

School: The Cove School

Year: 2019-20

School Local Control & Accountability Plan

School Profile

In 2011, The Larkspur-Corte Madera School District Board of Trustees unanimously approved the creation of a new public elementary school to open in the Fall of 2014. The Board and visionary superintendent provided support for the new principal and core leadership team to research academic best practices, study the California Common Core State Standards (CA CCSS), participate in a course with colleagues from around the world on “Learning Environments for Tomorrow” at Harvard University, visit exemplar collaborative elementary schools, learn how Google and other highly successful technology companies utilize space creatively to facilitate positive outcomes, and finally, to collaborate with staff and community members to develop the mission, vision and culture of the new school.

Established in 2014, The Cove School (<http://www.lcmschools.org/thecoveschool>) is an innovative public elementary school of approximately 425 students in the Larkspur-Corte Madera School District. Cove is built around forward-thinking educational practices and flexible learning spaces. Cove is supported by our highly engaged community filled with active learners - parents, staff and students alike - who inquire, explore, collaborate and create. While our model practice of collaborative teaching is essential to our success, there are many other components that contribute to our success as well. At the center of The Cove School are four Guiding Principles: Experiential Learning, Social and Emotional Growth, Creativity and Community. These principles are brought to life through The Cove School's Signature Practices.

Cove teachers employ a variety of strategies to promote experiential learning. Project-based learning strengthens student understanding, reinforcing academic concepts with hands-on experiences. Teachers integrate a variety of curriculum areas into units based on the CA CCSS, using technology as a tool to deepen understanding. Through differentiated, small-group instruction and proven strategies for language development, Cove teachers keep students actively engaged in learning.

Social and emotional growth is a key part of the Cove learning experience. Our Responsive Classroom (<https://www.responsiveclassroom.org/>) approach promotes respectful, healthy relationships, and builds mindfulness practices into the daily routine of students, fostering self-discipline. Together, these techniques help children become responsible, focused and reflective learners. The Cove School embraces an inclusive philosophy supporting all students for success in our integrated learning environments.

The Cove Signature Practices encourage students to explore challenging questions and devise creative solutions. Our students' creativity and natural curiosity are nurtured through the process of tinkering, making and innovating.

Community engagement and collaborative teaching help The Cove School thrive. Everyone contributes in unique ways and has collective ownership of Cove's success. Our community is built on shared values, trust, transparency, and a willingness to try new things. For example, the entire Cove community starts each day with “Cove-in-Motion” (<http://www.myschoolinmotion.org/>), comprised of fifteen minutes of choreographed movement and physical education based on the latest brain research about learning. All students, teachers (and parents who choose to stay) participate! We also collaborate with local organizations to exchange ideas and expand our thinking.

The architectural design of the school is based on learning research that highlights the benefits of natural day lighting, visibility, airflow, and non-standard spaces with a variety of nooks, floor textures and ceiling heights. Learning spaces function as collaborative suites with flexible, glass walls, a small group breakout room, and attached outdoor learning spaces. The unique furniture supports flexibility, collaboration and creativity.

Through strong commitment to our mission, ongoing reflection and continuous improvement of our practices, the entire Cove community is dedicated to delivering inspirational learning experiences for all of our students.

CAASPP Results (All Students)

English Language Arts/Literacy

Overall Participation for All Students												
Grade Level	# of Students Enrolled			# of Students Tested			# of Students with Scores			% of Enrolled Students Tested		
	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19
Grade 3	64	72	69	61	69	65	61	69	65	95.3	95.8	94.2
Grade 4	73	72	69	68	68	66	68	68	66	93.2	94.4	95.7
Grade 5	76	77	76	74	76	75	74	76	75	97.4	98.7	98.7
All Grades	213	221	214	203	213	206	203	213	206	95.3	96.4	96.3

* The “% of Enrolled Students Tested” showing in this table is not the same as “Participation Rate” for federal accountability purposes.

Overall Achievement for All Students															
Grade Level	Mean Scale Score			% Standard Exceeded			% Standard Met			% Standard Nearly Met			% Standard Not Met		
	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19
Grade 3	2477.3	2485.2	2477.7	44.26	53.62	52.31	34.43	18.84	20.00	14.75	20.29	18.46	6.56	7.25	9.23
Grade 4	2565.1	2563.1	2546.4	67.65	67.65	54.55	23.53	17.65	31.82	8.82	7.35	9.09	0.00	7.35	4.55
Grade 5	2569.7	2577.3	2575.2	51.35	52.63	56.00	29.73	31.58	25.33	6.76	14.47	13.33	12.16	1.32	5.33
All Grades	N/A	N/A	N/A	54.68	57.75	54.37	29.06	23.00	25.73	9.85	14.08	13.59	6.40	5.16	6.31

Reading									
Demonstrating understanding of literary and non-fictional texts									
Grade Level	% Above Standard			% At or Near Standard			% Below Standard		
	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19
Grade 3	40.98	46.38	47.69	47.54	42.03	40.00	11.48	11.59	12.31
Grade 4	55.88	58.82	48.48	36.76	38.24	45.45	7.35	2.94	6.06
Grade 5	55.41	51.32	42.67	32.43	46.05	49.33	12.16	2.63	8.00
All Grades	51.23	52.11	46.12	38.42	42.25	45.15	10.34	5.63	8.74

Writing Producing clear and purposeful writing									
Grade Level	% Above Standard			% At or Near Standard			% Below Standard		
	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19
Grade 3	42.62	49.28	38.46	52.46	42.03	53.85	4.92	8.70	7.69
Grade 4	55.88	58.82	46.97	42.65	36.76	50.00	1.47	4.41	3.03
Grade 5	52.70	64.47	56.00	37.84	30.26	38.67	9.46	5.26	5.33
All Grades	50.74	57.75	47.57	43.84	36.15	47.09	5.42	6.10	5.34

Listening Demonstrating effective communication skills									
Grade Level	% Above Standard			% At or Near Standard			% Below Standard		
	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19
Grade 3	31.15	42.03	32.31	59.02	53.62	58.46	9.84	4.35	9.23
Grade 4	52.94	48.53	53.03	47.06	47.06	40.91	0.00	4.41	6.06
Grade 5	37.84	31.58	37.33	54.05	67.11	57.33	8.11	1.32	5.33
All Grades	40.89	40.38	40.78	53.20	56.34	52.43	5.91	3.29	6.80

Research/Inquiry Investigating, analyzing, and presenting information									
Grade Level	% Above Standard			% At or Near Standard			% Below Standard		
	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19
Grade 3	57.38	46.38	38.46	32.79	44.93	50.77	9.84	8.70	10.77
Grade 4	66.18	69.12	45.45	32.35	26.47	45.45	1.47	4.41	9.09
Grade 5	50.00	52.63	60.00	41.89	44.74	30.67	8.11	2.63	9.33
All Grades	57.64	55.87	48.54	35.96	38.97	41.75	6.40	5.16	9.71

CAASPP Results (All Students)

Mathematics

Overall Participation for All Students												
Grade Level	# of Students Enrolled			# of Students Tested			# of Students with Scores			% of Enrolled Students Tested		
	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19
Grade 3	64	72	69	62	69	66	62	69	66	96.9	95.8	95.7
Grade 4	73	72	69	69	69	67	69	69	67	94.5	95.8	97.1
Grade 5	76	77	76	75	76	75	75	76	75	98.7	98.7	98.7
All Grades	213	221	214	206	214	208	206	214	208	96.7	96.8	97.2

* The “% of Enrolled Students Tested” showing in this table is not the same as “Participation Rate” for federal accountability purposes.

Overall Achievement for All Students															
Grade Level	Mean Scale Score			% Standard Exceeded			% Standard Met			% Standard Nearly Met			% Standard Not Met		
	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19
Grade 3	2486.4	2504.3	2504.6	41.94	56.52	60.61	33.87	23.19	24.24	16.13	13.04	10.61	8.06	7.25	4.55
Grade 4	2558.0	2547.4	2545.4	59.42	55.07	46.27	27.54	24.64	31.34	11.59	15.94	19.40	1.45	4.35	2.99
Grade 5	2547.0	2572.1	2560.7	34.67	51.32	40.00	26.67	26.32	26.67	28.00	15.79	20.00	10.67	6.58	13.33
All Grades	N/A	N/A	N/A	45.15	54.21	48.56	29.13	24.77	27.40	18.93	14.95	16.83	6.80	6.07	7.21

Concepts & Procedures									
Applying mathematical concepts and procedures									
Grade Level	% Above Standard			% At or Near Standard			% Below Standard		
	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19
Grade 3	61.29	73.91	66.67	22.58	14.49	24.24	16.13	11.59	9.09
Grade 4	65.22	60.87	58.21	27.54	26.09	35.82	7.25	13.04	5.97
Grade 5	38.67	56.58	45.33	33.33	30.26	36.00	28.00	13.16	18.67
All Grades	54.37	63.55	56.25	28.16	23.83	32.21	17.48	12.62	11.54

Problem Solving & Modeling/Data Analysis									
Using appropriate tools and strategies to solve real world and mathematical problems									
Grade Level	% Above Standard			% At or Near Standard			% Below Standard		
	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19
Grade 3	51.61	59.42	65.15	43.55	33.33	31.82	4.84	7.25	3.03
Grade 4	65.22	60.87	56.72	28.99	33.33	38.81	5.80	5.80	4.48
Grade 5	41.33	59.21	49.33	42.67	31.58	37.33	16.00	9.21	13.33
All Grades	52.43	59.81	56.73	38.35	32.71	36.06	9.22	7.48	7.21

Communicating Reasoning									
Demonstrating ability to support mathematical conclusions									
Grade Level	% Above Standard			% At or Near Standard			% Below Standard		
	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19	16-17	17-18	18-19
Grade 3	58.06	65.22	57.58	30.65	28.99	40.91	11.29	5.80	1.52
Grade 4	65.22	63.77	53.73	30.43	27.54	40.30	4.35	8.70	5.97
Grade 5	41.33	52.63	34.67	48.00	39.47	50.67	10.67	7.89	14.67
All Grades	54.37	60.28	48.08	36.89	32.24	44.23	8.74	7.48	7.69

Related State Priorities	Identified Need and Metric	Description of Subgoal	Applicable Pupil Subgroup(s)	What will be different / improved for students?		Annual update: Analysis of Progress
				Actions & Services	"Description of expenditures and funding source, if any"	
Performance Goal #1:						
Improve student engagement, health, well-being and connectedness to school.						
Pupil Engagement School Climate	<p>2018 California Healthy Kids Survey 85% of students report feeling safe at school most or all of the time. 70% of students report a high level of school connectedness.</p> <p>2019 LCAP Survey 91% of parents report their child feels connected to an adult in their classroom or other staff members at Cove. (This is up from 88% in 2018.) 81% of 3rd-5th grade students reported feeling safe on playground. (This is the same as 2018.) 84% of students reported positive relationships with peers at school. 88% of students reported feeling included while eating at lunch.</p> <p>2018 5th grade Physical Fitness Data Average percent of students who score in</p>	<p>Integrate social and emotional development throughout the Cove experience to foster student empathy, problem-solving skills and overall well-being.</p> <p>Maximize percentage of students feeling safe and connected to school.</p>	All	<p>Document teachers' evaluation of students' growth mindset as recorded in progress reports each semester.</p> <p>Continue to monitor recess systems, activities, options and supervision in order to facilitate positive student experiences.</p> <p>Counselor and principal interview subset of 2nd-5th grade students regarding their recess and safety and connectedness experience to look for trends to improve.</p> <p>Continue mindfulness training and coaching for all teachers.</p> <p>Continue SEL Programming including classroom guidance lessons on conflict resolution and prosocial relationships.</p> <p>Use of mindfulness techniques implemented in classrooms to support transitions.</p> <p>Use of brain breaks throughout the day to maintain student engagement.</p> <p>Counselor check in's with at-risk students</p>	Title II SPARK Foundation General Fund	

Related State Priorities	Identified Need and Metric	Description of Subgoal	Applicable Pupil Subgroup(s)	What will be different / improved for students?		Annual update: Analysis of Progress
				Actions & Services	"Description of expenditures and funding source, if any"	
	the Healthy Fitness Zone across the areas of Aerobic Capacity, Body Composition, Abdominal Strength, Trunk Extension Strength, Upper Body Strength, and Flexibility is 91%			<p>Recess conflict management support among teachers, counselor, and administrators as well as student Conflict Managers program led by counselor.</p> <p>Counselor collaboration with teachers, parents and stakeholders to develop plans to support prosocial behaviors in specific students.</p>		

Related State Priorities	Identified Need and Metric	Description of Subgoal	Applicable Pupil Subgroup(s)	What will be different / improved for students?		Annual update: Analysis of Progress
				Actions & Services	"Description of expenditures and funding source, if any"	
Performance Goal #2:						
Ensure continuous improvement, achievement and equitable and inclusive access to standards-aligned Math, English, Science, Social Science, Visual and Performing Arts, World Languages, Physical Education and Digital Literacy for all students. Increase academic achievement in English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics at or above the rate of similar schools; narrow the achievement gap within subgroups.						
Pupil Achievement Other Pupil Outcomes Implementation of State Standards	<p>2018 Cove CAASPP Data 3rd grade ELA Achievement - 74% Math Achievement - 80%</p> <p>4th grade ELA Achievement - 85% Math Achievement - 80%</p> <p>5th grade ELA Achievement - 84% Math Achievement - 78%</p> <p>Subgroup data (LCMSD) Low Socioeconomic Status ELA Achievement - 42% Math Achievement - 31%</p> <p>English Language Learner ELA Achievement - 18% Math Achievement - 15%</p> <p>Special Education ELA Achievement - 43% Math Achievement - 33%</p>	<p>State Testing: 90% of students in grades 3-5 will meet or exceed ELA standards on State assessments; 85% of students grades 3-5 meet or exceed Math standards on State assessments; 75% of students in target groups (including ELs) will meet or exceed standards</p> <p>Local Benchmarks: 90% of students in grades 3-5 will meet or exceed standards on local reading and writing benchmark assessments; 85% of students in grades 3-8 will meet or exceed standards on local math benchmark assessments</p>	All	<p>Provide differentiated professional learning opportunities that focus on curriculum and pedagogy that is firmly rooted in research, practice, and informed by collaboration among higher education faculty (UCLA Center X), national experts (Momentum in Teaching - Reading and Writing Workshop), and practitioners from local districts.</p> <p>Provide Reading and Math Intervention</p> <p>Develop MTSS Tiered System of Supports with an emphasis on Tier 1 Instruction.</p> <p>Provide Peer Coaching around research based strategies for subgroup success</p> <p>Implement a data and assessment warehouse to closely monitor student progress throughout the year.</p>	<p>General Fund Title II SPARK Foundation MTSS Grant</p>	

Related State Priorities	Identified Need and Metric	Description of Subgoal	Applicable Pupil Subgroup(s)	What will be different / improved for students?		Annual update: Analysis of Progress
				Actions & Services	"Description of expenditures and funding source, if any"	

Related State Priorities	Identified Need and Metric	Description of Subgoal	Applicable Pupil Subgroup(s)	What will be different / improved for students?		Annual update: Analysis of Progress
				Actions & Services	"Description of expenditures and funding source, if any"	
Performance Goal #3:						
All teachers will demonstrate growth in professional standards and participate in effective professional development (PD) and learning opportunities. The District will recruit and retain excellent teachers/learning leaders to fill vacancies.						
Implementation of State Standards Pupil Achievement School Climate	LCMSD Teacher Evaluation process Teacher goal setting and conferencing with administrators Teacher observation Collaborative Inquiry Visits with district administrative team to collect data and observe instructional practices as modeled and implemented with Reader's and Writer's workshop and Cognitively Guided Instruction in math. Rigorous hiring process to include demonstration lessons and applicant interview process	100% of classroom teachers will embed professional learning (in the specific district focus areas of reading or math) in their annual professional goals. Embody a culture of innovation to drive continuous improvement through the use of data from a variety of sources.	All	Staff meeting focused on writing professional goals with data-based outcomes in target areas. Administrators to provide targeted and effective teacher feedback aligned to district goals. Admin team to continue practice of Collaborative Inquiry Visits to determine trends and needs for professional development. Support educators in making practice more transparent through calibrated peer observation, lab cycles, and common planning. Principal to support teachers in taking risks and trying new research-based practices. Principal to communicate this value to parents through Cove Connection, Back to School Night and other communications.	Title II General Fund SPARK Foundation	

Related State Priorities	Identified Need and Metric	Description of Subgoal	Applicable Pupil Subgroup(s)	What will be different / improved for students?		Annual update: Analysis of Progress
				Actions & Services	"Description of expenditures and funding source, if any"	
Performance Goal #4:						
Leverage and align district resources with student improvement and LCAP goals. Maintain equitable class size distribution. Maintain outstanding facilities, leveraging new facilities for innovative learning.						
Parental Involvement	District, PTO and SPARK budgets align with LCAP goals.	Work collaboratively with PTO and SPARK to leverage community funding to maximize progress toward LCAP goals.		Principal and staff to work collaboratively with SPARK and PTO to educate them about LCAP priorities when creating their budgets. Principal and staff to work collaboratively with SPARK and PTO to support their fundraising efforts.	N/A	

Related State Priorities	Identified Need and Metric	Description of Subgoal	Applicable Pupil Subgroup(s)	What will be different / improved for students?		Annual update: Analysis of Progress
				Actions & Services	"Description of expenditures and funding source, if any"	
Performance Goal #5:						
Develop and improve communication, participation, and articulation among schools, district, parents, community.						
Parental Involvement School Climate	<p>Weekly school newsletters (Cove Connection) and classroom communication emailed to parents.</p> <p>BluPods notifications to parents</p> <p>2019 LCAP Survey Data: 87% of families feel school communication is effective (2018: 91%) 75% of families feel teacher communication is effective (2018: 77%)</p>	<p>Advancing The Cove’s Guiding Principles: Further expand our commitment to and understanding of The Cove’s Guiding Principles</p> <p>Community Involvement: Strengthen Cove Community by providing opportunities for the school community (students, teachers, parents) to participate and learn together through meaningful, fun and interactive events</p>		<p>Parent group membership (LCAP, PTO and Site Council, SPARK) will include parents of students in subgroups.</p> <p>Continue Cove Connection</p> <p>Continue/define agreements as a staff around teacher communication to parents</p> <p>Continue multi-year Cove Alive committee with focus on making Guiding Principles visible</p> <p>Focus Open House around showing the Guiding Principles in action</p> <p>Implement personal phone calls to random people in each classroom (through PTO classroom coordinators) to get specific data/feedback to improve communication.</p>	General Fund SPARK	