Altadena Arts Magnet Elementary Fact Sheet

Address: 743 E. Calaveras Street, Altadena, CA, 91001
Phone: 626-396-5650
Website: altadena.pusd.us
School hours: 7:50 am - 2:15 pm
Monday Early Dismissal 12:35 pm
Cougar Family Handbook: https://www.pusd.us/domain/2455

Grade levels: Pre-K; K-5
School tours: https://www.pusd.us/domain/2344
Parent Ambassadors: Vernon Chaplin, Victoria Knapp; Lana Medina (French DLIP); Karina Contreras (bilingual Sp-Eng)

Principal

Benita Scheckel - Dr. Scheckel was selected to lead Altadena Arts in 2017. Beginning in 2021, she serves jointly as principal of both Altadena and Eliot Arts Magnets. Dr. Dana Hill serves as Altadena’s Assistant Principal.

Teachers

All of Altadena’s classroom teachers are certificated. Rotary Teacher of Excellence awarded to teacher Regina Major, who now serves as Arts Magnet Coordinator. Four additional certificated staff serve as coaches and specialists. Native French-speaking interns assist in the Dual Language Immersion classrooms. Other key staff include a full-time Health Clerk, and Nurse 3 days/week.

Students (Demographics from 2021-22)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hispanic</th>
<th>Non-Hispanic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Any race)</td>
<td>Asian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46.9%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

English Language Learners (ELLS): 9.7%  As English Learners progress they are first designated Initial Fluent English Proficient (7.1%) and eventually Reclassified as Fluent English-Proficient (5.1%)

Socioeconomically Disadvantaged: 65.5%

Open Enrollment (Data from 2020 lotteries not necessarily predictive of next year’s outcomes)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>“1st choice” Applicants:</th>
<th>Mainstream</th>
<th>DLIP, Native-Speakers</th>
<th>DLIP, Non-Native Speakers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- # applicants</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- % placed in a seat</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PUSD will post the range of open enrollment seats projected to be available for the 2023-24 school year in January 2023. Families are encouraged to rank in order of preference all schools/programs they would prefer to their assigned school of residence, regardless of the OE seat projections, and to opt in to the 2nd lottery if they do not get their preferred school in the 1st lottery.

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Enrichment / Unique Programs

In 2017, Altadena was awarded a multi-million dollar Federal Magnet Grant to further enhance its visual and performing arts program across the curriculum.

French Dual Language Immersion was introduced in 2017. (Mainstream English program continues.)

Altadena offers a full-inclusion program for students with special needs.

See also PEN Fact Sheet guide for “Enrichment Basics” and the arts, technology and other enrichment activities available to ALL PUSD elementary students.

What has changed in recent years? A new principal was assigned in 2017. A new French Dual Language program was initiated in August 2017, the school was awarded a 4-year Federal grant to become an Arts Magnet (2017-18 was a planning year). Beginning with the 2020-21 school year, the Franklin Elementary attendance zone was consolidated with Altadena’s, resulting in a 76% increase in enrollment. In 2021, Altadena and Eliot Arts Magnets were consolidated under one administration, while still remaining two separate school campuses.

School Environment / Social-Emotional Learning

School Mission: We provide a nurturing, rigorous and arts-integrated learning environment where children are taught how to think, not what to think.

Relational campus: Altadena strives to create an environment in which students are responsible to themselves, their peers, teachers/staff, and their school. All classrooms build and refer to their Social Contract, and students and staff follow the EXCEL Model: Engage (daily meet-and-greet at the door and during transitions); eXplore needs and interests with each other; Communicate (caring and relevance of message); Empower (teaching becomes doing); Launch (meaningful ending and sending at the end of each lesson and each school day).

Safe, respectful, responsible: School staff has collaborated to adopt common guidelines of expected behavior for all of parts of campus. We believe in restorative justice practices in which all students can reflect on their choices and then be welcomed back into the community with dignity. We use our Turnaround Room as a restorative justice space for all who need it.

After-school Programs

Pasadena LEARNS, Can Do Kids (across the street on El Molino); families also use afterschool program at Boys & Girls Club on North Fair Oaks.

Parent involvement

PTA Contact: Linda Sapin (president.altadenapta@gmail.com)  PTA Members: 226 (2020-21)

Parent involvement opportunities: Parent Teacher Association, School Site Council, English Learners Advisory Committee, African American Parent Council; Annual Fund