary to succeed academically and beyond.

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Goal 3: Safe and Secure Environment

Valencia Park Elementary continues to prioritize a safe, supportive, and inclusive school environment through a comprehensive approach that integrates PBIS, social-emotional learning, and structured student supports. All students receive instruction through the Second Step curriculum and participate in character development aligned to the school's LION expectations, reinforcing positive behavior, empathy, and self-regulation.

Programs such as OC GRIP and the Community Schools Partnership Program continue to support student wellness and help create a welcoming and connected school environment. New this year, the school has added an additional playground supervisor to increase student safety and supervision during recess and lunch, along with continued implementation of Recess Support Coaches who provide structured activities that promote inclusive play and reduce conflicts. These enhancements reflect a more proactive approach to managing student behavior during unstructured times.

There is also an increased focus on improving attendance, building on recent reductions in chronic absenteeism and strengthening systems such as SART meetings, family outreach, and monitoring of attendance data. Investments in safety infrastructure including improved communication systems, campus supervision, and safety materials—continue to support a secure learning environment. Together, these efforts demonstrate a refined approach to student behavior, engagement, and safety, ensuring that all students feel supported, connected, and ready to learn.

Goal 4: Parent and Community Engagement

Valencia Park continues to strengthen family partnerships through clear, consistent, and inclusive communication, recognizing that strong home-school connections are essential to student success. As a Community School, the site has expanded opportunities for families to engage through structures such as ELAC, SSC, PTA, Coffee with the Principals, and Community Schools Advisory Board conversations embedded throughout these forums.

New this year, there is an increased emphasis on multilingual communication and accessibility, including expanded use of translation services, digital communication tools, and flexible meeting formats to better meet the diverse needs of families particularly English Learners and socioeconomically disadvantaged families.

The Social Services Assistant continues to play a critical role in connecting families to community resources, supporting attendance efforts, and assisting with PBIS. In addition, the school is expanding parent education opportunities and community partnerships to provide families with strategies to support learning at home. These enhancements reflect a stronger and more intentional focus on equity, access, and two-way communication, ensuring that all families feel welcomed, informed, and empowered to engage in their child's education.

Title I/Community School

Valencia Park Elementary is a Title I and Community School committed to supporting the whole child through integrated academic, social-emotional, and family supports. Title I funds are used to strengthen instruction, provide targeted interventions, and support additional staffing such as instructional aides and counseling services. As a Community School, Valencia Park partners with families and community organizations to expand resources, including mental health services, attendance support, and family education opportunities, with the Social Services Assistant playing a key role in connecting families to these supports. Through ongoing collaboration with SSC, ELAC, PTA, and Community Schools structures, the school ensures that family voice and partnership remain central to improving outcomes for all students.