The background of the entire page is a vibrant sunset or sunrise sky, transitioning from deep red at the bottom to bright orange and yellow at the top. Two giraffes are silhouetted against this sky, standing on a dark, rounded horizon line. The giraffe on the left is facing right, and the one on the right is facing left. In the top left corner, there is a yellow circle containing the text "San Diego Expanded Learning CONSORTIUM".

**San Diego  
Expanded  
Learning**  
CONSORTIUM

**2015-16 ANNUAL REPORT**



# San Diego Expanded Learning CONSORTIUM

The Children's Initiative and the San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE) have a longstanding partnership in supporting high quality expanded learning programs throughout San Diego County. In 1999, the Children's Initiative and SDCOE made a ground breaking pledge to collaborate on a countywide after school grant application on behalf of all eligible school districts within San Diego County.

Sandra McBrayer, CEO of the Children's Initiative, with support from Dr. Rudy Castruita, then Superintendent at SDCOE, worked to bring together all interested school districts to form a regional San Diego After School Consortium. Collaborative discussions were also held with significant stakeholders: San Diego County Board of Supervisors, San Diego County School Boards Association, 9th District PTA, Region 18 Superintendents Council, San Diego Health and Human Services Agency, the Probation Department, and the City of San Diego. Through this effort, the first in the state of California regional After School Consortium was developed. The Consortium partners developed a collaborative philosophy and effective way of doing business that encouraged the partners to share resources and best practices, eliminate duplication of efforts, and work collectively to maximize resources for expanded learning programs in San Diego County.

The approach used by the San Diego Expanded Learning Programs Consortium is a unique model in the development, management, and sustainability of expanded learning programming and in the building of cross system partnerships. The size and scope of the San Diego Consortium has tremendous impact on policy and program development at the local, state, and national levels. Currently, 27 local school districts and 13 charter schools serving K-8 students are part of the Expanded Learning Programs Consortium, all receiving technical support from the Children's Initiative and the San Diego County Office of Education.

## Mission

- Provide youth with safe and enriching learning environments before and after school
- Provide outcome-driven academic assistance
- Create youth development and enrichment programming that fosters student resiliency and improves neighborhood safety

## San Diego Expanded Learning Consortium Funding History

*With quality programs and dedicated advocacy, the San Diego After School Consortium has successfully secured federal and state funding for local school districts for more than 19 years.*

ASES: After School Education and Safety —  
funded by the CA Department of Education

21st CCLC: 21st Century Community Learning Centers —  
funded by US Department of Education

Critical Hours: funded by the US Department of Education

Year	ASES	21 <sup>st</sup> CCLC	Totals
97-10	\$363,286,832	\$28,518,642	\$391,805,474
10-11	\$50,438,906	-	\$50,438,906
11-12	\$49,563,851	-	\$49,563,851
12-13	\$48,267,629	-	\$48,267,629
13-14	\$48,594,036	-	\$48,594,036
14-15	\$27,956,301	\$330,000	\$28,286,301
15-16	\$27,915,599	\$330,000	\$28,245,599
	<b>\$616,023,154</b>	<b>\$29,178,642</b>	<b>\$645,201,796</b>

## San Diego Expanded Learning Programs Consortium Partner Districts & Charter Schools

Bonsall Union	Lakeside Union	San Marcos Unified	America's Finest Charter School	Academy Charter
Borrego Springs Unified	La Mesa – Spring Valley	Santee Elementary	EJE Elementary Charter	King Chavez Academy of Excellence
Cajon Valley Union	Lemon Grove	San Ysidro	EJE Middle Charter	McGill School of Success
Carlsbad Unified	Mountain Empire Unified	South Bay Union	Gompers Prep Academy Charter	San Diego Global Vision Academy
Chula Vista Elementary	National	Sweetwater Union High	Harriet Tubman Village Charter	SBE Thrive
Encinitas Union	Oceanside Unified	Vallecitos Union	Iftin Charter School	SDCOE-JCCS - Monarch School
Escondido Union	Poway Unified	Valley Center-Pauma Unified	Keiller Leadership	The O'Farrell Charter
Fallbrook Union Elementary	Ramona Unified	Vista Unified		
Julian Union Elementary	San Diego Unified	Warner Unified		



# The Children's Initiative

*The Children's Initiative is a San Diego based nonprofit child advocacy agency. The Children's Initiative is dedicated to assisting children and families thrive by providing education, advocacy, cross system collaboration, and training to schools, community organizations, government agencies, elected officials, businesses, and parents.*

Expanded learning programs provide hands-on and unique learning opportunities for students that support and enhance their traditional school day. Students are provided one-on-one and small group support to strengthen their core academic learning, acquire new skills, increase their physical activity, and broaden their knowledge of the world around them. Academic assistance is an important component of expanded learning programs as well as integrating enrichment, fitness and health into a broader program which promotes the social, emotional and physical development of the students served. Expanded learning opportunities offered in partnership with school administration and teachers have a significant impact in improving student achievement and success.

During the 2015–16 school year, the Children's Initiative provided technical assistance, professional development workshops, program support and resources to 27 school districts and 13 charter schools at more than 329 After School Education and Safety (ASES) programs. The Children's Initiative provided expanded learning programs technical assistance and resources to help them improve the quality of their programs and implement best practice approaches. The Children's Initiative provided 43 site visits to support program improvement and learning, and coordinated the annual Touching Minds and Shaping Futures conference, a free professional development conference for expanded learning staff. More than 600 staff from around San Diego County attended the annual conference and learned about new methods for supporting students in expanded learning programs. Additionally, the Children's Initiative hosted 11 professional development trainings for staff and secured more than \$159,000 of in-kind resources, supplies and materials for consortium expanded learning programs.

Knowing that the success of programs also relies on strong partnerships, the Children's Initiative works with representatives from the San Diego County School Boards Association, ACSA Region 18 Superintendents Council, San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency, San Diego Police Chiefs Association, San Diego County Probation, and the Offices of Supervisors Greg Cox and Ron Roberts as well as other state officials. These partnerships provide a solid foundation for identifying and accessing resources, connecting with community assets, and in the development of supportive policies and legislation for expanded learning. The cooperative efforts of the Children's Initiative and all of our partners result in a shared responsibility for the advancement and growth of expanded learning programs.



## SAN DIEGO COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

*The San Diego County Office of Education provides a variety of services for the 42 school districts and five community college districts in the county. The services provided by SDCOE to school districts range from district and school improvement, to budget approval and monitoring.*

The San Diego County Office of Education's Administrative Support Center (ASC) is California's second largest direct-funded ASES program grantee. The ASC supports San Diego County school districts with grant management, attendance reporting, fiscal management, and program evaluation. Funding from the districts' 2% San Diego Expanded Learning Consortium fee has been used to augment training and provide technical assistance. The After School Division of the California Department of Education has placed a strong emphasis on fiscal management, grant management, program quality and compliance for all ASES grantees. Specifically, this includes ASES program attendance and fiscal accountability. As a result, this has become the top priority of the ASC. The goal of the ASC during FY 2015–2016 was to proactively provide training and site visits to ensure full compliance with the California Education Code, the State Audit Guide, and Federal Program Monitoring (FPM).

In an effort to meet all ASES program and audit requirements, the ASC provided the following trainings and events:

- City Span Web-based Attendance & Fiscal Management System Training — Trained staff on use of youthservices.net application for participant data, attendance and grant goal progress tracking.
- ASES 101 Training — Provided site level information on grant & attendance requirements, as well as best practices for programs.
- Alignment 101 Training — Provided strategies on aligning the after school program with the regular school day.
- ASES Data Management & Reporting Training — Prepared districts and site staff for CDE State mandated evaluation reports.
- Focus on Literacy in After School — Provided support to after school program sites by providing supplemental curriculum in core academic content areas through educational, nonfiction books.
- Federal Program Monitoring — Trained and prepared district staff for successful FPM review.
- SDCOE Strength's Based Institute (SBI) — Two days of professional development in which participants discovered their unique, top 5 talent themes using an online, globally recognized, research-based instrument and platform developed by Donald Clifton of Gallup.

The ASC hosted 20 professional learning opportunities and events, attended by more than 400 after school practitioners who represented 26 San Diego County school districts and 14 independent charter schools. Expanded day program site visits are another key component of the technical assistance provided by the ASC. During FY 2015–2016, the ASC team conducted 93 site visits to support ASES programs in the areas of Federal Program Monitoring, grant requirements, program quality and audit compliance.



# 2015-2016 Annual Expanded Learning Program Evaluation Report

With broad stakeholder involvement, the California Department of Education developed twelve Quality Standards for Expanded Learning in California:

- Safe and supportive environment
- Active and engaged learning
- Skill building
- Youth voice and leadership
- Healthy choices and behaviors
- Diversity, access and equity
- Quality staff
- Clear vision, mission and purpose
- Collaborative partnerships
- Continuous quality improvement
- Program management
- Sustainability

The California *Education Code* requires state funded expanded learning program to submit annual outcome-based data on quality improvement. To do this, the San Diego Expanded Learning Consortium programs engage in a program evaluation with an outside, independent evaluator. During the 2015–16 school year, program quality and impact data based upon the Quality Standards was collected from staff, parents, district administrators and students. The data collected supports the ongoing quality improvement process of: Assess, Plan and Improve to ensure program effectiveness, program quality and ongoing program development.

The survey findings in Figure 1 represent stakeholder perception of quality, based on the California Quality Standards. Administration, staff and parents rated their program to be of high quality. Figure 2 shows that stakeholders overwhelmingly find the academic enrichment in their expanded learning programs to be great. Figure 3 notes the variety of benefits expanded learning programs provide to student achievement.

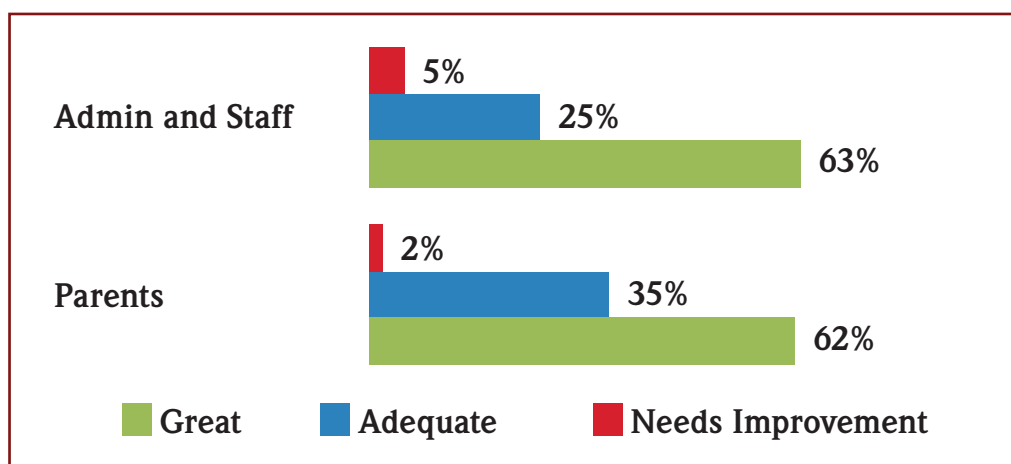
## Results by Quality and Impact\*\*

**Figure 1: Q Score©: 2016 Program Quality**  
Averages weighted from 'Excellent' = 5 to 'I do not see this occurring' = 1

SURVEY QUESTION	ADMIN & STAFF	PARENTS
1. Offers programs and snacks that promote healthy behaviors and a safe and positive social environment.	4.33	4.46
2. There is something for every student regardless of income level, race, ability, special needs, gender, or sexual orientation.	4.46	4.57
3. Provides student opportunities for academic support and skill building.	4.09	4.31
4. Hires great staff who listen, are positive and create an atmosphere that promotes student attendance.	4.21	4.53
5. Provides hands-on activities and activities that develop skills students need for the future.	4.14	4.3
6. Values student input about adding programs that reflect their needs and interests.	4.08	4.41
7. Offers engaging clubs and activities that expand student options for jobs, careers and college.	3.93	4.16



**Figure 2: Quality of Academic Enrichment by Parent and Principal**



**Figure 3: Quality + Impact 2016 Survey Responses (#Survey =9,921)**

**Stakeholders report that as a result of after school programs:**

**60%** of principals noticed an improvement in overall program quality.

**63%** of principals rated the academic activities as great.

**76%** of parents reported their student's academic performance improved.

**86%** of parents noted that their student's social skills improved.

**72%** of students agreed they were a better student since coming to their expanded learning program.

### Survey Responses

5,318 Students

1,055 Administration and Staff

3,548 Parents (647 Spanish Speaking, 6 Arabic)

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9,921 Total

\*\*Survey sample size estimate within +/-2 percentage points 95% of the time (95% Confidence Interval)

*For more information on 2015-16 SDCOE Annual Quality +Impact Survey results by school site, please visit our new interactive survey results @ [www.hoffmanclark.org](http://www.hoffmanclark.org).*



## Providing Youth Voice & Leadership La Presa STEAM Academy

Expanded learning students at La Presa STEAM Academy, a school in the La Mesa-Spring Valley School District, expressed a new curiosity and interest in the U.S. Presidential election. Students began to ask questions of staff about the election process and how individuals get elected to office. Staff seized the opportunity to teach students about the election process and the importance of leadership. The staff and students developed a new project for the year centered on the electoral process and leadership. They developed and coordinated an election for their expanded learning program through their student body. Student groups discussed and reviewed the electoral process in an interactive, meaningful and authentic manner with each other and staff. Through this process, students increased their understanding of real world events by connecting it to their learning and ownership of their program.

The students and staff discussed and researched the different elected offices at the local, state and federal level and the process for winning an election. Then, the students put into practice what they learned and nominated representatives from each grade who they believed would be the best candidate to represent their interests and concerns. Candidates receiving three or more votes were placed on an Extended School Services Site Council election ballot. After accepting their nomination, all candidates began campaigning. Candidates created campaign posters and stickers and wrote and delivered campaign speeches stating why they wanted to be elected, why they should be elected, and how they would make a positive impact in their program.

On the day of the Extended School Services Site Council election, staff set up partitions in the Extended Student Services classroom, had ballots prepared and facilitated the distribution of ballots to students. After students voted, they received an 'I voted' sticker from staff.

The Extended School Services Site Council election experience provided students with an opportunity to engage with each other through open discourse towards a common goal, helped students learn about and demonstrate leadership skills, taught students communication and organizational skills and encouraged and empowered students to be more responsible citizens.



*An "I voted" sticker is proudly worn by ESS students at La Presa STEAM Academy.*



*Expanded Learning students at La Presa STEAM Academy, La Mesa Spring Valley SD cast their ballots for Extended Student Services Site Council.*



*These Thrive Beyond junior golfers are having fun as they learn about the game of golf.*

## Tee Time at Thrive Beyond is More Than Golf Instruction

Thrive Beyond, an expanded learning program within SBE Thrive Charter School, partnered with Pro Kids – First Tee of San Diego to introduce students to the exciting game of golf and youth leadership. Through lessons in golf, education and mentoring, Pro Kids empowers students to strive in school and become leaders in the community. Pro Kids teaches character development, life skills, and important values through education and through learning the game of golf. Thrive Beyond students take part in all aspects of Pro Kids, from instruction in the basics of golf to practicing their golf skills with professional golfers. Additionally, Pro Kids provides academic and enrichment activities which include: academic tutoring, leadership and social skill development, college and career exploration, and community engagement to the Thrive Beyond expanded learning students.

Through Pro Kids, Thrive Beyond expanded learning students are assigned to groups focusing on their academic and socio-emotional needs. This interactive curriculum seamlessly integrates their life skills and core character values into academic support and golf skill development. Thrive Beyond students receive golf lessons three times a week, allowing students to perfect their golf game. Students are able to practice their skills, build on previously learned skills and are offered constructive feedback to help them learn from their experiences. Furthermore, this program supports links between the activity and their lives outside of the program. With this partnership, Thrive Beyond expanded learning students are eligible to participate in the Pro Kid's college and career program that plans college visits and provides career interest assessments, as well as the Pro Kids scholarship program.



*This expanded learning student is ready to fine tune his golf game.*



# Connecting to the Community

## Lakeside Union School District

Students in expanded learning programs in Lakeside Union are giving back to their communities by making and distributing much needed handmade items. Student handmade projects include: blankets, beanies for newborns and babies, dog beds, and picnic tables. These students have truly demonstrated that they have the skills and the commitment to helping their communities through a sense of personal and social responsibility.

Each year, the students in Lakeside Union develop different projects to support their communities and schools. During the holiday season, students wove fleece blankets and designed placemats for a local convalescent home. Students were able to interact and connect with the seniors when they delivered their handmade items and were able to spend time with them singing carols and playing board games and cards.

At Lindo Park Elementary, students learning to knit decided to provide their handmade beanies for newborns and babies at local hospitals and the Ronald McDonald House. Staff worked alongside students, teaching them knitting techniques and patterns. The project allowed program staff to share their skills and love of knitting with the students and for students to learn new skills while giving back to those in need.

While volunteering at a local animal shelter, a Tierra del Sol Middle School student saw the needs of the animals in the shelter. She took her concerns to her expanded learning program and together they decided the expanded learning students could design and make dog beds and chew toys for the animals. The students had fun coming up with new ideas and patterns. Once their projects were finished, the students distributed them to animal shelters and animal rescue organizations throughout the county.

At Tierra del Sol Middle School, expanded learning students put their math skills to the test when they designed and built picnic tables for schools in the district. Students researched different types of picnic tables, styles, shapes and sizes. Students created the supply list, tools needed and a “cut list” with the measurements that each board needed to be cut at the lumber yard. With parents supplying tools, the students built the picnic tables, and then primed and painted them to give to their schools. At Tierra del Sol, the principal uses the picnic bench for his “lunch with students” award day.

Teaching students new skills and how they can give back to the community empowers them to be aware of the needs of others while helping them to build a strong and caring community. Linking education, action and giving creates more well-rounded students and a healthier community.



*Lindo Park ES expanded learning students are proud to donate the baby beanies they created to local hospitals and the Ronald McDonald House.*



*Warm fleece blankets made by expanded learning students will be given to deserving seniors in a local convalescent home.*



*These talented Tierra de Sol MS expanded learning students constructed this beautiful picnic table.*



## Focus on Literacy in Expanded Learning Programs at 60 ASES sites!

The San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE), Extended Learning Unit invited ASES expanded learning programs to be a part of the Focus on Literacy project. SDCOE partnered with ABDO Publishing Company to provide literacy enrichment for expanded learning programs to foster learning with their students. The Focus on Literacy project provides supplemental curriculum, structured lesson plans and nonfiction books to participating programs. Through the use of graphic novels, high-interest nonfiction books and comic books, students expand their vocabulary, increase their reading comprehension and learn the joy of reading. Using a broad selection of books, students also learn about the nuts and bolts of books including: what a table of contents, glossary, and index are; what timelines, maps, diagrams, and sidebars look like; and how they can expand understanding. The Focus on Literacy program supports learning in arts, character education, movement and fitness, and STEM.



*Focus on Literacy is a part of the expanded learning program at Valley Elementary School in Poway Unified.*

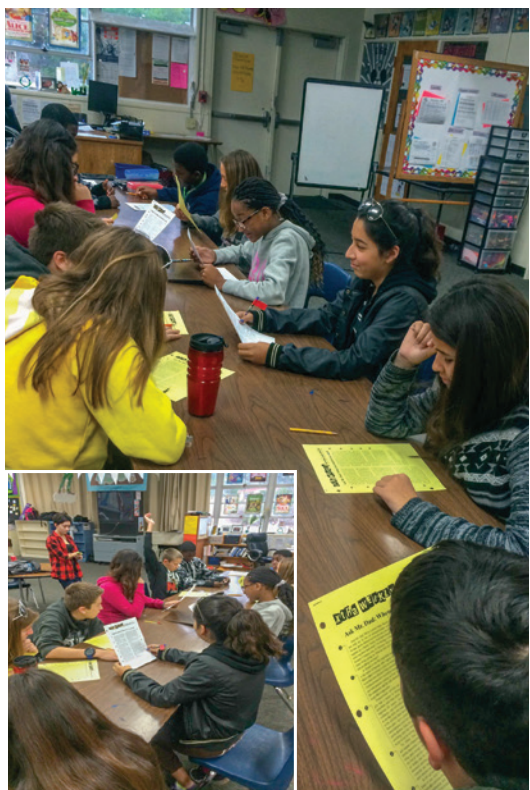


*These expanded learning students enjoy their graphic novels.*



*Expanded learning students within the Lemon Grove School District are having a super time during their enrichment activity.*

More than 60 expanded learning programs participated in the Focus on Literacy project during the 2015–16 school year. New Consortium school districts that added Focus on Literacy to their academic program in 2015–16 include: Oceanside Unified, Ramona Unified and San Marcos Unified, as well as, Keiller Leadership Academy, McGill School of Success and O'Farrell Charter. SDCOE is thrilled to provide an opportunity to enhance and increase expanded learning students' academic growth and literacy proficiency through ABDO's assortment of books and materials, which get students excited about reading and learning.



### **xtra WEEKLY** For After School Programs

XTRA weekly exposes students to national publications, introducing them to informative articles that shape our world. Students read together, and share opinions and thoughts on current events and high interest stories. XTRA Weekly is a one of its kind web-based educational platform for elementary and middle school expanded learning students that supports literacy, reading comprehension and critical thinking.

XTRA Weekly provides programs with 32 current, non-fiction news articles from national publications such as the Washington Post, the Los Angeles Times and the New York Times. All XTRA Weekly newspaper articles include lesson plans, an instructor guide, student questions and extension activities for students. Every lesson provides an opportunity for students to increase their vocabulary, critical thinking skills and reading skills. Linked to the article content is a set of activities which support student learning through writing, discussion and art. Students are excited to learn about current events and how they relate to their lives and communities.

*Spring Valley Middle School expanded learning students participate in a thought-provoking group discussion about their XTRA Weekly article.*



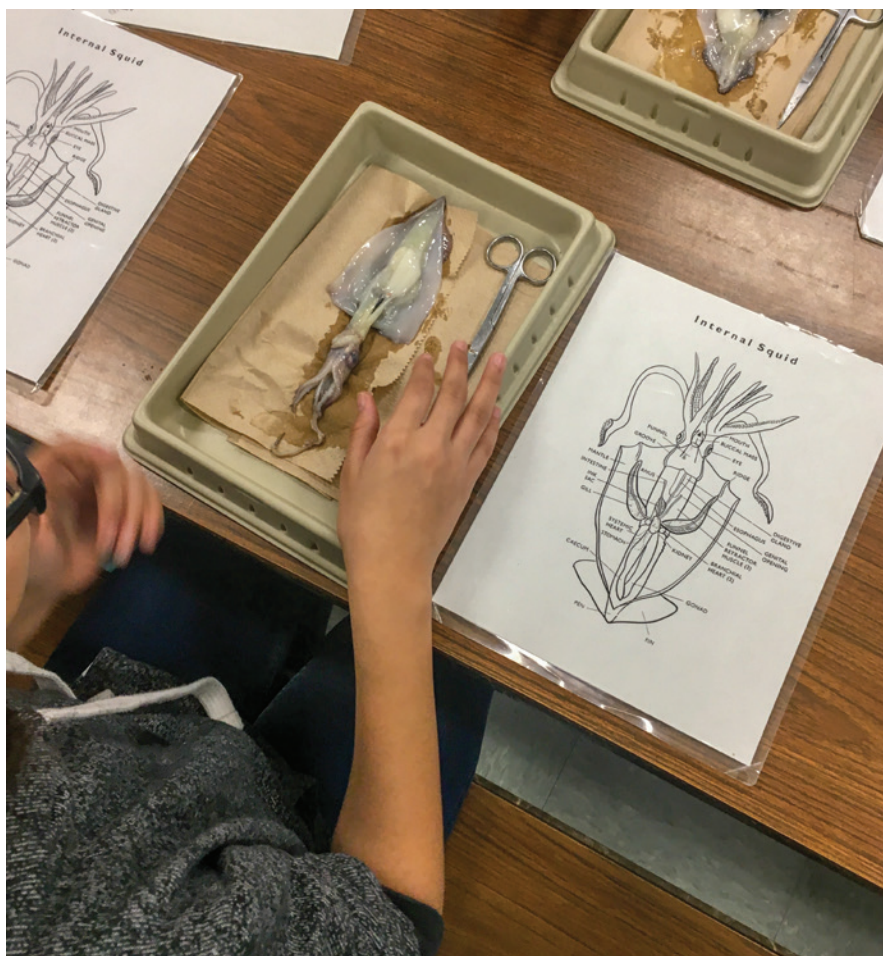
## Science Link

### Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) in Expanded Learning Programs

The Children's Initiative created Science Link to provide expanded learning students an opportunity to participate in engaging, project-based STEM activities. Science Link augments school curriculum by providing hands-on science lessons and experiments, STEM based field trips and special presentations from STEM partners. Topics, lessons and trips include: DNA decoding, squid dissection, forensics, marine biology, genetics and engineering, robotics and chromatography.

Science Link provides active methods of discovery, creativity, experimentation, and provides students with a better understanding of STEM. During the 2015–16 school year, Science Link students gained an understanding of how astronauts work and live on the International Space Station (ISS) through hands-on activities such as engineering a robotic arm similar to one on the ISS, and examining artifacts that have been to space and back through a special visit from the San Diego Air and Space Museum. Through dissections, facilitated by the Birch Aquarium, students determined how specific adaptations allow fish and squid to survive in their marine environments. Students explored common characteristics of fish, as well as how fish are scientifically classified. Becoming forensic detectives, students used chemistry, geology, and physics to classify mysterious powders, identify minerals, calculate the pH of soils, and perform chromatography to separate pigments. During a special guided tour of the San Diego Zoo by an animal keeper, students visited several animal enclosures to learn about distinctive medical care for animals, special dietary and nutrient needs and the ecology of their habitats.

By weaving engaging and interactive STEM activities and projects into expanded learning programs, students are able to increase their STEM knowledge and skills and increase their interest in STEM careers. Science Link allows students to gain a better understanding of the interconnectedness of science to their day-to-day lives and exposes them to STEM career pathways.



*The Birch Aquarium team guides Science Link students at Spring Valley Middle School in a common market squid dissection to explore both the external and internal anatomy of the squid.*



*A Science Link student at MLK Jr. Middle School in Oceanside Unified looks at blood sample slides through a microscope.*



*Expanded learning students from Lemon Grove School District learn about giraffes during their special tour at the San Diego Zoo.*

Districts participating during the 2015–16 school year included: Lemon Grove School District, La Mesa-Spring Valley School District, Oceanside Unified, Vallecitos School District, Julian Union Elementary, Vista Unified, Mountain Empire Unified and Escondido Union.



# Touching Minds, Shaping Futures (TMSF) Conference Professional Development for Expanded Learning Program Staff

On November 13, 2015 more than 630 staff gathered to learn how to integrate the California Quality Standards in local expanded learning programs. Touching Minds Shaping Futures XXX was created by the Children's Initiative to provide innovative and beneficial professional development for expanded learning and school staff.

This year, line staff, site supervisors, regional managers, and school district personnel came to learn how to strengthen their programs by incorporating the state Quality Standards, steps for actively engaging students' in learning and discovery and how to build and sustain community and parent collaborations. TMSF offers a wide range of workshops that include: improving students' academic success, how to build safe and supportive environments, how to incorporate health, fitness and nutrition across programming, and how to implement youth development and leadership practices. The workshops shared relevant and engaging information, along with the opportunity for attendees to learn about and share best practices with colleagues.

Joshua Brady, California Department of Education, ASES and 21st CCLC Program Consultant for Region 9; welcomed the TMSF XXX attendees and spoke about the state Quality Standards for Expanded Learning in California. Josh highlighted multiple Quality Standards including: safe and supportive environment, active and engaged learning, youth voice and leadership, healthy choices and behaviors, access and equity, and quality staff. Josh praised the attendees for their exceptional work in San Diego County and thanked them for their commitment to students.

TMSF XXX attendees included staff from 18 school districts, 7 charter schools and 10 community based organizations.



*TMSF XXX attendees learn how to make homework less work at Lisa Jones' workshop.*



*Expanded learning staff model healthy choices and behaviors during the moderate to vigorous physical activity workshop at TMSF XXX.*



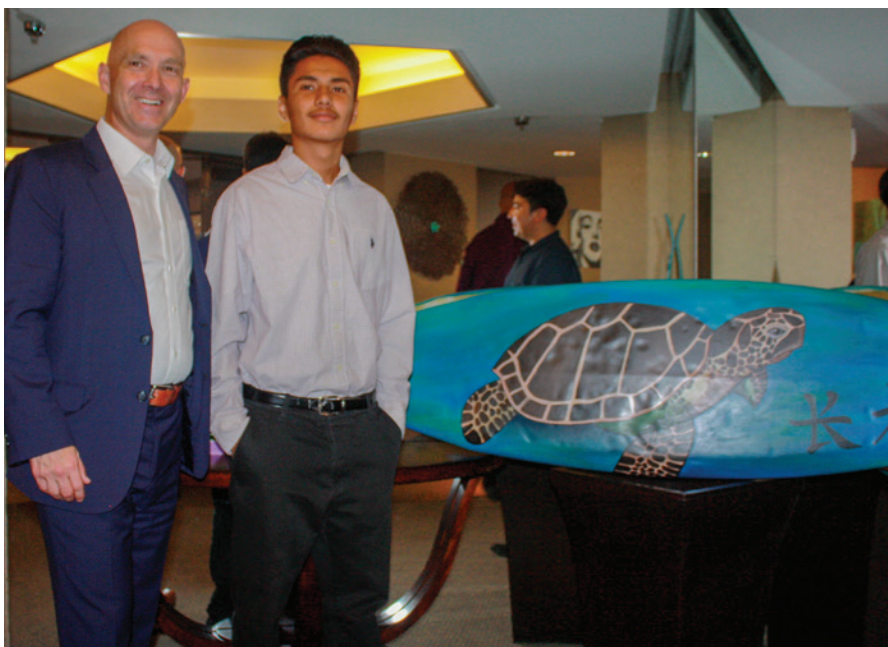
*TMSF XXX offered attendees a variety of professional development workshops supporting Quality Standards for Expanded Learning in California.*



## Art Link

### Linking Art with Expanded Learning Students

Imagination, exploration and creativity help students thrive, learn, and dream. The Children's Initiative created Art Link to provide students with hands-on education, materials, time and space to learn art and design techniques, discover and expand their artistic skills and show case their artwork to family and friends. Art Link identifies and builds partnerships with local artists, art stores, studios, art museums and exhibit spaces to support expanded learning students in learning about and developing art in any medium. The Children's Initiative connects art educators and experiences with expanded learning programs as well as provides art materials and supplies. Students are able to explore different methods of art while learning more about the world of art. Student art work is shared at program art shows, local art exhibits and local businesses. Seeing the pride on student's faces as they present their art to their family and friends at a local exhibit is truly inspiring.



*David Brown (left) purchased this incredible surfboard work of art designed and created by an expanded learning student from Oceanside Unified.*

In 2015–16, expanded learning programs participating in Art Link included: Cajon Valley Union, Julian Union Elementary School District, La Mesa/Spring Valley School District, National School District, Oceanside Unified, O'Farrell Charter, Poway Unified, Ramona Unified, San Diego Unified, Harriet Tubman Charter, Iftin Charter, America's Finest Charter School, and SBE Thrive Charter.

## Art from Around the World

For more than 10 years, the Children's Initiative has had the privilege of partnering with the International Children's Art Exchange Program (ICAE) to foster and encourage the sharing of student art. Through this program, elementary and middle school expanded learning students in San Diego explore creative expression, learn about other countries and cultures, and develop a love and appreciation for art. The ICAE program is an opportunity for San Diego students to learn about other countries' customs, traditions and geography through international student art sharing and get to share their own creative art project with students across the world.

The Children's Initiative received more than 125 unique pieces of student artwork from local participating expanded learning programs. Participating Consortium school districts included: Ramona Unified, La Mesa/Spring Valley School District, Escondido Union, South Bay Union, Vista Unified, Encinitas Union, Lemon Grove School District, San Diego Unified, Fallbrook Union Elementary, Keiller Leadership Academy, and O'Farrell Charter School.

*Student artists from Italy created these colorful pastel drawings to share with the International Children's Art Exchange.*

In the 2015–16 school year, the Children's Initiative received student art from ICAE partners in Greece, Italy, Canada, Brazil, Slovakia, Belgium, and Switzerland.





## Elected Official Visits

### Showcasing Expanded Learning Programs

The Children's Initiative coordinated and hosted multiple elected official visits to state funded ASES (After School Education and Safety) programs during the 2015–16 school year. The visits showcased how expanded learning programs advance student learning, improve school attendance, and provide support to parents and families. Through these special visits, elected officials are able to see firsthand the array of academic support, the diversity of enrichment activities, and the engagement of students in leadership and service.

School officials discussed the benefits of their expanded learning programs to the success of their students and school. They highlighted that in the before and after school hours there is more opportunity for students to be activity engaged in health and wellness, the capacity to have smaller groups of students working on a project, and the ability to have more individualized tutoring and homework assistance.

Each hosted visit showcased academic support, enrichment activities, physical fitness and recreation, arts and cultural opportunities and youth development and leadership. The programs support the developmental, educational, social-emotional and physical needs of all students in a safe and nurturing learning environment.

- Assemblymember Shirley Weber visited Zamorano Elementary School's PrimeTime program, San Diego Unified on July 15, 2015.
- Assemblymember Brian Maienschein visited Black Mountain Middle School, Poway Unified on September 22, 2015.
- Martin Hernandez, representing Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher, visited Cherokee Point Elementary School's PrimeTime program, San Diego Unified on January 20, 2016.
- Assemblyman Rocky Chavez visited Vista Academy of Visual and Performing Arts, Vista Unified on February 4, 2016.



*Zamorano Elementary School, San Diego Unified welcomes Assemblymember Shirley Weber to their PrimeTime program.*



*Assemblymember Brian Maienschein spends time with students at Black Mountain Middle School's expanded learning program in Poway Unified.*



*Assemblyman Rocky Chavez and representatives from Vista Unified tour Vista Academy of Visual and Performing Arts' expanded learning program.*



*Martin Hernandez, representing Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher, visits with staff and students at Cherokee Point Elementary School's PrimeTime program within San Diego Unified.*



## Personalized Playhouses for Expanded Learning Students



*This "Dare to be Silly" playhouse was designed by this expanded learning student.*

Through an exciting partnership with Habitat for Humanity, the Children's Initiative was able to provide 10 custom-made, personalized playhouses for selected expanded learning students. The students and families who received these colorful and bright houses are overjoyed and filled with such excitement. Students are able to choose a theme, color and design for their very own playhouse. Designs have included: animals, superheroes, the White House and Disney characters.

Habitat for Humanity works with local businesses and organizations to construct and carefully design these sturdy playhouses. The volunteers construct and playhouses as the students and families look on with anticipation.

During the 2015–16 school year, the Children's Initiative coordinated the donation of 10 playhouses to expanded learning students within the La Mesa-Spring Valley School District, America's Finest Charter School, South Bay Union and San Diego Unified.



*Expanded learning students get to go inside their new playhouses for the first time.*

## Tickets for Expanded Learning Programs

The Children's Initiative continued to build and strengthen partnerships with local businesses, sports organizations, and theater and art groups to secure exciting and educational enrichment opportunities for expanded learning students and their families. Building and sustaining these community partnerships makes it possible for programs to have a meaningful part in helping students have a more well-rounded education, a greater connection to a broader San Diego and an appreciation of arts, culture and sports.

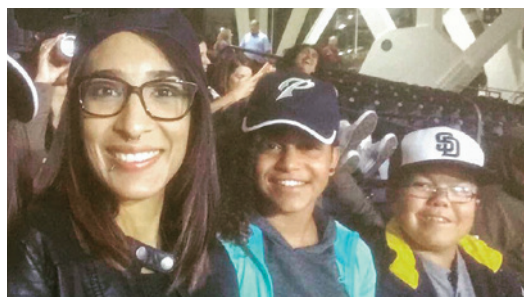
During the 2015–16 school year, the Children's Initiative secured and distributed more than 1,500 tickets, valued at more than \$32,000, for San Diego Expanded Learning Consortium programs. Expanded learning students and their families were able to attend the Nutcracker ballet, plays including Ivy + Bean, West Side Story, Mary Poppins, Alice In Wonderland, The Miracle Worker, and The Music Man, as well as symphony performances, Padre games and USD Men's basketball games.

Our community partners include: Mainly Mozart, Broadway San Diego, USD Basketball, The Old Globe, San Diego Civic Youth Ballet, Fox Sports, California Ballet Company, San Diego Children's Youth Ballet, San Diego Academy of Ballet, J Company Youth Theatre, City Ballet of San Diego, San Diego Junior Theatre, Cygnet Theatre, Lambs Players, Visionary Arts & Dance Theatre, San Diego Kids Film Festival and the San Diego Padres.

Through the generosity of these local businesses, organizations and companies, the Children's Initiative has been able to coordinate ticket distributions to 27 school districts and 13 charter school so students and their families can enjoy new learning opportunities, and cultural and sports experiences.



*Expanded learning students from Oceanside Unified are excited to see a performance of "Ivy + Bean," at Casa del Prado Theatre in Balboa Park.*



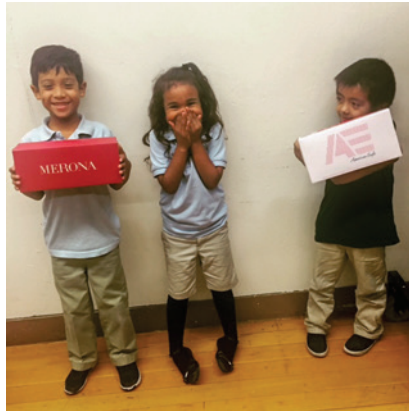
*The San Diego Padres are cheered on by expanded learning students.*





*The San Diego Union-Tribune Shoe Fund made it possible for this expanded learning student to take home new shoes.*

## The San Diego Union Tribune Shoe Fund



*Expanded learning students at O'Farrell Charter School are excited to wear their new shoes.*

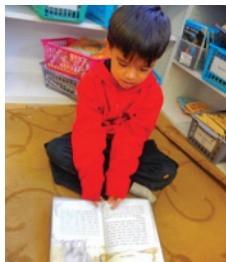
The Children's Initiative and The San Diego Union-Tribune partnered to bring free new shoes to low income students in expanded learning programs throughout San Diego County.

The Union-Tribune Shoe Fund was established in 1930 during the great depression. Forrest Warren, a former reporter and columnist for The San Diego Union-Tribune, noticed that more and more children during the depression era didn't have shoes or had shoes which were in very poor condition. Recognizing this need,

Forrest Warren along with San Diego Catholic Charities, established the Shoe Fund. Upon Warren's retirement, the Union-Tribune Publishing Company assumed management of the Shoe Fund.

During 2015–16, the Union-Tribune Shoe Fund provided Payless Shoe store gift cards to more than 100 students in expanded learning programs. Districts and charter schools participating this year were: America's Finest Charter School, Borrego Springs Unified, EJE Academies, Lakeside Union, Lemon Grove School District, Mt. Empire Unified, National Elementary School District, O'Farrell Charter School, San Diego Unified, San Marcos Unified, San Ysidro School District, Valley Center-Pauma Unified and Vista Unified.

## Barnes & Noble Supporting Reading in Expanded Learning Programs



*Expanded learning students at O'Farrell Charter School enjoy new books from the Barnes & Noble holiday book drive.*

Barnes and Noble have generously supported low income students in San Diego County by providing new, age appropriate books for students to read and enjoy. Through a partnership with the Children's Initiative, Barnes and Noble has provided more than 2,000 new books to expanded learning students during the

2015–16 school year. The students' faces light up with joy and excitement as they select a new book to read and escape into a new adventure.

Through their annual book drives, Barnes & Noble successfully secures thousands of books, offering a wide variety of interests and reading levels for elementary and middle school expanded learning programs. These books enrich expanded learning libraries and promote the joy of reading. By providing a wide range of high interest books, students can learn the love of reading, expand their vocabulary, increase their comprehension skills and become better students.

The Children's Initiative donated the new books to 16 consortium school districts and 8 charter schools in the 2015–16 school year.



*Students from Cesar Chavez Middle School taking time out of their day to enjoy a good book.*



*Reading is more fun when reading with a friend. Expanded learning students from Garrison Elementary School sharing a book donated from Barnes & Noble.*



## ResMED Not Just a Bag, But a Strong Community Partner

An innovative and unique partnership between the Children's Initiative and ResMed, a global leader in creating the world's best tech-driven medical devices, has been in place for more than 6 years. It is through this partnership that ResMed has donated thousands of repurposed healthcare supply bags to expanded learning programs for students, families and staff. The contribution of the bags have been a significant benefit to expanded learning programs whose staff utilize them for first aid kits and school supplies and for students who decorate them as art projects and use them as backpacks.

During the 2015–16 school year, more than 2,600 bags were donated to expanded learning programs throughout San Diego County. ResMed bags were provided to 11 consortium districts and 7 consortium charter schools for distribution.



*ResMed Bags get a makeover from expanded learning students.*



*This expanded learning program student personalized her ResMed bag.*

## Positive Parenting Program Supporting Families

The Positive Parenting Program, Triple P, is a nationally recognized parenting program which promotes family harmony, successful family relationships and communication, and provides parenting education for families. In the 2015–16 school year, the Children's Initiative, in partnership with Jewish Family Services, brought Triple P to three consortium school districts and five consortium charter schools serving expanded learning families.

Expanded learning families are invited to participate in three free parent education seminars each semester which cover relevant topics relating to parenting, stress management, positive communication and child development. Seminars are offered in the early evening, on the school campus after parents pick up their children from the expanded learning program. Parents are offered education, community resources, dinner and child care. Simple, practical and helpful strategies and techniques are offered to families to help them be successful in parenting.

The objectives of Triple P include:

- Promote the independence and health of families through the enhancement of parent knowledge, skills, confidence and self-sufficiency.
- Promote the development of non-violent, protective, and nurturing environments for children.
- Promote the development, growth, health, and social competence of young children.
- Reduce the incidence of child maltreatment and behavioral/emotional problems in childhood and adolescence.

The Positive Parenting Program is offered to expanded learning programs throughout San Diego County focusing on low income communities, areas with high incidences of child abuse and neglect and/or requests from local school districts.



*The Triple P seminars at Sunnyslope ES, South Bay Union were well received by participating parents.*



# Corporate and Business Partners

Alvarado Institute of Skin Care	Five Guys Burgers & Fries	Mingei International Museum	San Diego Padres
Armstrong Garden Centers	Freddi Pakier Health Counseling	Murder N' Mayhem	Save Our Heritage Organization
Artist & Craftsman Supply	GourmetGiftBaskets.com	Natchurale	Señor Grubby's
Aunt Emma's Pancakes	Granny's Kitchen	Oceanside Boat Rentals	Smashburger
Bare Back Grill	Green Field Paper Co.	Office Depot	Stampin' Up!
Barnes & Noble	Habitat for Humanity	Olive Garden	Starbucks
Benihana	In-N-Out Burger	Oliver's Hair Design	Suite Manifestation
Big Jim's 395 Grill	Islands Restaurant Mira Mesa	Original Tommy's Hamburgers	Target
Big 5 Sporting Goods	Islands Restaurant Mission Valley	OtterBox	The Broken Yolk Café
Buca Di Beppo	iTAN	Pacific Park	The Habit
Buffalo Wild Wings	Izzy's Café	Panera Bread	The Local Pacific Beach
California Ballet Company	J*Company Youth Theatre	Payless ShoeSource	The Old Globe
Chick-fil-A San Marcos	Lamb's Players Theatre	Redbox	The Paintball Park
Chipotle Mexican Grill	Landmark Theatres	Red Lobster	Therapeutics Clinical Research
City Ballet of San Diego	Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center	ResMed	The Stronghold
Corvette Diner	Lazy Dog Restaurant	Rubio's Coastal Grill	The Sunny Side Café
Costco	Lemon Grove Deli	San Diego Academy of Ballet	The Trails Eatery
Cygnnet Theatre	Living Coast Discovery Center	San Diego Advanced Skin Care	University of San Diego Athletics
Dick's Sporting Goods	Los Tacos	San Diego Civic Youth Ballet	U.S Department of Agriculture
Eastlake Tavern+Bowl	Mainly Mozart	San Diego Junior Theatre	Visionary Dance Theatre
Einstein Bros. Bagels	Michaels	San Diego Museum of Art	Walmart
eLiveLife	Mighty Fine Tees	San Diego Symphony	Wine & Canvas
Emerald Isle Golf Course		San Diego Union-Tribune	
Fox Sports		San Diego Whale Watch	

# Educational Partnerships



**SAN DIEGO COUNTY**  
OFFICE OF EDUCATION

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858.569.3135

California Department of Education

San Diego City College

St. Germaine Children's Charity

The  **Children's Initiative**

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