



# ALVIN DUNN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## SPARC

### Support Personnel Accountability Report Card 2009-2010

A continuous improvement document sponsored by the California Department of Education and the Los Angeles County Office of Education



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District: San Marcos Unified School District

Grades: K-5th • Enrollment: 619 • School Year: Traditional • Principal: Mrs. Whitney DeSantis

## Principal's Message



Alvin Dunn Elementary School, part of the San Marcos Unified School District (SMUSD), is a caring place that supports the academic success and personal/social development of all students. Student awards foster achievement, kindness, and citizenship. Safety Patrol provides older children the opportunity to develop responsibility for their younger peers. Students at Alvin Dunn are encouraged to check their behavior with the Three Personal Standards of 1) Making Good Choices, 2) Being Respectful and 3) Solving Problems. Our Student Support Personnel Team (SSPT) plays an integral role in promoting the academic, social, and emotional well-being of each student and helps maintain a safe school environment.

Our comprehensive Student Support Personnel Team

ensures individualized review of student performance in all areas focusing on the whole child. Through the implementation of the American School Counseling Association (ASCA) National Standards for School Counseling, our staff provides support services to promote student success focusing on academic support. The SPARC is included in our Safe Schools Plan and distributed to our school community to highlight our SSPT's work.

Our plans for improvement next year include increasing student attendance and improving student work habits and social skills grades on their report cards. We will review our California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS) results to reduce bullying and increase the feeling of safety and of the well being of all students. As a comprehensive team we are promoting "learning, achieving, succeeding...TOGETHER!"

-Whitney DeSantis, Principal

## Student Support Personnel Team

Alvin Dunn's SSPT is made up of highly experienced and educated members, all committed to promoting learning and success. Our entire school focuses on the whole child and provides students and families with a variety of support to increase academic achievement and social development.

Our Counseling Center develops and implements equitable support systems to meet the varying needs of all students. All members of the team hold appropriate credentials which meet No Child Left Behind guidelines for highly qualified staff. Additionally, team members belong to a variety of organizations based on their areas of expertise, including the American School Counselor Association and the Association of California School Administrators. These memberships provide continued professional growth and development to staff, to ensure innovative practices and student interventions.

### TEAM MEMBERS

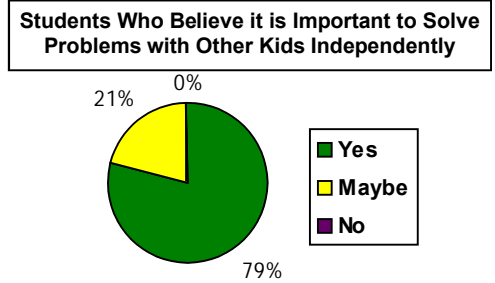
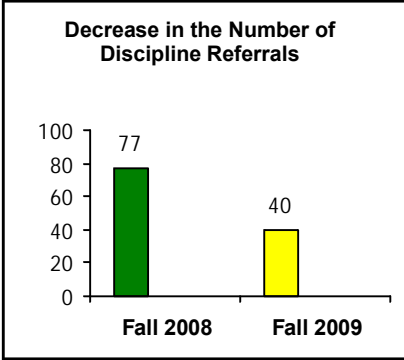
<b>Principal</b> • MS, Admin, Teaching	<b>School Counselor</b> • MS, PPS
<b>Assistant Principal</b> • BS, Admin, Teaching	<b>School Social Worker (.3 fte)</b> • MSW, PPS
<b>Intervention Specialist</b> • BS, Admin, Teaching	<b>School Psychologist (1.2 fte)</b> • MA, PPS
<b>Office Manager</b>	<b>Attendance Clerk</b>
<b>Resource Specialist</b> • BS, Teaching	<b>Read to Succeed Team (6)</b> • BS, MS, Teaching
<b>Speech &amp; RSP Aids</b>	<b>Health Clerk</b>
<b>Library Media Tech</b> • AA & Certification	<b>Speech &amp; Language Pathologists (2 fte)</b> • MA, CCC-SLP

## School Climate and Safety

A sense of personal safety combined with a positive school climate helps create a foundation for successful learning and personal/social growth. Our Student Support Personnel Team works with our entire staff to continuously meet the needs of each individual student and maintain a positive and safe school climate. The SST was involved in the creation and structure of our school's updated School Safety Plan, which has been reviewed and approved by the School Safety Committee and SMUSD Board of Education.

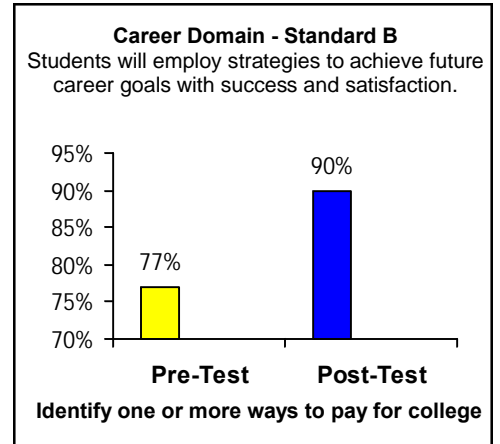
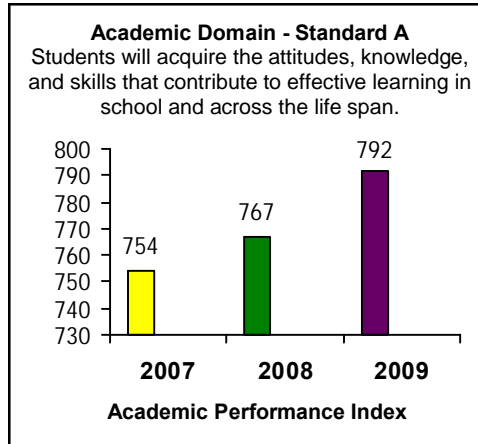
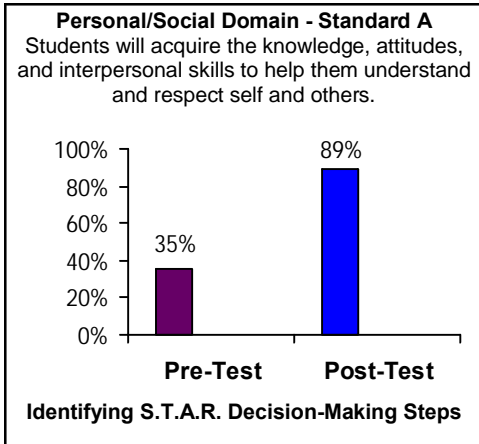
One focus of the SSPT is to reduce the number of discipline referrals at Alvin Dunn, while also teaching students about character. The school-wide character education program has supported this effort with counselor-led classroom guidance lessons on appreciating diversity and making good choices. Since these programs began there has been a marked decrease in the number of referrals.

The Second Step Violence Prevention Curriculum is being implemented by the school counselor to kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade students. Weekly lessons help students learn to manage their emotions and solve problems with other students. As a result, nearly 80% of 2nd graders at Alvin Dunn believe it is important to solve problems with other kids on their own, a skill they can use throughout their lives.



## Student Results

Alvin Dunn's SSPT believes in collecting and analyzing data to create and modify school programs to best fit student needs. Through evaluating students' knowledge, attitudes, and skills we continually assess the impact of our programs on the academic, career, and personal/social development of students, as recommended by ASCA.



During Red Ribbon Week all 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students received classroom guidance presentations on the S.T.A.R. (Stop, Think, Act, Review) Decision Making Process. This lesson teaches students to think about choices and consequences before making decisions. After the lesson, nearly 90% of 4th grade students could correctly identify the steps for solving problems.

Alvin Dunn's API has improved over the last three years due to increased California Standardized Test Scores. In addition to the hard work from teachers and administrators, the Read to Succeed Staff works with small groups of students. Using standards based lessons and research-based programs the team helps each individual child make as much growth as possible.

The SSPT has created a college-going culture at Alvin Dunn, including weekly assemblies with classroom presentations about various colleges. Prior to creating their college presentation, 77% of Ms. Altieri's 4th grade class could identify at least one way to pay for college. After learning about their college and presenting 90% identified one or more ways to finance college.

## Community Partnerships & Resources

Alvin Dunn's community partnerships and resources are extremely important to our school, as they provide counseling, food and clothes, mentorship, and tutoring to our students and families. Our parents are involved in the Parent Teacher Organization with raises money to support student programs like Peace Patrol, Chorus, and Student Council. This year Jewish Family Services of San Diego led free parent workshops in English and Spanish on Positive Parenting, available to all our families.

For **volunteer opportunities** with our student support services program, please contact Silvia Jacobsen, Assistant Principal, at [silvia.jacobsen@smusd.org](mailto:silvia.jacobsen@smusd.org) or 760-290-2000.

**Academic:** California State University, San Marcos; Boys & Girls Club; Kiwanis Club Tutors; San Marcos High School; Literature Comes to Life

**Personal/Social Domain:** Rady Children's Hospital Outpatient Psychiatry; Jewish Family Service of San Diego; North County Health Services; San Diego Food Bank's Food 4 Kids; San Marcos High School Knights of the Round Table; Operation School Bell & Shoddy Shoes; San Diego Kids Health Assurance Network

**Career Domain:** California State University, San Marcos; Kid's College