

Location: BEARS Program at Berkeley Arts Magnet Elementary School

1. How is the afterschool program aligned with the school day?

We speak daily with the morning teachers about our students and how we can help them with their academic, social-emotional and enrichment areas of their school life. Also, we help all the students with their daily homework. Some teachers send us the homework in advance through e-mail so that we can go over the homework in order to be ready to help them. We also participate in SST's, IEP's, and other special meetings that support the needs of our students and our school.

2. What differentiates the afterschool program from the school day?

The afterschool staff has developed a great rapport amongst our students and their families. We engage in daily communication either in person, verbally, through telephone calls, e-mails, letters, etc. Our students are very happy participating in all daily activities, especially in story telling, reading, writing, Spanish class, dancing, etc.

3. If there is a LEARNS program at your site, how are the two programs blended?

The BEARS/LEARNS start together in the morning program with table games/activities: Spanish class and literacy with kindergarten and first graders. We are fully integrated in the afternoon with BEARS students being placed in LEARNS' grade-level classes.

4. What are your goals for the year?

To make sure that all the students do their academic, social, emotional, and enrichment activities: daily homework, reading, writing, and Mathematics with teacher guidance and support. We also teach and support the school morning curriculum and other afterschool enrichment activities. We help with reading and literacy for all the grade levels, kindergarten through fifth grade.