# Kinoshita Elementary School School Accountability Report Card Reported Using Data from the 2018-19 School Year

**Published During 2019-20** 

By February 1 of each year, every school in California is required by state law to publish a School Accountability Report Card (SARC). The SARC contains information about the condition and performance of each California public school. Under the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) all local educational agencies (LEAs) are required to prepare a Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP), which describes how they intend to meet annual school-specific goals for all pupils, with specific activities to address state and local priorities. Additionally, data reported in an LCAP is to be consistent with data reported in the SARC.

- For more information about SARC requirements, see the California Department of Education (CDE) SARC web page at <a href="https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/sa/">https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/sa/</a>.
- For more information about the LCFF or LCAP, see the CDE LCFF web page at <a href="https://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/lc/">https://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/lc/</a>.
- For additional information about the school, parents/guardians and community members should contact the school principal or the district office.

#### **DataQuest**

DataQuest is an online data tool located on the CDE DataQuest web page at <a href="https://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/">https://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/</a> that contains additional information about this school and comparisons of the school to the district and the county. Specifically, DataQuest is a dynamic system that provides reports for accountability (e.g., test data, enrollment, high school graduates, dropouts, course enrollments, staffing, and data regarding English learners).

### **Internet Access**

Internet access is available at public libraries and other locations that are publicly accessible (e.g., the California State Library). Access to the Internet at libraries and public locations is generally provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Other use restrictions may include the hours of operation, the length of time that a workstation may be used (depending on availability), the types of software programs available on a workstation, and the ability to print documents.

### **About This School**

School Contact Information (School Year 2019-20)

Entity	Contact Information
School Name	Kinoshita Elementary School
Street	2 Via Positiva
City, State, Zip	San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675
Phone Number	(949) 489-2131
Principal	Jose Luis Pedraza
Email Address	jlpedraza@capousd.org
Website	http://kses.capousd.ca.schoolloop.com
County-District-School (CDS) Code	30-66464-6117733

Entity	Contact Information
District Name	Capistrano Unified School District
Phone Number	(949) 234-9200
Superintendent	Kirsten Vital
Email Address	superintendent@capousd.org
Website	www.capousd.org

### School Description and Mission Statement (School Year 2019-20)

#### Our Belief Statements:

- 1. ALL children can learn.
- 2. Every student deserves the opportunity to be prepared and encouraged to attend college, should they chose to do so.

#### Our Vision:

All students, without exception, are proficient in reading, writing, and math.

All students actively engage in the 21st century skills of creativity, innovation, communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and problem solving.

All students pursue their passion and make a difference in the world.

#### Our Mission:

"At Kinoshita everyone matters. We will cultivate a community of lifelong learners with a clear pathway to college and career success."

### School Profile:

Kinoshita Elementary opened in September 2000 and serves approximately 700 preschool through fifth grade students. Kinoshita is adjacent to the San Juan Capistrano Community Center/Sports Park Complex, the Boys and Girls Club of Capistrano Valley, and Marco Forster Middle School. The school has thirty-three classrooms, a library/media center, two computer labs and an auditorium. Within this beautiful facility is an atmosphere of warmth, caring, and respect where children come to learn, grow, achieve, and dream.

In conjunction with CUSD, the Kinoshita staff has developed an outstanding instructional program which promotes achievement for all students by providing an effective learning environment, effective instructional practices, and engages students in the 21st century skills of creativity/innovation, communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and problem-solving. Important reading, math, and language skills are combined with a social studies and science program that focus on mastery of the Common Core State Standards. Every child receives instruction at his or her level in the skills and strategies necessary for success in reading and math.

At Kinoshita, we believe that technology is a critical teaching and learning tool in a twenty-first century education. Our classrooms and computer labs feature the latest hardware and software available, including internet access from every room, an emphasis on multimedia, and integration of technology throughout the curriculum.

Parent and Community Involvement:

We value a strong connection to parents and the community. We believe that parents are their children's first and most important teacher. Opportunities for parent involvement are numerous, including an active Parent Teacher Association and School Site Council, Family Curriculum nights, volunteer opportunities, and ongoing bilingual communication through conferences, newsletters, flyers, phone calls home to all families, and a web site. Our families and community members are encouraged to visit our on-site Parent University, which is facilitated by our staff bilingual community liaison. Kinoshita has established partnerships with many community organizations, including the City of San Juan Capistrano, the Orange County Sheriff's Department, the Deputy District Attorney's Office, the Boys and Girls Club of Capistrano Valley, Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Orange County and various other community-based organizations. In conjunction with the YMCA, Kinoshita offers a daily after school homework support and daycare program which is completely funded through a state Prop. 49 grant. In addition, a partnership with Capistrano Unified Adult Education has enabled Kinoshita to offer on site parenting classes.

### Classroom Discipline:

Preparing children to become productive adults' means providing excellent academic instruction, as well as reinforcing the social and problem-solving skills that are so essential in building successful societies. Teamwork requires negotiation and decision-making skills and is increasingly important in the modern workplace. The foundation for success in this arena is built upon excellent listening, decision-making, and problem-solving skills. Using the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) model, students are taught expected behaviors and receive recognition for contributing to the three core expectations at Kinoshita: caring for others, using positive actions, and showing respect for everyone.

### Quality of Instruction and Leadership:

Kinoshita provides an excellent instructional program designed to meet the needs of our diverse population of students. Our teachers are trained in strategies for a complete range of learners, from gifted students to students requiring special support. We combine a strong foundation in reading, writing and math, with science and social studies activities, and CUSD Block Music for a well-rounded instructional program. Each of our staff members is part of a caring, positive, professional team. They willingly share talents and expertise with one another and our students. Staff members share various leadership positions at the school, and share in the decision-making process through The Leadership Team and School Site Council.

### School Safety Plan:

The Kinoshita Staff recognizes that they play a critical role in student safety. Every school employee works in partnership to create an atmosphere of caring and respect. The Safety Plan is regularly updated and reviewed by the School Site Council and the staff as a whole. Students are trained in procedures for safe evacuation and sheltering.

For additional information about school and district programs, please visit www.capousd.org

### Student Enrollment by Grade Level (School Year 2018-19)

Grade Level	Number of Students
Kindergarten	92
Grade 1	96
Grade 2	79
Grade 3	90
Grade 4	91
Grade 5	86
Total Enrollment	534

### Student Enrollment by Group (School Year 2018-19)

Student Group	Percent of Total Enrollment
Black or African American	0.2
Asian	0.2
Filipino	0.2
Hispanic or Latino	95.1
White	3
Two or More Races	0.2
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	94.8
English Learners	78.3
Students with Disabilities	9.4
Foster Youth	0.6
Homeless	50.7

# A. Conditions of Learning

### **State Priority: Basic**

The SARC provides the following information relevant to the State priority: Basic (Priority 1):

- Degree to which teachers are appropriately assigned and fully credentialed in the subject area and for the pupils they are teaching;
- Pupils have access to standards-aligned instructional materials; and
- School facilities are maintained in good repair

### **Teacher Credentials**

Teachers		School 2018-19	School 2019-20	District 2019-20
With Full Credential	25	23	22	1882
Without Full Credential		0	1	13
Teaching Outside Subject Area of Competence (with full credential)	0	0	0	3

### **Teacher Misassignments and Vacant Teacher Positions**

Indicator	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Misassignments of Teachers of English Learners	0	0	0
Total Teacher Misassignments*	0	0	0
Vacant Teacher Positions	0	0	0

Note: "Misassignments" refers to the number of positions filled by teachers who lack legal authorization to teach that grade level, subject area, student group, etc. \*Total Teacher Misassignments includes the number of Misassignments of Teachers of English Learners.

### Quality, Currency, Availability of Textbooks and Instructional Materials (School Year 2019-20)

### Year and month in which data were collected: September 2019

All textbooks used in the core curriculum throughout Capistrano USD are aligned to the California Content Standards and Frameworks. Instructional materials for grades K-8 are selected from the State's list of standards-based materials and adopted by the State Board of Education. Instructional materials for grades 9-12 are standards based and approved by the District's Board of Trustees. On September 18, 2019, the Capistrano USD's Board of Trustees adopted Resolution 1920-24 which certifies as required by Education Code 60119 that for the 2019-2020 school year, the Capistrano USD has provided sufficient textbooks or instructional materials, or both that are consistent with the content and cycles of the curriculum frameworks adopted by the State Board, to each pupil including those enrolled in a foreign language or health course, and that sufficient laboratory science equipment applicable to science laboratory courses offered in grades 9-12, inclusive, is available to pupils.

Subject	Textbooks and Other Instructional Materials/year of Adoption	From Most Recent Adoption?	Percent Students Lacking Own Assigned Copy
Reading/Language Arts	Year Adopted 2017- McGraw Hill Wonders (K-3); Benchmark Education Company, Benchmark Advance (4-5)	Yes	0%
Mathematics	Year Adopted 2015 - Houghton Mifflin, Math Expressions	Yes	0%
Science	Year Adopted 2019 - Delta Education FOSS Science	Yes	0%
History-Social Science	Year Adopted 2007- Scott Foresman/Pearson	Yes	0%
Foreign Language	N/A		
Health	N/A		
Visual and Performing Arts	N/A		

### School Facility Conditions and Planned Improvements (Most Recent Year)

Kinoshita Elementary School has 33 classrooms, a stage, a multipurpose room, a library, one computer lab, and an administration building. The main campus was built in 2000. Kinoshita added 13 portable classrooms in 2001-2002 to accommodate class size reduction.

The district maintenance staff ensures that the repairs necessary to keep the school in good repair are completed in a timely manner. A work order process is used to ensure services and emergency repairs are given high priority. The custodial staff has developed a cleaning schedule to ensure a clean school. A surveillance camera system was installed in 2002-03.

# **School Facility Good Repair Status (Most Recent Year)**

Using the most recently collected FIT data (or equivalent), provide the following:

- Determination of repair status for systems listed
- Description of any needed maintenance to ensure good repair
- The year and month in which the data were collected
- The overall rating

Year and month of the most recent FIT report: 9/19/2019

System Inspected	Rating	Repair Needed and Action Taken or Planned
Systems: Gas Leaks, Mechanical/HVAC, Sewer	Good	
Interior: Interior Surfaces	Good	
Cleanliness: Overall Cleanliness, Pest/ Vermin Infestation	Good	
Electrical: Electrical	Good	
Restrooms/Fountains: Restrooms, Sinks/ Fountains	Good	
<b>Safety:</b> Fire Safety, Hazardous Materials	Good	P 604: 11. PAINT IS CHIPPING ON PARTITION BETWEEN ROOMS P 605: 11. PAINT IS CHIPPING ON PARTITION BETWEEN ROOMS P 610: 11. PAINT IS CHIPPING ON TRIM
<b>Structural:</b> Structural Damage, Roofs	Good	
External: Playground/School Grounds, Windows/ Doors/Gates/Fences	Good	P 601: 15. WINDOW SCREEN HAS HOLES
Overall Rating	Exemplary	

# **B. Pupil Outcomes**

### **State Priority: Pupil Achievement**

The SARC provides the following information relevant to the State priority: Pupil Achievement (Priority 4):

- Statewide assessments (i.e., California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress [CAASPP] System, which includes the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments for students in the general education population and the California Alternate Assessments [CAAs] for English language arts/literacy [ELA] and mathematics given in grades three through eight and grade eleven. Only eligible students may participate in the administration of the CAAs. CAAs items are aligned with alternate achievement standards, which are linked with the Common Core State Standards [CCSS] for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities); and
- The percentage of students who have successfully completed courses that satisfy the requirements for entrance to the University of California and the California State University, or career technical education sequences or programs of study.

# CAASPP Test Results in ELA and Mathematics for All Students Grades Three through Eight and Grade Eleven

Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding the State Standard

Subject	School 2017-18	School 2018-19	District 2017-18	District 2018-19	State 2017-18	State 2018-19
English Language Arts/Literacy (grades 3-8 and 11)	33	31	69	70	50	50
Mathematics (grades 3-8 and 11)	28	28	58	59	38	39

Note: Percentages are not calculated when the number of students tested is ten or less, either because the number of students in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or to protect student privacy.

Note: ELA and mathematics test results include the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment and the CAA. The "Percent Met or Exceeded" is calculated by taking the total number of students who met or exceeded the standard on the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment plus the total number of students who met the standard (i.e., achieved Level 3-Alternate) on the CAAs divided by the total number of students who participated in both assessments.

# CAASPP Test Results in ELA by Student Group Grades Three through Eight and Grade Eleven (School Year 2018-19)

Student Group	Total Enrollment	Number Tested	Percent Tested	Percent Not Tested	Percent Met or Exceeded
All Students	267	264	98.88	1.12	31.44
Male	141	140	99.29	0.71	30.71
Female	126	124	98.41	1.59	32.26
Black or African American					
American Indian or Alaska Native					
Filipino					
Hispanic or Latino	261	258	98.85	1.15	32.17
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander					
White					
Two or More Races					

Student Group	Total Enrollment	Number Tested	Percent Tested	Percent Not Tested	Percent Met or Exceeded
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	262	259	98.85	1.15	31.27
English Learners	233	233	100.00	0.00	29.18
Students with Disabilities	37	37	100.00	0.00	5.41
Students Receiving Migrant Education Services					
Foster Youth					
Homeless	161	158	98.14	1.86	31.01

Note: ELA test results include the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment and the CAA. The "Percent Met or Exceeded" is calculated by taking the total number of students who met or exceeded the standard on the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment plus the total number of students who met the standard (i.e., achieved Level 3-Alternate) on the CAAs divided by the total number of students who participated in both assessments.

Note: Double dashes (--) appear in the table when the number of students is ten or less, either because the number of students in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or to protect student privacy.

Note: The number of students tested includes all students who participated in the test whether they received a score or not; however, the number of students tested is not the number that was used to calculate the achievement level percentages. The achievement level percentages are calculated using only students who received scores.

# CAASPP Test Results in Mathematics by Student Group Grades Three through Eight and Grade Eleven (School Year 2018-19)

Student Group	Total Enrollment	Number Tested	Percent Tested	Percent Not Tested	Percent Met or Exceeded
All Students	267	261	97.75	2.25	27.97
Male	141	138	97.87	2.13	31.16
Female	126	123	97.62	2.38	24.39
Black or African American					
American Indian or Alaska Native					
Filipino					
Hispanic or Latino	261	255	97.70	2.30	28.24
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander					
White					
Two or More Races					
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	262	256	97.71	2.29	27.73
English Learners	233	231	99.14	0.86	26.41
Students with Disabilities	37	37	100.00	0.00	13.51
Students Receiving Migrant Education Services					
Foster Youth					
Homeless	161	157	97.52	2.48	28.66

Note: Mathematics test results include the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment and the CAA. The "Percent Met or Exceeded" is calculated by taking the total number of students who met or exceeded the standard on the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment plus the total number of students who met the standard (i.e., achieved Level 3-Alternate) on the CAAs divided by the total number of students who participated in both assessments.

Note: Double dashes (--) appear in the table when the number of students is ten or less, either because the number of students in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or to protect student privacy.

Note: The number of students tested includes all students who participated in the test whether they received a score or not; however, the number of students tested is not the number that was used to calculate the achievement level percentages. The achievement level percentages are calculated using only students who received scores

# CAASPP Test Results in Science for All Students Grades Five, Eight, and Ten

### Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding the State Standard

Subject	School	School	District	District	State	State
	2017-18	2018-19	2017-18	2018-19	2017-18	2018-19
Science (grades 5, 8 and high school)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Note: Cells with N/A values do not require data.

Note: This is a placeholder for the California Science Test (CAST) which was administered operationally during the 2018-19 school year. However, these data are not available for inclusion in the 2018-19 SARC posting due February 1, 2020. These data will be included in the 2019-20 SARC posting due February 1, 2021.

### **State Priority: Other Pupil Outcomes**

The SARC provides the following information relevant to the State priority: Other Pupil Outcomes (Priority 8):

• Pupil outcomes in the subject areas of physical education.

### California Physical Fitness Test Results (School Year 2018-19)

Grade <i>Level</i>	Percentage of Students	Percentage of Students	Percentage of Students
	Meeting Four of Six	Meeting Five of Six	Meeting Six of Six
	Fitness Standards	Fitness Standards	Fitness Standards
5	27.9	25.6	30.2

Note: Percentages are not calculated and double dashes (--) appear in the table when the number of students tested is ten or less, either because the number of students in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or to protect student privacy.

# C. Engagement

### **State Priority: Parental Involvement**

The SARC provides the following information relevant to the State priority: Parental Involvement (Priority 3):

Efforts the school district makes to seek parent input in making decisions for the school district and each school site.

### Opportunities for Parental Involvement (School Year 2019-20)

We value a strong connection to parents and the community. We believe that parents are their children's first and most important teacher. Opportunities for parent involvement are numerous, including an active Parent Teacher Association and School Site Council, Family Curriculum nights, volunteer opportunities, and ongoing bilingual communication through conferences, newsletters, flyers, phone calls home to all families, and a web site. Our families and community members are encouraged to visit our on-site Parent University, which is facilitated by our staff bilingual community liaison. Kinoshita has established partnerships with many community organizations, including the City of San Juan Capistrano, the Orange County Sheriff's Department, the Deputy District Attorney's Office, the Boys and Girls Club of Capistrano Valley, Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Orange County and various other community-based organizations. In conjunction with the YMCA, Kinoshita offers a daily after school homework support and daycare program which is completely funded through a state Prop. 49 grant. In addition, a partnership with Capistrano Unified Adult Education has enabled Kinoshita to offer on site parenting classes.

### **State Priority: School Climate**

The SARC provides the following information relevant to the State priority: School Climate (Priority 6):

- Pupil suspension rates;
- Pupil expulsion rates; and
- Other local measures on the sense of safety.

### Suspensions and Expulsions

Rate	School 2016-17	School 2017-18	School 2018-19	District 2016-17	District 2017-18	District 2018-19	State 2016-17	State 2017-18	State 2018-19
Suspensions	2.2	0.7	0.9	2.5	2.3	2.1	3.6	3.5	3.5
Expulsions	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

### School Safety Plan (School Year 2019-20)

Each Capistrano Unified school site has a School Safety Plan, which includes a comprehensive disaster preparedness plan. Copies are available to read at each school office. The Safety Plan is updated annually, and reviewed by the Executive Director, Safety and Student Services. Aerial pictures and floor plans of each school site are loaded on all local police unit computers. Fire drills are held monthly in elementary schools, four times per year in middle and two times a year in high school. Drop, cover and hold drills are held each semester in middle and high school and quarterly for elementary. Lockdown drills are held twice a year and a disaster drill is held once a year throughout the District. The District also participates in multi-agency response drills, working with law enforcement, fire and other responding agencies.

### D. Other SARC Information

The information in this section is required to be in the SARC but is not included in the state priorities for LCFF.

### Average Class Size and Class Size Distribution (Elementary)

Grade Level	Average	# of	# of	2016-17 # of Classes* Size 33+	Average	# of	# of	Average		# of	# of
K	20	2	4		21	2	4	18	3	2	
1	26		4		20	3	1	24		4	
2	24		4		27		3	26		3	
3	29		3		26		4	30		3	
4	30		4		22	1	3	30		3	
5	34			3	28		4	29		3	
Other**											

<sup>\*</sup>Number of classes indicates how many classes fall into each size category (a range of total students per class).

### Ratio of Academic Counselors to Pupils (School Year 2018-19)

Title	Ratio
Academic Counselors*	534.0

<sup>\*</sup>One Full Time Equivalent (FTE) equals one staff member working full time; one FTE could also represent two staff members who each work 50 percent of full time.

### **Student Support Services Staff (School Year 2018-19)**

Title	Number of FTE* Assigned to School
Counselor (Academic, Social/Behavioral or Career Development)	1.0
Library Media Teacher (Librarian)	
Library Media Services Staff (Paraprofessional)	
Psychologist	
Social Worker	
Nurse	
Speech/Language/Hearing Specialist	.6
Resource Specialist (non-teaching)	
Other	

<sup>\*</sup>One Full Time Equivalent (FTE) equals one staff member working full time; one FTE could also represent two staff members who each work 50 percent of full time.

### Expenditures Per Pupil and School Site Teacher Salaries (Fiscal Year 2017-18)

Level	Total Expenditures Per Pupil	Expenditures Per Pupil (Restricted)	Expenditures Per Pupil (Unrestricted)	Average Teacher Salary
School Site	\$10645	\$3525	\$7120	\$98089
District	N/A	N/A	\$7122	\$89,014.00
Percent Difference - School Site and District	N/A	N/A	0.0	9.7
State	N/A	N/A	\$7,506.64	\$82,403.00

<sup>\*\* &</sup>quot;Other" category is for multi-grade level classes.

Level	Total Expenditures Per Pupil	Expenditures Per Pupil (Restricted)	Expenditures Per Pupil (Unrestricted)	Average Teacher Salary
Percent Difference - School Site and State	N/A	N/A	-5.3	17.4

Note: Cells with N/A values do not require data.

The California Department of Education issued guidance to LEAs on August 1, 2018, regarding how to calculate school-level per-pupil expenditures that will be reported on 2018-19 report cards.

### Types of Services Funded (Fiscal Year 2018-19)

Each district school provides some supplemental services to assist students:

- in reaching academic proficiency
- in mastering grade level content standards and
- to successfully graduate from high school.

### Services vary by school and may include:

- Supplemental instructional materials and books in mathematics, reading/language arts, science and social science
- Programs for English Learners
- Extended Day/Year/Summer School
- Intervention Programs
- Enrichment Programs
- Technology
- AVID Programs
- Parent Education/Family Nights
- Tutoring (some Title I schools and other federal programs)
- Translation for Home-School Communication
- Counseling (Social, Emotional, and College and Career)
- Special Education

Please check with your child's principal to receive information regarding the services that are specific to your child's school.

### Teacher and Administrative Salaries (Fiscal Year 2017-18)

·							
Category	District Amount	State Average For Districts In Same Category					
Beginning Teacher Salary	\$52,915	\$48,612					
Mid-Range Teacher Salary	\$79,510	\$74,676					
Highest Teacher Salary	\$105,993	\$99,791					
Average Principal Salary (Elementary)	\$138,793	\$125,830					
Average Principal Salary (Middle)	\$141,825	\$131,167					
Average Principal Salary (High)	\$161,376	\$144,822					
Superintendent Salary	\$326,466	\$275,796					
Percent of Budget for Teacher Salaries	38%	34%					
Percent of Budget for Administrative Salaries	5%	5%					

For detailed information on salaries, see the CDE Certificated Salaries & Benefits web page at https://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/fd/cs/.

### **Professional Development (Most Recent Three Years)**

Measure	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Number of school days dedicated to Staff Development and Continuous Improvement	2	2	3

Capistrano Unified School District places great value on the role of professional learning, and utilizes systems-wide structures and strategies to promote continuous learning of adults that result in increased learning for students. The ongoing focus for professional learning is to support the district's Wildly Important Goal for Teaching and Learning. It is the district goal to engage students in meaningful, challenging, and innovative educational experiences to increase post-secondary options for all students.

It is the goal of Capistrano Unified School District to ensure all students receive Great First Instruction (GFI). The vision for GFI is that all learning environments include Lesson Preparation, Interaction, Strategies, and Review and Assessment as defined by the Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP). By design, the model for providing professional learning is multi-tiered, and ranges from large-scale, district-wide learning opportunities focused on priority areas to site-specific, embedded professional learning (including coaching) that supports teachers in the transfer of that learning to the classroom. In addition, professional learning "academies" provide supplemental training during the summer and after school hours to further support district initiatives and teacher needs for ongoing professional learning. The outcome of all CUSD professional learning is to improve educator effectiveness in order to increase student learning. In support of this outcome, administrators participate in professional learning to increase their knowledge of quality practices, California Content Standards, and strategies for instructional leadership.

Since 2004, all schools provide specific release time for embedded professional learning using late start or early release days. In grades K-8, this time is known as ACE time (Articulation and Collaboration for Excellence). The purpose of this time is for educators to examine the impact of their practice on student learning, with a focus on continuous improvement. Schools work to identify key areas of learning based on an analysis of student data, upon which they place their focus for professional learning and set annual measurable goals based upon those identified areas of need. These areas are determined through the analysis of student learning data from multiple sources, including, but not limited to high stakes testing. The action plan developed to accomplish these goals outlines priorities for teacher training and implementation.

Throughout the year, the structure of collaboration typically involves teacher teams engaging in ongoing examination of standards-based curriculum, the examination of meaningful formative and summative assessment data, and powerful teaching strategies that get results in student learning. In 2017 the District developed the CUSD Professional Learning Communities Framework as it's guiding document for professional collaboration. All collaborative teams utilize Common Goals, Relational Trust, Focus on Learning, Shared Responsibility, Action-Oriented, Data Driven, and Systems and Structures for Support to ensure all students are learning at high levels. These embedded professional learning activities help prepare teams to provide a differentiated instructional program that meets the needs of all students.

Beginning teachers receive systematic training and support during their first two years of teaching within the CUSD Induction Program. This program assists new teachers as they build upon the skills they already possess upon entering the field of teaching, and provides them with support from a veteran teacher. The program is approved by the California State Commission on Teacher Credentialing and meets the requirements necessary to "clear" teaching credentials. In addition to those activities previously described, all teachers may receive support, assistance, and opportunities to grow professionally through their participation in school site learning teams, student study teams, from district resource teachers, and the Peer Assistance and Review Program.