



1. What makes Washington different?

Washington Elementary provides an engaging and collaborative community where all learners thrive. We are an interdisciplinary STEAM- focused school with a sustainable model for innovation that supports learners in solving authentic problems through inquiry. We strive to develop and empower lifelong learners, that have the skills, knowledge, and confidence necessary to lead successful lives.

We Lead, We Innovate, We Empower, We Care

There are many contributing factors that make our school unique: We're building a public-school community of learners from the ground up. Our standards-based STEAM program is implemented through interdisciplinary project-based learning and our projects center around problems to solve that directly affect/impact the community around us. As a Leader in Me school we focus significant attention around mindfulness and the social emotional growth of our students. Our afterschool program, STEAM Academy, is intentionally designed to support the focus of our STEAM school through enrichment.

Student Leadership

Our school "Why" centers on empowering our students to take charge of their own learning.

- Mindfulness
- STEAM Exhibition
- Student driven parent/teacher conference

Classroom Design

Each classroom was designed and furnished for Project Based Teaching and Learning. Each class is equipped with 1-1 technology (ipads, Chromebooks).

The "A" in STEAM

In addition to utilizing art as strand of PBL in all classrooms, students K-6th participate in Art class 2-3 times a week with our certificated Art teacher. In this class students learn to paint, color and draw using a variety of mediums.

Physical Movement-Yoga

All students start the day with Yoga. Led by our "Yogamotives," our students begin each morning with breathing exercises that focus on agency and mindfulness. Our Yogamotive team is trained through the Sacramento Yoga Seed Collective.

2. What does a typical day look like?

School-wide yoga at 9 AM. Then each grade transitions to morning circle (SEL). The day consists around lessons that focus on gross motor skills, math, literacy, science, mindfulness, STEAM-PBL and Art. A typical STEAM project will focus on 2-4 strands around STEAM. A STEAM project can take 2-6 weeks.

3. What is the student to teacher ratio?

TK-3rd 1:24, 4th-6th 1:33. Each classroom is supported by an AmeriCorps team member. We also partner with the CSUS College of Ed, The Met High School and Learning Solutions for additional mentors and classroom aides. On Friday's Kinder parents start the morning with family reading time in the classroom.

4. What are your student demographics?

We serve a diverse student population of families that come from many socioeconomic, cultural and linguistic backgrounds. Currently 1/2 of our students reside in Midtown, 1/4 reside within SCUSD boundaries and 1/4 reside outside the SCUSD boundaries. Our school reflects the richness and diversity of our City!

5. What is your discipline policy?

As a school, we take a personal restorative approach to discipline. We are intentional with our school-wide practices that include Mindfulness Yoga, The Leader In Me, morning circle. Our collective whole student approach is meant to be proactive as we guide our students in becoming leaders and empowered in their own learning and growth.

6. How do you differentiate learning?

PBL allows students to work around their strengths as well as their areas of growth. Some projects are intentionally planned across grade levels, which gives students the opportunity to work at different grade/academic abilities. Each class is also paired with one AmeriCorps member that supports students in projects or can assist 1-1 or in small groups with fluency, math, etc.

7. What does teacher training look like?

Our learning room, the "Rail Yard," is devoted to the adult learning. All of our teachers meet here each Thursday to define our work around project-based learning, School culture and staff culture. Our teachers utilize a critical friends protocol to get feedback on each other's projects. Additionally, our teachers receive extensive training during the summer and throughout the year through the New Tech Network as well as the Leader in Me.

8. What's the homework policy?

TK-2nd, homework can center on a driving question to discuss at home, and/or reading to your child. It varies in 3-6th grade from reading for pleasure for a set time, doing research for a project, math practice, or contributing to group work on a Google doc.

9. Are there afterschool activities?

- STEAM Academy
- Destination Imagination
- Soccer
- Basketball
- Ballet Folklorico
- African drumming
- Sac Theatre Co.

10. What are parent expectations?

Your involvement is essential to building our school culture and community. We welcome your energy, your time and expertise, big or small.

Our parents formed the Locomotive Community Organization (LCO) in 2016. The mission of the LCO is to:

1. Create a community of close relationships between the child's home and school by encouraging communication and engagement between teachers, the administration and families.
2. Provide support for Washington elementary, its teachers and families of Students. The LCO is inclusive and constitutes a group of diverse, organized and effective members who will meet this mission through, among other things, developing and participating in school wide activities, providing substantive administrative feedback as appropriate and raising funds for the financial support of the school and teachers.