



Maximizing Inclusive Opportunities for All Students

From Preschool to Post-Secondary

March 15, 2023



Presentation Purpose

- Update the Board on the proposed changes that will provide more inclusion opportunities for our students in the following programs:
 - Be Me Inclusion Preschool Program
 - Elementary Specialized Programs
 - Conejo Oaks Academy, Post-Secondary Program

Be Me Preschool



Be Me Preschool

- Preschool team conducts initial assessments before students turn 3
- Students found eligible for special education are offered services beginning at their 3rd birthday
- Five specialized program preschool classes are located at the University campus
- Serves students 3-4 years old

Be Me Preschool

Why inclusion with TK?

- Students who are now eligible for TK and with the expansion over the next 2 years, were previously preschool age
- The level of development is aligned with preschool age students (as they were previously together before the expansion)
- Building a plan for preschool and TK students to learn together and interact in social settings, such as free play, circle time, and discovery are all developmentally appropriate

Be Me Preschool

Why inclusion with TK?

- Be Me Preschool currently does not have any inclusion opportunities
- By moving to elementary campuses, students would have access to participate in a TK general education classroom setting
- Expansion of the TK program opens opportunities for 4 year olds who were previously in preschool programs to participate in TK classes
 - Students enrolled in preschool, and TK classes are developmentally similar
- Preschool students would have access to inclusion within the general education setting throughout their learning day, including snack time, recess, discovery time, center rotations, and special scheduled events

Be Me Preschool

Elementary locations identified using the following criteria:

- Schools that are projected to have at least two TK classes in 23/24 school year
- Schools that would have three available classrooms in close proximity to developmentally appropriate playground
- Schools that do not currently have a specialized program on their campus

Be Me Preschool

Move the current Be Me Preschool program to two Elementary school sites:



- Sycamore Canyon Elementary
- Weathersfield Elementary



Be Me Preschool

- 3 classes at Sycamore Canyon School
- 3 classes at Weathersfield Elementary
- Provides access to general education setting as we build a plan for preschool and TK students to learn together and interact in social settings, such as snack time, recess, free play, circle time, and special scheduled events with TK students





Elementary Specialized Programs

Elementary Specialized Programs

- There are currently 5 elementary schools with specialized programs:
 - Aspen- 4 classes
 - Acacia- 2 classes
 - Maple- 5 classes
 - Ladera- 3 classes
 - Madroña- 3 classes

Elementary Specialized Program Goals

- Decrease the number of specialized program classes at specific sites
- Decrease the percentage of students with disabilities on specific campuses and serve more students across more elementary sites to increase opportunities for inclusion
- Provide a therapeutic learning center to serve students with significant social, emotional, and behavioral support needs and decrease referrals to county or nonpublic school programs

Elementary Special Programs

- Expand special programs across more sites; moving from 5 to 9 elementary schools
- Increase equity across more elementary campuses
- Higher level of opportunities for inclusion in our schools
- Lower percentage of SWDs on one campus
- More opportunities for inclusion and co-teaching at our schools

Elementary Special Programs



- Banyan Elementary
- Westlake Hills Elementary

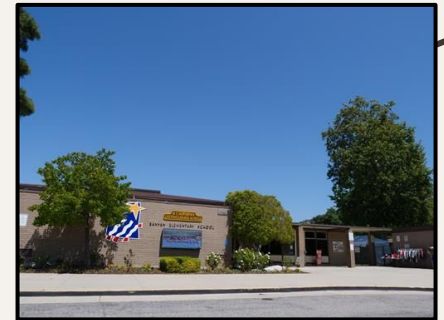


Elementary Special Programs

Relocation of 2 Specialized Program classes from Maple to Banyan Elementary

Addition of a Therapeutic Learning Center

- Currently does not exist in CVUSD, resulting in outside referrals
- Planned to open at Westlake Hills in the 23-24 school year





Conejo Oaks Academy
Post-Secondary Education Program

Conejo Oaks Academy

- Conejo Oaks Academy (COA), CVUSD's Post-Secondary program serves adults ages 18 through 22 who currently receive a certificate of completion after high school
- This program provides support to students as they move from high school to adult life through classroom and community-based experiences
- COA is located on the Conejo Valley Adult School campus and currently has three post-secondary classes
- Proposal to move COA to a CVUSD campus

Conejo Oaks Academy - Purpose for Proposal

- Conejo Oaks Academy currently resides at the Adult School Campus, an open campus, that does not have the safety or resources available on CVUSD school sites
- COA does not have an on site nurse, full time administrator on campus, campus safety assistants, nor is there front office staff assigned to COA that can initiate the raptor system for check in
- Students transitioning to adult life risk a decrease in independence rather than the continual promotion of independence due to the open campus
 - Inability to use the restroom independently as they are public restrooms
 - Inability to walk around campus independently including walks for needed sensory breaks and for transitioning to related services such as speech, Adapted Physical Education (APE) or amongst and between classes
 - No cafeteria on site decreases the practice of independence at lunch including: waiting in and navigating a line, food choices, and communication skills

Conejo Oaks Academy - Opportunities

- CVUSD campuses are closed thus providing a safer environment that promotes independence for students
 - Screening visitors
 - CSAs are on each school site
 - Safety to move independently between classes, to the restroom, to related service providers, to the cafeteria, and for sensory breaks
- Centralized Resources:
 - Full time health clerk on site
 - Current District Nurse for Post-Secondary can continue with caseload and consult with site health clerk
 - Increased staffing for emergency situations
 - Campus Safety Assistants and SRO
 - Site administrators
 - Regular maintenance, grounds, custodial
- Coverage for classes for an unfilled substitute need (for teachers and paraeducators)

Conejo Oaks Academy - Inclusion Opportunities

- Attending school wide rallies and school wide events
 - Lunchtime activities, dances, sports, etc.
- Sparkles and Unified Sports
 - Leadership opportunities for our adult students such as “Sparkles Cheer Coach” or “Unified Sports Captain” or “Unified Sports Coach”
- Increased opportunities for community outings with mixed groupings
 - Attending as a community partner or group leader with students in the LEAP program, staff and unified peers
- Increased communication with family members
 - Opportunity for the COA newsletter to be incorporated with the weekly update from principal
 - SEDAC representation for CVUSD campus site and COA providing collaborative communication
 - COA continuing to work with Special Education Coordinator, but increases communication and collaboration with CVUSD site administration and the coordinator

Conejo Oaks Academy - Program Considerations

Location identified using the following criteria:

- Access to 3 classrooms within close proximity
 - Classroom space that is on a campus; yet also provides for the independence of a program within a school
- Access to a separate Life Skills room
- Access to a garden or space for a garden
- Space for transportation
 - Drop off and pick up location
 - For Community Based Instruction (CBI) trips using American Transportation and CVUSD vans
 - For drop off and pick up to school
 - Space to park the CVUSD vans (2)

Conejo Oaks Academy

Relocation of the Post Secondary program, Conejo Oaks Academy, to Thousand Oaks High School



Summary of Specialized Programs

Preschool, Elementary, and Post-Secondary

With the proposed changes there will be 9 elementary schools with specialized programs:

- Acacia - Language and Learning
- Aspen - Language and Learning
- Banyan - Autism Specialized Program
- Madrona - Learning Essentials Academic Program
- Maple - Autism Specialized Program
- Ladera - Autism Specialized Program
- Sycamore Canyon - Be Me Preschool
- Weathersfield - Be Me Preschool
- Westlake Hills - Therapeutic Learning Center (New program)

Conejo Oaks Academy, post-secondary program, will be located on a comprehensive campus, TOHS



QUESTIONS?