Location: Thousand Oaks

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

The program specialist incorporate math games the students play during the school day. Our school does not have homework so our main focus, like the school day and like the District as a whole, has been reading. We have tutors who communicate with day time teachers who work with individual students and small groups. For the last 5 years we've had either an IT or Program Specialist on the SGC.

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

We give our students examples of Leadership on faces of color. During the school day across our country, there are not many teachers of color. Our entire staff as made up of teachers of color and we think it is important for all students to build relationships and have diverse set of faces to look up to. In the after school day, we're also able to build strong interpersonal relationships with students because students and after school teachers still have consistent interactions with students even after they transition into a new grade. The after school program staff also have close relationships with the parents of our students for the exact same reason.

3. If there is a BEARS program at your site, how are the two programs blended? N/A

4. What are your site's goals for the year?

Our biggest problem at our site is staff attendance. When we're fully staffed our program is awesome. My biggest goal this year was to set-up our program for success even when we're not fully staffed. Staggerring Academic hour and moving specific group leaders into flexible roles has made this one our best years despite our staff absences. A goal for every year, very simply, is to provide a safe, fun space where everyone feels respected. We pride ourselves in having a program where parents complain about their kids not wanting to leave when they come for pick-up.