

**Village Extended School Program
Healthy Behaviors Learning Center
Plymouth Elementary School
Monrovia Unified School District**



Contact Information

Plymouth Elementary School
1300 Boley Street
Monrovia, CA 91016

Mrs. Patty Treliving
plymouthvesp@monroviaschools.net
626-255-8297

Site Background

The Village Extended School Program (VESP) at Plymouth Elementary School is an After School Education and Safety (ASES) before and after school program managed by Monrovia Unified School District (MUSD). The VESP consists of four elementary school sites: Bradoaks, Monroe, Plymouth, Wild Rose and two middle school sites: Clifton and Santa Fe. The VESP is open every day school is in session and is available to students from the time school ends until 6:00 p.m. The VESP believes that including students with diverse needs, gifts, and experiences adds depth and richness to the before and after school program for all students and staff, and helps to build a better world for all of us.

- The Village Extended School Program at Plymouth has been in operation since the fall of 1999 and was certified as a Healthy Behavior Learning Center in May of 2012.
- Plymouth Elementary School is 64 percent Hispanic, 15 percent White, 15 percent Asian/Pacific Islander, 4 percent Black, and 2 percent two or more Races. Sixty-three percent of the students who attend Plymouth are on free or reduced lunch.
- Plymouth Elementary School has a student population of 397 students from grade K to 5th. Staffing includes 1 office manager, 1 school community liaison, 1 health Clerk, 2 custodians, 4 food service workers, 1 librarian, 1 resource specialist, 4 instructional aides, 12 special education aides, 1 physical education teacher, 1 special education teacher, 1 music teacher, 13 regular classroom teachers, 1 program advisor, and 1 site principal. There is a 23:1 student-teacher ratio.

In the 2010-2011 school year, Plymouth Elementary School won the Governor's Fitness Challenge. Additionally, our nutrition program provides hands-on nutrition curriculum that engages students in weekly nutrition education, investigation, and experimentation

using the “Produce of the Month” provided by The Network for a Healthy California as a starting point. Our Activity Leaders also receive user-friendly lesson plans and regular training which enables them to utilize these materials with students very effectively.

Making a Difference

- As measured by the California Standards Test (SCT), a higher percentage of students within the Village Extended School Program scored proficient or advanced on their English Language Arts and Math CST than did students who are not enrolled in the Village Extended School Program.
- We provide a safe, orderly, and powerful learning environment for all of the students in the before and after school program.
- We invite students to be a part of the decision making process when it comes to planning programs and activities in the before and after school program at Plymouth.
- We have strengthened our local economy by providing meaningful employment opportunities to more than 200 community members working on behalf of our students as Activity Leaders, Site Managers, tutors, and support staff.
- The Village Program has brought over 8 million dollars into the community over the last thirteen years.

What We Do

The Village Extended School Program (VESP) at Plymouth Elementary School is a comprehensive before and after school program that provides both academic support and enrichment opportunities to the students involved in our program. Below are several examples of the work we do involving nutrition, physical activity and food security work.

- Since Village began working as a Healthy Behavior Site, the staff has all worked to eat healthier and lose weight. To date the Plymouth Village Staff has lost a collective 75 pounds.
- The Village staff at Plymouth Elementary School has implemented daily physical education through SPARK for a minimum of 30 minutes where all students are active for the entire time.
- Village offers a Friday rotation that includes dance, cooking, yoga, and gardening to all Village students.
- The Village students are involved in the planning and preparation of Parent Education Evenings held at Plymouth Elementary School. Recently, more than 250 parents, students, and teachers from the Plymouth community attended one of these events. Students are involved in teaching a dance, passing out healthy cookbooks, and answering questions for guests.
- Village offers rotations twice per week where students have an opportunity to participate in dance, yoga and breathing, gardening and earth science, nutrition and cooking, and kinesiology.
- The Village Extended School Program created a school garden in partnership with the teachers, and the PTA.

- Twice per month, the Village Extended School Program offers a Snack Shack for parents. The Snack Shack provides parents with fresh fruits and vegetables as well as gives them an opportunity to taste whatever the students have been making within their cooking and nutrition classes.

Our Partners

- The Network for a Healthy California partners with us to provide nutrition education information and curriculum.
- Foothill Unity Center assists our families with community resources.
- After School Education and Safety provides valuable funding which allows us to serve our families.
- The Boone Foundation has provided funding for enrichment opportunities for Plymouth students.
- The Center for Collaborative Solutions has partnered with us on the journey of becoming a Healthy Behavior Learning Center.

Additional Impacts of Our Program

Through being a part of the Healthy Behavior Initiative, the Village Program at Plymouth has taken it upon itself to establish a positive and productive relationship with the food services director within the school district. As a result, the Director and Village have had conversations that have helped to change the snack menu in after school to one that is much healthier and more nutritious. We have also recently been in conversation with the Director of Food Services about utilizing the new dinner program within the afterschool program. The Healthy Behavior Initiative has helped us to develop a positive relationship with food services.

We also see students eating healthy snacks more frequently. Parents have become more educated about planning healthy meals because of our parent education nights.