

Expanded Learning Opportunities Program Plan

Name of Local Educational Agency and Expanded Learning Opportunities Program Site(s)

Local Educational Agency (LEA) Name: National School District

Contact Name: Dr. Sharmila Kraft

Contact Email: skraft@nsd.us

Contact Phone: 619-336-7742

Instructions: Please list the school sites that your LEA selected to operate the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELO-P). Add additional rows as needed.

1. Central Elementary
2. El Toyon Elementary
3. Ira Harbison Elementary
4. John Otis Elementary
5. Kimball Elementary
6. Las Palmas Elementary
7. Lincoln Acres Elementary
8. Olivewood Elementary
9. Rancho de la Nación Elementary
10. Palmer Way Elementary

Purpose

This template will aid LEAs in the development of a program plan as required by *EC* Section 46120(b)(2). In this program plan, LEAs will describe program activities that support the whole child, and students' Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) and development.

Definitions

“Expanded learning” means before school, after school, summer, or intersession learning programs that focus on developing the academic, social, emotional, and physical needs and interests of pupils through hands-on, engaging learning experiences. It is the intent of the Legislature that expanded learning programs are pupil-centered, results driven, include community partners, and complement, but do not replicate, learning activities in the regular school day and school year. (*EC* Section 8482.1[a])

“Expanded learning opportunities” has the same meaning as “expanded learning” as defined in *EC* Section 8482.1. “Expanded learning opportunities” does not mean an extension of instructional time, but rather, opportunities to engage pupils in enrichment, play, nutrition, and other developmentally appropriate activities. (*EC* Section 46120[e][1])

EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM PLAN

NATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

1—Safe and Supportive Environment

Describe how the program will provide opportunities for students to experience a safe and supportive environment. Include if the program will be offered on the school site or off campus. If not on site, describe where in the community it will be and how students will be supported to get there.

The National School District's (NSD) Extended Learning Opportunities (ELO) program is designed to provide a safe and supportive environment for students. The program ensures the safety of students by offering programs located on the school campus, where first through sixth-grade students are able to walk safely to the program area. The program also ensures the safety of Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten students by having them escorted to the program area by a designated staff member.

NSD's program has a strong focus on creating a positive and supportive environment for students, with an emphasis on building relationships and acknowledging positive behavior and achievements. The behavior management system used by the YMCA/REACH staff is proactive, using positive reinforcement and restorative practices to encourage students to learn from their choices.

The staff is committed to ongoing professional development to continually refine their skills and strategies for building a sense of community and belonging. There is regular communication and collaboration with teachers, parents, and school support staff to ensure that everyone is working together to support student success and to support students, not just academically but also in terms of their social and emotional well-being.

NSD's program staff are easily identifiable to students, families, and other stakeholders, which provides a sense of security for everyone involved. This identification helps students and their families to easily recognize and approach program staff for assistance or support. The program is also offered at all ten school sites, which provides opportunities for students to attend the program at a location that is familiar to them.

The arrival and dismissal policy ensures the safety and well-being of all students enrolled in the extended learning program. By requiring students to be signed in and out by a parent/guardian or approved adult over the age of 18, the program can ensure that students are released only to authorized individuals. The schedule with assigned staff and specific locations for each child ensures that staff can keep track of students at all times, and the headcounts before and after each transition provide an additional layer of safety and accountability.

The Extended Learning Opportunities program offers inter-sessions to students from all ten schools during the fall, winter, spring, and summer, ensuring students will have access to the program during different times of the year. The program provides transportation to all students who need it to participate in the program.

EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM PLAN NATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Overall, the Extended Learning Opportunities program provides a safe and supportive environment for students by ensuring their safety on campus, offering easily identifiable staff, and providing safe transportation for those who need it. This allows students to focus on their learning and growth without worrying about their safety or transportation needs.

2—Active and Engaged Learning

Describe how the program will provide opportunities for students to experience active and engaged learning that either supports or supplements, but does not duplicate, the instructional day.

The National School District's program is designed to provide students with opportunities for active and engaged learning that support or supplement, but do not duplicate, the instruction they receive during the regular school day. Here are some ways in which the ELO program achieve this:

Hands-on learning experiences: NSD's ELO program provides students with hands-on learning experiences allowing them to apply what they have learned in the classroom in a real-world setting. These hands-on learning experiences include field trips, interactive assemblies with professional experts and applied science opportunities.

Workforce Awareness: NSD's ELO program can also offer real world activities, which include the visual and performing arts allowing students to explore new interests and develop skills outside of their regular coursework. These activities can provide opportunities for creative expression and help students develop confidence and self-esteem.

Community based learning: NSD's ELO program provides opportunities for community organizations to engage in projects with students, allowing them to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Programs such as Play-Well TEKnologies and RoboThink Robotics provide students opportunities to explore fundamental STEM concepts through play.

Athletic activities: NSD's ELO program offers comprehensive intramural athletic opportunities and clinics after school. A paucity of organized community sports programs is compensated through the use of school facilities (baseball field, soccer fields, basketball courts, etc.) and a partnership with the YMCA. As such, the ELO program provides each school site a team for a seasoned sport, transportation to and from school site games and all needed gear and uniforms. Additionally, ELO program provides clinics designed to cater to the age and skill level of the students and focuses on developing interest. The athletic program and clinics are supervised by coaches and aim to promote physical fitness, teamwork, and socialization among the students.

Tutoring and academic support: NSD's ELO program provides additional academic support to students who need it, such as tutoring or small group sessions driven by data. The program provides students outside tutors and instructional intervention aides. Curriculum and assessment for intervention programming is supervised by credentialed individuals.

EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM PLAN

NATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Overall, the goal of NSD's ELO program is to provide students with opportunities for active and engaged learning complementing and enhancing their regular classroom instruction. The extended learning opportunities provide students new skills, new interests, and deepen their understanding of the world around them.

3—Skill Building

Describe how the program will provide opportunities for students to experience skill building

NSD's ELO program is designed to provide students with unique opportunities to develop their skills beyond the traditional classroom setting. The following are foundational components to increase student skills:

- Hands-on learning experiences: NSD's ELO program provides students with hands-on learning experiences allowing them to apply what they have learned in the classroom to real-world situations.
- Community project-based learning: NSD's ELO program offers project-based learning opportunities requiring students to work collaboratively to solve real-world problems.
- Coding and computer science: NSD's ELO program provides students with training in technology-related skills such as coding and algorithms. These skills are in high demand in today's job market and can provide students with a competitive advantage by obtaining and being introduced to these skills at an early age.
- Academic Learning: NSD's ELO program provides homework and educational technology support. Students experience academic skill building and increased confidence through the use of adaptive software.
- Visual and Performing Arts: NSD's ELO program offers a variety of arts programming through community partnerships and professional experts.

4—Youth Voice and Leadership

Describe how the program will provide opportunities for students to engage in youth voice and leadership.

The Extended Learning Opportunities program offered by the National School District provides an excellent opportunity for students to develop their leadership skills beyond regular instructional hours. Students engage in activities and programs helping them learn and develop essential leadership qualities.

One of the key practices is providing students with opportunities to have their voices heard and valued through surveys and discussion input sessions. By involving students in the planning, designing, and evaluating of school-based programs and activities, staff can encourage student participation and provide a platform for students to express their ideas and opinions.

EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM PLAN NATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Another way is allowing students to serve as leaders and mentors to each other. By working together on common goals and tasks, students can develop valuable teamwork skills and learn from each other's strengths and weaknesses.

Finally, the program provides students with a platform to showcase their work and achievements. By highlighting student accomplishments, NSD's Extended Learning Opportunities program can foster a culture of recognition and celebration, motivating students to continue striving for excellence.

5—Healthy Choices and Behaviors

Describe how the program will provide opportunities for students to engage in healthy choices and behaviors. Describe how students will be served nutritious meals and/or snacks during the ELO hours of programming.

NSD's ELO program aims to encourage healthy choices and behaviors among students by offering a variety of activities that promote physical activity and nutrition education.

To promote healthy choices and behaviors, NSD's ELO program offers a range of physical activities, outdoor recreation and an athletic program. These activities provide students with the opportunity to engage in regular physical exercise, which can improve overall health and well-being. Additionally, the school garden and wellness program provides education on the importance of a balanced diet, eating whole foods and the science of nutrition.

The National School District's Child Nutrition Services department serves nutritious supper and snacks during ELO program hours, in compliance with the Snacks and Meal Standards for the State of California.

6—Diversity, Access, and Equity

Describe how the program is designed to address cultural and linguistic diversity and provide opportunities for all students to experience diversity, access, and equity. Describe how the ELO program will provide access and opportunity for students with disabilities.

The National School District's Extended Learning Opportunity (ELO) program addresses cultural and linguistic diversity through a learning environment founded on inclusion, respect, and understanding of diverse backgrounds. The program provides a range of academic, social, and cultural activities that are inclusive and responsive to the needs and interests of all students. The program provides community partnerships allowing students to engage with different community groups, cultural events, and field trips. PBIS is a guiding tenant within the program.

Regarding access and opportunity for students with disabilities, NSD's ELO program ensures that all activities and materials are accessible and accommodating to students with different learning needs. The National School District provides professional development opportunities to before and after school extended learning opportunity staff members to enhance knowledge and

EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM PLAN NATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

skills in working with students with disabilities. The program provides accommodations and modifications to support students with disabilities in accessing and participating in all activities. The program also collaborates with the National School District's Student Support Services department to ensure that all students' needs are met and that accommodations are appropriately provided.

In conclusion, the ELO program is designed to provide a diverse, accessible, and equitable learning environment that promotes inclusion, respect, and understanding of diverse backgrounds. The program provides opportunities for students to engage with different cultures and languages. The program also ensures access and opportunity for students with disabilities by providing accommodations, modifications, and professional development to support their needs.

7—Quality Staff

Describe how the program will provide opportunities for students to engage with quality staff.

The National School District's ELO program aims to provide opportunities for students to engage with quality staff in a variety of ways including:

- Recruitment of Qualified Staff: NSD's ELO program will prioritize the recruitment of qualified staff members who have experience and expertise in the areas of the program's focus. This will ensure that students have access to knowledgeable and experienced professionals who can provide high-quality instruction and support.
- Professional Development: NSD's ELO program will provide ongoing professional development opportunities for staff members to ensure they are up-to-date with the latest research and best practices in their respective fields. This will enable staff members to provide the best possible instruction and support for students.
- Collaboration and Teamwork: NSD's ELO program will encourage collaboration and teamwork among staff members, which will foster a positive and supportive work environment. This will also enable staff members to share their expertise and learn from one another, which will ultimately benefit students.

Overall, the National School District's ELO program is designed to provide students with opportunities to engage with quality staff members in a variety of ways. Through recruitment of qualified staff, ongoing professional development, and collaboration and teamwork, the program aims to provide students with the support and guidance they need to succeed.

8—Clear Vision, Mission, and Purpose

Describe the program's clear vision, mission, and purpose

The National School District's ELO program will continue to support NSD's vision of Exceptionally Prepared Learners; Innovative and Compassionate World Citizens. The school district's mission is to ensure each student in the National School District receives an exemplary, world class education in a safe and nurturing environment. By collaborating with educators,

EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM PLAN NATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

staff, parents and the diverse community, all students attain the skills essential to succeed and thrive in a competitive, global society.

9—Collaborative Partnerships 10—Continuous Quality Improvement Describe the program’s Continuous Quality Improvement plan.

Describe the program’s collaborative partnerships. Local educational agencies are encouraged to collaborate with non-LEA entities to administer and implement ELO programs.

The National School District’s ELO program works in collaboration with the YMCA. The YMCA is a key partner and plays a crucial role in providing high-quality, comprehensive services to students during out-of-school time. The organization offers a range of after-school and summer, fall, and spring programs aimed to support the academic, social-emotional, and physical well-being of children and youth. Through its partnership with the ELO program, the YMCA provides additional opportunities for students to engage in enriching activities complementing their school-day learning at their school site.

10—Continuous Quality Improvement

Describe the program’s Continuous Quality Improvement plan.

The Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) plan is a systematic approach enabling our program to identify areas for improvement and make necessary changes to enhance the quality of its services. The plan works in conjunction with the Expanded Learning Quality Standards, which provides a framework for measuring program quality and ensuring the program meets or exceeds the standards.

By implementing this CQI plan in conjunction with the Expanded Learning Quality Standards, the program can ensure it is providing high-quality services meeting the expectations of stakeholders. The ongoing assessment and evaluation of the program will help to identify areas where improvements can be made, and the establishment of monthly program goals and focuses will provide a framework for making these improvements. The provision of technical assistance and resources to each school site will ensure the program is continuously improving and meeting the quality standards. Ongoing communication with stakeholders will also help to ensure everyone is informed about the program's goals and progress towards achieving them.

11—Program Management

Describe the plan for program management.

The plan for program management for National School District’s ELO program involves a clear delineation of responsibilities for staff at both the school site level and higher levels. The school site level staff includes a Site Supervisor, Assistant Site Supervisor, and Youth Leaders who will be responsible for the daily interaction with students and families.

EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM PLAN NATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

The higher level staff, including the Executive Director, Associate Executive Director, and Program Director, will work closely with the school district contacts to design and implement the program. Collaboration between YMCA-REACH/ASES and the National School District will be essential to ensure the NSD ELO program is successful at each school site.

General Questions

Existing After School Education and Safety (ASES) and 21st Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) Elementary and Middle School grantees. ASES, 21st CCLC Elementary/Middle School, and the ELO Program should be considered a single, comprehensive program. In coordinating all these funding streams to move towards a single program, the expectation is the most stringent requirements will be adopted for program guidance. If one or both grants are held, please describe how the ELO program funding will be used to create one comprehensive and universal Expanded Learning program.

The National School District (NSD) receives funding for an After School Education and Safety (ASES) program at ten elementary schools. Additionally, the District receives funding from the Expanded Learning Opportunities program to increase the number of students served in grades TK through 6 for after school, summer, and intersession opportunities at no cost to families.

The ELO program funding will cover the cost of program staff, materials, and transportation to increase the number of students served, as well as provide enrichment programs such as soccer clinics, robotics, chess, and coding. The program will be modeled after the ASES program policies and procedures and will be revised as needed once the ELO program audit guide is published.

Furthermore, the Expanded Learning Opportunities program in the National School District will become a comprehensive program, and staff will coordinate both the ASES and ELO program funding streams to create an articulated TK-6 program. This should provide a more comprehensive and effective program for students in NSD.

Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten

Programs serving transitional kindergarten or kindergarten pupils shall maintain a pupil to-staff member ratio of no more than 10 to 1. (EC Section 46120[b][2][D]). Please address the proposed schedule and plan for recruiting and preparing staff to work in the program, including supporting them to understand how to work with younger children. How will the lower pupil-to-staff ratio be maintained? How will the curriculum and program be developmentally-informed to address this younger age group?

NSD's ELO program is staffed with individuals who have experience working with younger children and understand the developmental needs of this age group. Potential candidates are screened, brought through a thorough selection process and given a probationary period to ensure compatibility. All staff working with students comply with employee laws including fingerprinting, background and reference checks.

EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM PLAN NATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

The National School District provides training that is essential for preparing staff to work with young children. The training includes information about child development, health and safety, and behavior management. The National School District has acquired additional staff to support the growing needs of the schools within our district and continue to support the 10:1 ratio of students to adults in Transitional Kindergarten.

The National School District, along with our YMCA/REACH ASES provider has taken steps to address the needs of TK and K students in all programs. The program prioritizes the cognitive, language, social/emotional, and physical development of TK and K students, as outlined in the child development model. NSD's ELO program will focus on developing creativity, thinking skills, and literacy experiences, as well as promoting healthy relationships and independence.