



# PARAMOUNT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

GREAT THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN PARAMOUNT SCHOOLS



## Launching Theme-Based Schools

Board of Education Study Session

April 28, 2020

Dr. Ruth Pérez, Superintendent

Dr. Deborah Stark, Assistant Superintendent

Dr. Renée Jeffrey, Director

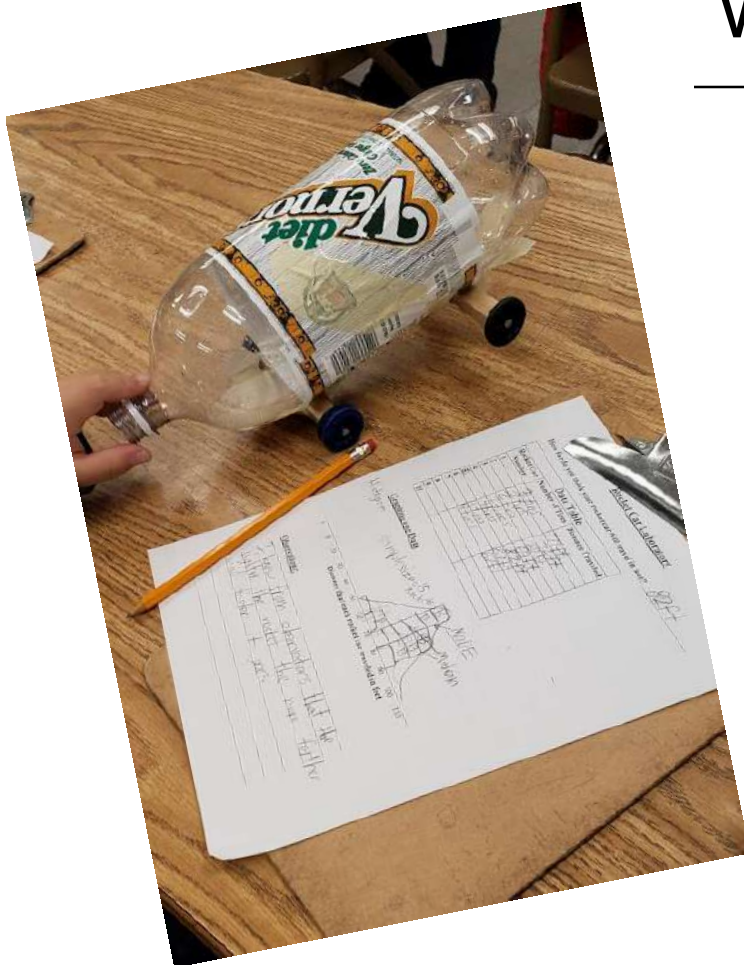


# Outcomes

- Review the purpose and planning process for launching theme-based schools in 2020-21.
- Describe services and actions to be implemented at Jefferson and Los Cerritos Elementary Schools.
- Outline next steps



## Why Theme-Based Schools?



- Offers unique, relevant and motivating learning experiences that tap into students' interests and are specific to these schools:
  - Los Cerritos: Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA)
  - Jefferson: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)
- Supports STEM and VAPA Pathways in middle and high school.
- Has long term potential to attract students from other districts that do not offer these programs.

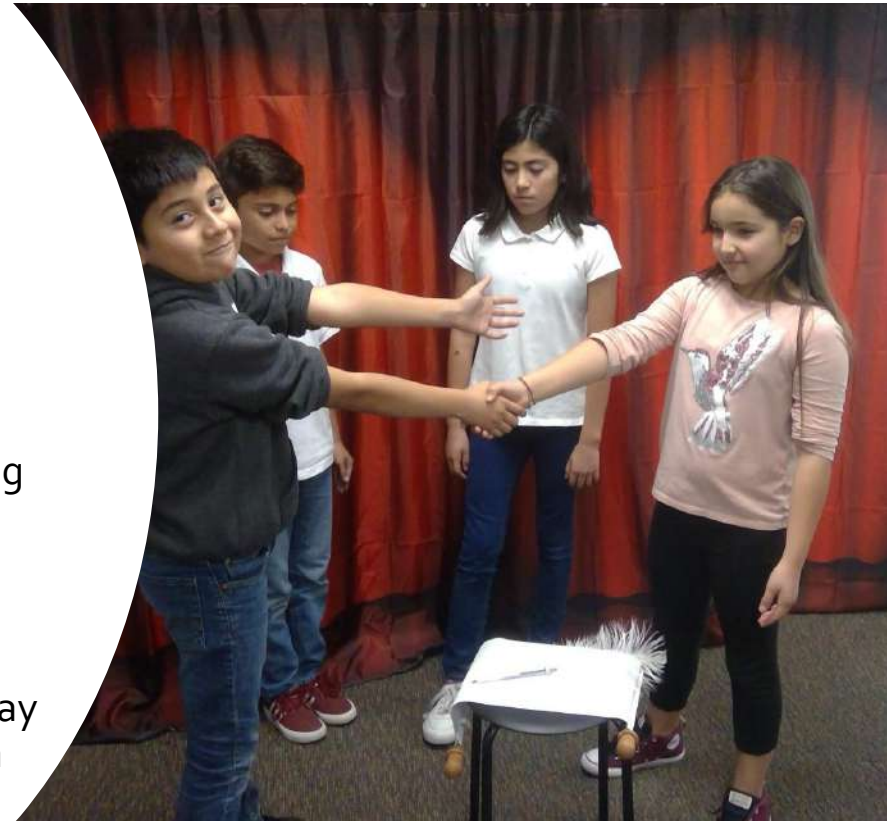


## Los Cerritos Elementary: Visual and Performing Arts, 2019-20

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Los Cerritos currently offers:

- PS Arts provides coaching and co-teaching to integrate drama in content areas in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades.
- Art instruction during collaboration rotations. Art Masters provides art instruction for all K-2 classes.
- AMAN Dancing provides dance instruction focusing on grade 3.
- Music instruction for all grade levels every other week.
- Harmony Project provides after school and Saturday instrumental instruction for interested 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students.



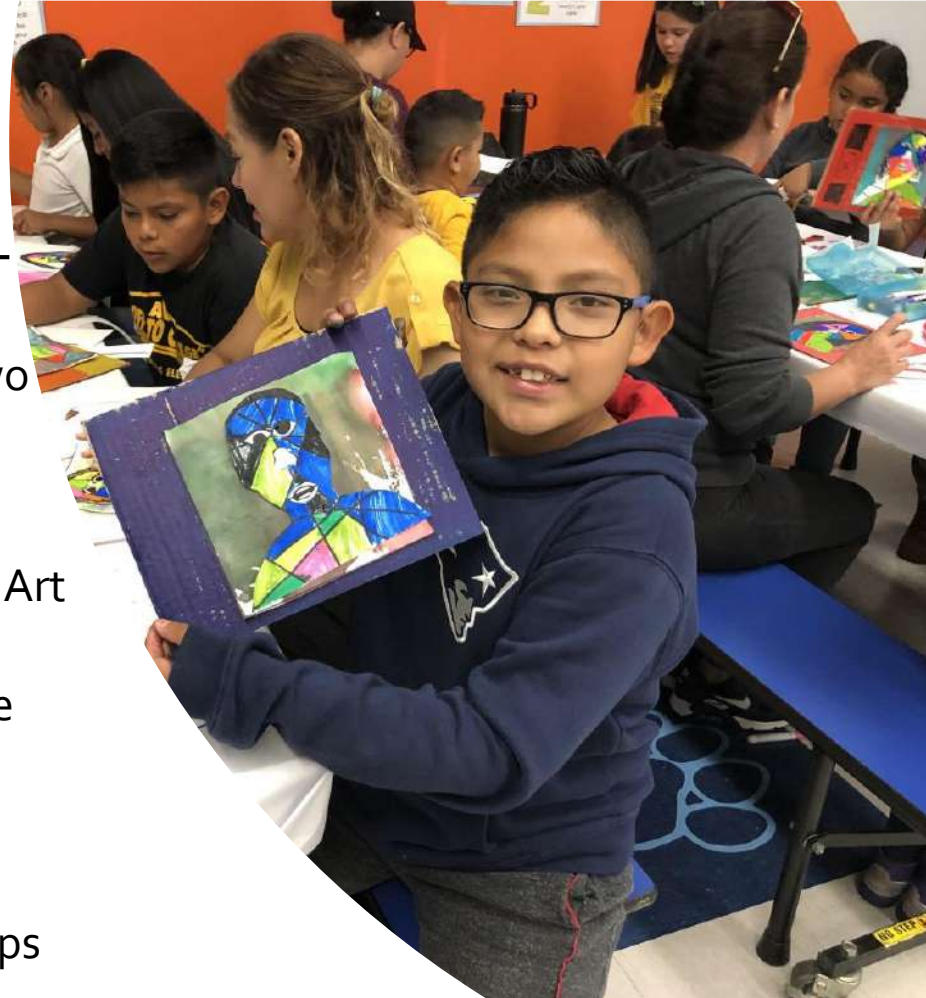




## Los Cerritos Elementary: Visual and Performing Arts, 2020-21

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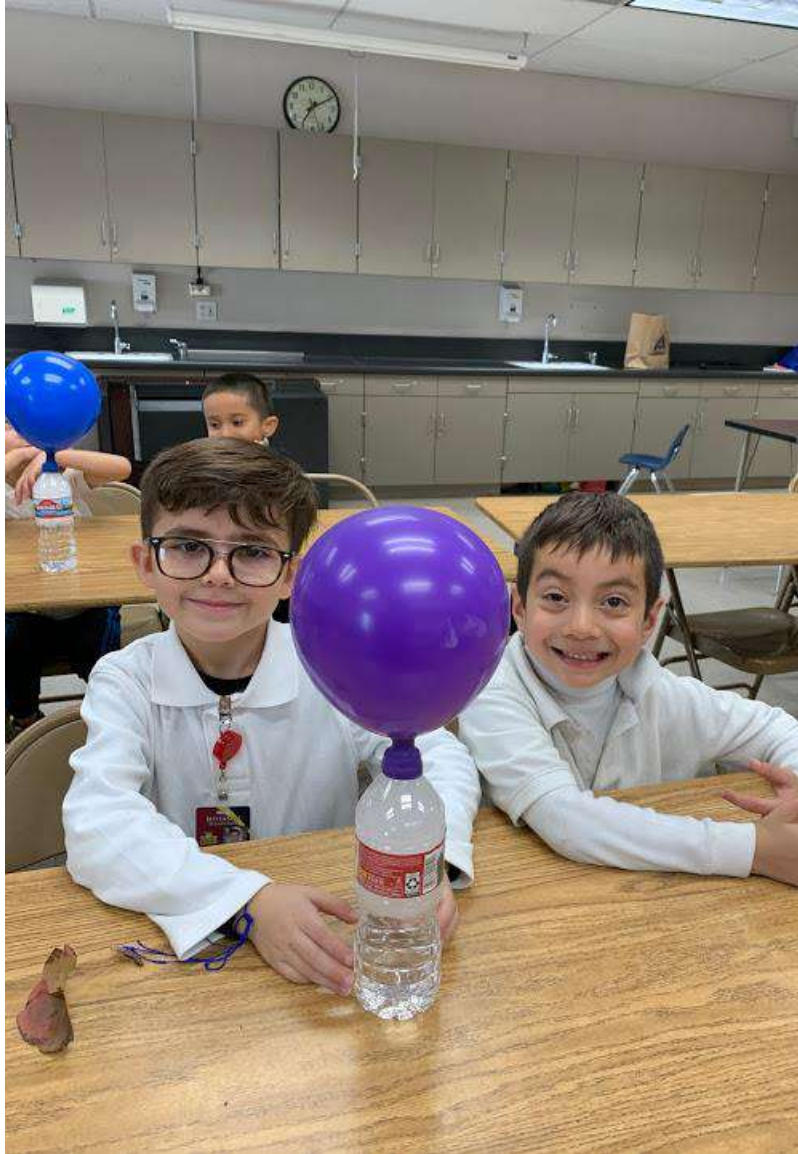
- Add PS Arts Coaching to an additional two grade levels with a focus on embedding drama into Social Studies and Language Arts
- Add an extra grade level to participate in Art Masters
- Use existing K-5 Music Teacher to provide two additional days of music instruction every week.
- Provide Conga Kids Dance for 5th grade
- Offer Visual and Performing Arts Field Trips





# Projected Cost and Funding

Service	Projected Cost	Funding Source
PS Arts – Two Grades	\$30,000	LCAP Supp./Concentration Funds
Art Masters – One Additional Grade	\$6,000	LCAP Supp./Concentration Funds
Conga Kids – 5th Grade	\$12,000	LCAP Supp./Concentration Funds
Extra Hourly Support to Schedule Programs and Events	\$6,000	LCAP Supp./Concentration Funds
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$54,000</b>	



## Jefferson Elementary Science, Technology, Engineering & Math, 2019-20

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Jefferson currently offers:

- Designated AVID Showcase Elementary School.
- Cognitively Guided Instruction in math to develop students' problem solving and conceptual understanding
- Science assembly presentations, and hands-on labs and activities from the Science Education Center





## Jefferson Elementary Science, Technology, Engineering & Math, 2020-21

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- Increase Science Education Center Presentations, Labs, and Activities to four sessions
- Implement new science adoption, *Twig Science*.
- Provide After School Mad Science classes and Mad Science Family Nights.
- Provide Science-based field trips.





# Projected Cost and Funding

Service	Projected Cost	Funding Source
Science Education Center of California	\$7,800	LCAP Supp./Concentration Funds
Mad Science After School Sessions and Family Nights	\$8,650	LCAP Supp./Concentration Funds
Extra Hourly Support to Schedule Programs and Events	\$6,000	LCAP Supp./Concentration Funds
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$22,450</b>	



# Planning Process

## November 2019

- Visit to Juarez STEM Academy School in ABC Unified
- Team debriefed the visit and began brainstorming for Theme-Based Schools in PUSD

## January 2020

- Awareness meeting with principals, Educational Services and Human Resources
- Principals from the two schools met with various groups for input and feedback: SSC, ELAC, PTA, Leadership

## February 2020

- Theme-Based Schools concept and plan shared with K- 5 principals.
- Principals from the two schools continued to meet with staff for input and feedback.
- Brochures planned and printed.

## March 2020

- Develop implementation plan for 2020-21
- ❖ Share plan with DELAC and LCAP Committee
- ❖ Informational meetings with school and local community
- ❖ Disseminate brochures at Open House

❖ Activities on hold due to closure



# PARAMOUNT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

## PREPARING STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE AND CAREERS

# Brochures

Los Cerritos

**mission**

The staff at Los Cerritos Elementary School is committed to working collaboratively with parents and students to providing excellence in education through high quality, research-based instruction, coaching, and outreach to equip students with a solid foundation to become reflective thinking learners and successful problem solvers of the global community in the 21st century. At Los Cerritos Elementary School we strive daily to cultivate a community of motivated learners who feel empowered to direct their own learning, inspired to be curious, engaged with their community, and confident about exploring and trying for others. We are committed to creating a collaborative and innovative learning experience, through which students develop critical thinking skills, and meet or exceed the Common Core Standards, and develop lifelong learning habits and growth mindset. Our students are encouraged every day to display our guidelines for success by persevering, acting responsibly, working with learning attitudes, and striving for success.

**mission**

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) prepares our students for college, high school, college and beyond as they develop academic habits through rigorous and engaging instruction. AVID instruction focuses on the WIDOR (Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, and Reading) strategies that are essential to college success along with best practices. From college prep, to AP classes, to discussions and writing assignments, our students begin thinking about their college and career plans at an early age.

**harmony project**

Students take part in the Harmony Project throughout the year. This project is designed to help students understand the value of music and how it fits in education. Collaborating with other classrooms ensures active engagement throughout the course. Students participate in the year-long program that emphasizes the art of music.

**Los Cerritos Visual and Performing Arts School**

**VAPA**

14826 Gandy Ave Paramount, CA 90723 562-602-6040

**Family art night**

5th grade students used "Tableaux" as an introduction to Native Americans in a Social Studies Unit.

**performance arts**

**Accommod Reader**  
Art Classes  
AVID Instruction Assistants  
Attendance Takers  
Back to School Night  
Book Fairs  
Budget Meeting Store  
"Crazy Drawing and Draw" Invitations  
Class Management Plan Store  
Color Run Fundraiser

**Christmas Program**  
Computer Lab  
54 Chromatids in Grades 3-4  
Dr. Seuss Read Day Celebration  
Family Night & Family Month  
Fundraising Lunch  
Gift and "Name" Exchange (GATE)  
Guest Book Meetings  
Inventory Assessment/Plan Program  
Intervention Groups

**Kawaguchi Intervention Program**  
Library  
"Tag Along" Student Instructors  
Music Club  
Open House  
Parent Run  
Physical Education Classes  
PTA/Parent Teacher Association  
Recreation Week

**Scholarship/Title I Program**  
Special Education Program  
Student Council  
Training Menu  
Visual Performing Arts Program  
Writing and the Beginning & Beyond Program

Jefferson

**About Us**

Jefferson Elementary School provides rigorous, high quality instruction that encompasses the academic, physical, emotional and social well-being of each student. Utilizing a growth mindset, students will be empowered to set goals and achieve them. Every student will have opportunities to develop the necessary skills to be college and career ready to reach their full potential.

**AVID**

Jefferson is an AVID Elementary Showcase school. We provide 21st century student success skills of communication, critical thinking, self-advocacy, note-taking, writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization and reading. Our highly qualified teachers incorporate these AVID strategies throughout their instruction to ensure that students are set up for success both now and in the future.

**Hands-on Science**

Hands-on science at Jefferson Elementary Stem Academy comes from The Science Education Center of California. Their educational focus is derived from the Next Generation Science Standards. These standards address all aspects of Integrated Science and Engineering. Our hands-on science adventures thrive in a small group setting. The small group sizes provide students with an excellent one-on-one educational experience in both the physical and life sciences.

**After School Enrichment**

Your students will love our interactive after school programs that foster creative thinking and problem solving. Students are offered a wide range of science topics that provide them the opportunity to experience science in additional hands-on ways.

**CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGY**

Beginning in the third grade, each student is provided a Chromebook to use both in class and at home. There are also several Chromebook carts that frequent our primary classrooms. Additionally, students visit our computer lab on a weekly basis where they are instructed by our full time computer teacher.





**Next Steps**

