

## **Delevan Drive Elementary Model Programs and Practices**

### **School Information**

CDS (County District School) Code: 19647336016745

County: Los Angeles

District (Local Educational Agency): Los Angeles Unified

School: Delevan Drive Elementary

### **Demographics**

Enrollment: 484 students

Location Description: Urban

Title I Funded: Yes

Type of Program: School-wide

School Calendar: Traditional

Charter: No

### **Overview**

Delevan Drive Elementary is an urban school located in the Northeast area of the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). The school community is small, close-knit, and marked with a high level of stability as evidenced by the low 3.5% student transiency rate. Dedicated teachers foster a cohesive, academic community. Generations of families have invested in the development of the school. We are a school that has been honored as a 2009 National Blue Ribbon School, awarded the Title I Academic Achievement Award from 2002 through 2009, and was recognized as a 2012 California Distinguished School. We are a high performing school as indicated by our SBAC scores wherein 67% of students met or exceeded the ELA benchmark and 70% met or exceeded the Math benchmark.

The school serves 484 preschool through grade six students. Significant ethnic groups include Latino (59%) and Filipino (24%) with smaller percentages of White, Asian, and African-American, respectively. Economically Disadvantaged Students comprise 64% of

the population with 12% identified Gifted, 11% English Learners, 16% Reclassified English Learners, and 12% Students with Special Needs. 78% of the children met the LAUSD goal of 96% in-seat attendance or higher.

Delevan staff thrives in an environment of collaboration and professionalism. During staff development meetings; grade level groups generate lessons, engage in problem solving, analyze data, and delve into program implementation. Teachers seek out new enrichment opportunities and make a practice of attending out-of-school seminars. As a result, the expertise of the staff is enhanced.

Academic expectations are high at Delevan. There is a purposeful focus on providing a rigorous, standards-based curriculum that meets the needs of all students. Given the high achievement of the students, it is critical they are challenged to even higher levels. Just as pressing is the need to addressing students not meeting grade level standards.

California Common Core State Standards are the driving force behind instruction at Delevan Drive. In conjunction with our district-adopted ELA and math curriculum, teachers utilize multiple strategies and resources to meet anchor standards for all students. Arts, Science, and Social Studies are integrated into the core curriculum. Assessment instruments are utilized regularly to monitor student progress and guide instruction.

A wealth of traditions makes Delevan Drive a high energy environment for learning. Delevan has continuous partnerships that are an integral part of our community school-wide events: PTA organizes many exciting and entertaining activities. Parker-Anderson provides diverse after-school enrichment classes. Student Council facilitates a number of activities that allow for cross grade integration. Delevan Drive takes pride in cultivating 21st century leaders with strengths in critical thinking, collaboration, communication, and creativity.

## **Model Program and Practices**

Name of Model Program/Practice: Today's Learners, Tomorrow's Leaders

Length of Model Program/Practice: 2–4 years

Target Area(s): Closing the Achievement Gap, Use of Technology

Target Population(s): Asian, Black or African American, Filipino, Hispanic, White, Two or More Races, Socioeconomically Disadvantaged, English Learners, Students with Disabilities

Strategies Used: School Climate, Parent Engagement, Data-Driven Decision Making, Implementation of Academic Standards Basics (Teachers, Instructional Materials, Facilities)

## Description

Closing the achievement gap is one of our highest priorities at Delevan. We recognize that all students enter at a variety of proficiency levels, and that technology is a vital tool that levels the playing field for ELs (11%) and Title I students (64%). Through a variety of resources, technology and professional developments, all stakeholders work together to close the achievement gap.

The Early Language and Literacy Academy (ELLP), a collaboratively planned and instructed Tier 1 foundational skills block, addresses the language and literacy needs of students in grades K–2. Our goal is that students will read, write, speak and listen fluently and accurately by the end of second grade. Additionally, third through sixth grade teachers develop Literacy Design Collaborative (LDC) modules that focus on increasing writing proficiency through the content areas of science and social studies.

Teachers completed Coding and Google Certification workshops to support their use of technology in the classroom. Google Apps for Education is a commonly utilized tool that enables students and teachers to communicate and collaborate on an online platform. Furthermore, students participate in the Hour of Code lessons. To increase engagement, students set and achieve goals in many rigorous learning and creative web-based programs: ST Math, Accelerated Reader (AR), ReadTheory, Zearn, Mystery Science, Khan, Quizlet, and Kahoot.

Delevan is characterized as an extremely stable, cohesive, and active community that promotes and supports a growth mindset. Families are involved in supporting their child's social-emotional and behavioral needs. This is reflected in the collaboration of teachers and families in the use of ClassDojo, a classroom communication and behavior support application; GoNoodle, an interactive tool focusing on movement and mindfulness; and Second Step, an integrated social-emotional curriculum.

These models benefit all students and increase school-wide achievement. This is especially true for our unique student population and students with social-emotional and behavioral needs. Technology provides students with a variety of multi-modalities to access the curriculum and different ways to express their learning. Small group intervention programs (iReady, Common Core Support Coach, 95 Percent) differentiates learning activities, provides frequent and multiple ways to check for understanding and scaffolds allow teachers to target specific areas of need, and give students an opportunity to have equal access to the general education curriculum.

Monitoring attendance trends of our students and offering incentives promotes a positive outlook on attending school regularly. LAUSD's goal is for all students to attend at a rate of 96% or higher. Currently, 78% of Delevan students met the 96% proficient or advanced attendance LCAP goal. Chronic absenteeism (4.9%), suspensions (0%), and expulsions (0%) are not significant issues at Delevan Drive.

## Implementation and Monitoring

To promote parent engagement we offer family nights and parent workshops reflective of parent survey results. Families are provided strategies, tools, and methods to support their child's learning. Student-led conferences, ClassDojo, Remind, Renaissance Home Connect, and weekly progress reports are used to communicate student behavior and academic achievement. Delevan newsletter, website, Coffee with the Principal, PTA meetings, Open House, and Back to School Night keep families informed on school events and policies. Parents are a vital part of student success at Delevan.

AR, ST Math, Google Classroom, Quizlet, Kahoot and ReadTheory are a few of the technologies used to differentiate instruction, scaffold lessons and collaboratively set goals. These resources allow students to demonstrate their understanding, reflect upon their learning, and apply 21st century skills.

Literacy Academies help address the language and literacy needs of students in grades K–2. Using Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) data, teachers group students based on needs in foundational skills, language, and literacy. Teachers and support staff progress monitor using informal assessments throughout the semester to regroup students as needed. For grades 3–6, DIBELS and Text Reading Comprehension (TRC) data drives targeted group instruction and intervention in the classroom on a daily basis. iReady and Common Core Support Coach are used to implement strategies to meet student needs. Pre and post-tests are administered during an eight week session to assess growth and determine the need for continuation.

LDC presents a unique opportunity for upper grade teachers to collaborate and create rigorous standards-based modules that focus on students' literacy and writing skills. Teachers and support staff meet biweekly with a LDC facilitator to deepen the understanding of aligning focus standards within integrated writing units and analyze exemplary modules to aid in the development of teacher-created modules. Teachers engage in a cross-grade calibration of grading practices which provide insight into student writing trends. These trends inform instruction for planning mini-lessons targeting specific student needs.

TSP Advisor continuously analyzes EL data to assist teachers in the delivery of instruction while monitoring the effectiveness of Designated and Integrated English Language Development (ELD) lessons. Teachers use the CA ELD standards to build content instruction in order to develop English language skills, knowledge, and abilities needed for content learning in English.

Reclassified Fluent English Proficient students are monitored for four years to ensure they are making adequate progress in all areas. Teachers monitor student progress and provide appropriate and additional educational services when needed. Once reclassified, the Student Success and Progress Team monitors and notifies parents of students who are not meeting standards.

## Results and Outcomes

Success for all is what we strive for at Delevan. Our focus is not just to meet the needs of targeted student groups, but to complement the education of our unique learning community. Delevan is among one of the top performing schools in our district. Our students have demonstrated the knowledge and skills necessary to be on track for college and career readiness. As indicated on CA Dashboard, when comparing results from 2015–2016 to 2016–2017, Delevan had an increase of 1.4 points (32.3 to 33.7) in ELA, an increase of 8.1 points (23.3 to 31.3) in math and a 10% gain (71.7 to 81.6) in the progress of ELs. ELLP interventions and LDC modules have proven growth in student literacy, comprehension, and writing skills. Upon analyzing 2015–16 and 2016–2017 SBAC data, school-wide data shows an increase of 9% in the area of ELA and 16% in math. Highest achievements were seen within the EL population with an 11% increase in ELA and a 10% increase in mathematics. Targeted small group Tier II and Tier III interventions have supported the success of our special education student population. According to SBAC data, 21% of SPED students met ELA standards and 21% nearly met the math standards. In addition, DIBELS and TRC outcomes reveal an increase in decoding, fluency, and comprehension.

### SBAC Met or Exceeded Benchmark

	<b>ELA 2015–16</b>	<b>ELA 2016–17</b>	<b>Math 2015–16</b>	<b>Math 2016–17</b>
<b>Grade 3</b>	48%	72%	61%	77%
<b>Grade 4</b>	64%	62%	68%	70%
<b>Grade 5</b>	62%	66%	50%	63%
<b>Grade 6</b>	57%	68%	35%	71%
<b>Total</b>	58%	67%	54%	70%

### DIBELS K–2

	<b>BOY 2016–17</b>	<b>BOY 2017–18</b>
<b>Above Benchmark</b>	48%	51%

	<b>BOY 2016–17</b>	<b>BOY 2017–18</b>
<b>At Benchmark</b>	14%	16%
<b>Below Benchmark</b>	15%	13%
<b>Well Below Benchmark</b>	23%	20%

## TRC 3–6

	<b>BOY 2016–17</b>	<b>BOY 2017–18</b>
<b>Above Benchmark</b>	9%	27%
<b>At Benchmark</b>	26%	8%
<b>Below Benchmark</b>	31%	27%
<b>Well Below Benchmark</b>	39%	38%

Through monitoring student behavior on ClassDojo and observing student relationships in the classroom, teachers have found a greater appreciation and application of soft skills such as empathy, perseverance, problem solving, mindfulness, and most importantly, a growth mindset. Constant communication with Delevan families results in an increase of parent involvement and support at home in reading, math, writing, and positive behavior reinforcement.

Delevan's commitment to closing the achievement gap through the use of technology and implementation of the California Common Core State Standards has resulted in high academic success of our students, as evidenced by the data points. The growth mindset of our students, the continuous collaboration among staff, the strong community involvement, and the positive school climate create an atmosphere where our students are able to learn the 21st Century skills needed to ensure that today's learners will be tomorrow's leaders.