Torrance Unified School District

Fern Elementary School

Grades TK through 5
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2023-24 School Accountability Report Card

Published January 2025

Principal's Message

Welcome to Fern Elementary School, home of the "Falcons" and a State of California Gold Ribbon School! Here at Fern we work diligently to provide all of our students a world class, cutting edge 21st century education! We are a diverse community of learners who work with all students to develop a strong foundation of core skills while developing their abilities to think critically and independently while becoming exemplary citizens at school, home, and in our community.

Fern Elementary was opened in 1929 and is listed as a historical site by the Torrance Historical Society. We are a TK-5th grade school with 23 classrooms and teachers, a full-time counselor and a health assistant in our Health Office. Fern Elementary school has been modernized with LCD projectors and/or large screen televisions in every classroom and WiFi. The school program is supported by dedicated PE specialists who provide appropriate lessons that meet state PE requirements. Fern teachers are provided with Professional Learning Community time weekly to work together, develop lesson plans, problem solve and use assessment data to guide their instructional decision making.

Education at Fern Elementary is further enhanced through our dedication to teaching students about the arts. All students are provided with art instruction through a partnership with the PTA and the City of Torrance through the "Adventures in Art" program. Further, all students participate in a district sponsored music program as well. Fern Elementary has established the SOAR acronym for students as a reminder to make positive choices across the course of their day at school, in the community and at home. Fern students S.O.A.R. by:

S- being "Scholars"
O- being "On Time"
A- being "Accountable"
R- being "Responsible & Respectful"

Working together, with our staff, parents and community Fern Elementary School is committed to ensuring that all student achieve their full academic potential by participating in rigorous and relevant classroom instruction. Have a great year and remember to "SOAR Falcons!"

Mission

The purpose of Fern Elementary is to provide a positive, caring learning community dedicated to challenging all students to become creative, scholarly citizens through academic, social and behavioral excellence.

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Vision

Fern Elementary is a safe, positive, challenging environment that partners with parents and the community to ensure learning for all students.

We believe in:
- High expectations for all students-academically and behaviorally.
- Differentiated instruction for all learners.
- Preparing students with the skills necessary to become lifelong learners.
- Fostering a desire to become citizens of our local, national, or global society.
- Providing opportunities for social responsibility; to understand the perspective of others and appreciate the unique differences in our community.
- A shared responsibility for learning-home, school and community, and
- The value of our family diversity.

School Description

Fern Elementary School is located in the eastern region of Torrance and serves students in grades transitional kindergarten through five following a traditional calendar. At the beginning of the 2023-24 school year, 482 students were enrolled, including 17.4% in special education, 13.5% qualifying for English Language Learner support, and 42.5% qualifying for free or reduced price lunch.

Student Enrollment by Student Group / Grade Level 2023-24

Student Group	% of Total Enrollment
Female	44.00%
Male	56.00%
Non-Binary	0.00%
Amer. Indian or Alaska Native	0.60%
Asian	14.10%
Black or African-Amer.	1.70%
Filipino	6.80%
Hisp. or Latino	41.90%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.60%
Two or More Races	8.90%
White	25.10%
English Learners	13.50%
Foster Youth	0.20%
Homeless	0.40%
Students Receiving Migrant Ed. Services	0.00%
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	42.50%
Students with Disabilities	17.40%

Grade Level	# of Students
Transitional Kindergarten	24
Kindergarten	69
Grade 1	71
Grade 2	75
Grade 3	88
Grade 4	73
Grade 5	82
Ungraded	0
Total Enrollment	482

Student Achievement

Physical Fitness

In the spring of each year, Fern Elementary School is required by the state to administer a physical fitness test to all students in grade five. The physical fitness test (PFT) for students in California schools is the FITNESSGRAM. The main goal of the test is to help students in starting life-long habits of regular physical activity.

The FITNESSGRAM has six parts, though California currently requires five parts be completed annually, that show a level of fitness that offer a degree of defense against diseases that come from inactivity. The test results can be used by students, teachers, and parents. Comparative District and state results can be found at the CDE's web site www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/pf.

Physical Fitness Test % of Students Participating in each of the Five Fitness Components 2023-24

Grade	Component 1: Aerobic Capacity	Component 2: Abdominal Strength and Endurance	Component 3: Trunk Extensor and Strength and Flexibility	Component 4: Upper Body Strength and Endurance	Component 5: Flexibility
5	97.6%	96.3%	97.6%	98.8%	98.8%

Note: Double dashes (--) appear in the table when the number of students is ten or fewer, either because the number of students in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or to protect student privacy.

California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress

The California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) System includes the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments (SBAC) for students in the general education population, and the California Alternate Assessments (CAAs) for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. Only eligible students may participate in the administration of the CAAs. CAAs items are aligned with alternative achievement standards, which are linked with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). CAASPP results are a measure of how well students are mastering California's standards in English language arts/literacy (ELA) and mathematics, and are given to grades three through eight and grade eleven. SBAC tests assess student performance in ELA/Literacy and mathematics utilizing computer-adaptive tests and performance tasks, and CAAs test items are aligned with alternative achievement standards which are linked with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

The CAASPP results shown in this report include overall results comparing the school, district and state scores as well as the school's overall score in each applicable subgroup. Results are shown only for subgroups with ten students or more taking the exam. For those categories that are blank in the tables, no students met subgroup criteria. More information on CAASPP can be found on the California Department of Education's website www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/.

CAASPP Test Results in ELA and Mathematics - All Students						
	Percent of Students Meeting or Exceeding State Standards					
	School		District		State	
	22-23	23-24	22-23	23-24	22-23	23-24
English-Language Arts/Literacy (grades 3-8 and 11)	63.0	60.0	67.0	66.0	46.0	47.0
Mathematics (grades 3-8 and 11)	59.0	61.0	59.0	60.0	34.0	35.0

Note: Double dashes (--) appear in the table when the number of students is ten or fewer, either because the number of students in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or to protect student privacy.

ELA and mathematics test results include the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment and the CAA. The "Percent Met or Exceeded" is calculated by taking the total number of students who met or exceeded the standard on the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment plus the total number of students who met the standard (i.e., achieved Level 3-Alternate) on the CAAs divided by the total number of students who participated in both assessments.

CAASPP Test Results in ELA by Student Group (2023-24)					
Student Groups	Total Enrollment	# Tested	% Tested	% Not Tested	Percent Met or Exceeded
All Students	244	239	97.95	2.05	60.25
Female	105	102	97.14	2.86	60.78
Male	139	137	98.56	1.44	59.85
Amer. Indian or Alaska Native	--	--	--	--	--
Asian	31	30	96.77	3.23	63.33
Black or African-Amer.	--	--	--	--	--
Filipino	20	19	95.00	5.00	100.00
Hisp. or Latino	111	110	99.10	0.90	50.91
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0
Two or More Races	23	23	100.00	0.00	65.22
White	55	53	96.36	3.64	66.04
English Learners	24	22	91.67	8.33	13.64
Foster Youth	--	--	--	--	--
Homeless	0	0	0	0	0
Military	--	--	--	--	--
Students Receiving Migrant Ed. Services	0	0	0	0	0
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	70	69	98.57	1.43	42.03
Students with Disabilities	35	34	97.14	2.86	29.41

CAASPP Test Results in Mathematics by Student Group (2023-24)					
Student Groups	Total Enrollment	# Tested	% Tested	% Not Tested	Percent Met or Exceeded
All Students	244	241	98.77	1.23	61.41
Female	105	103	98.10	1.90	60.19
Male	139	138	99.28	0.72	62.32
Amer. Indian or Alaska Native	--	--	--	--	--
Asian	31	31	100.00	0.00	83.87
Black or African-Amer.	--	--	--	--	--
Filipino	20	20	100.00	0.00	100.00
Hisp. or Latino	111	110	99.10	0.90	45.45
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0
Two or More Races	23	23	100.00	0.00	65.22
White	55	53	96.36	3.64	69.81
English Learners	24	24	100.00	0.00	41.67
Foster Youth	--	--	--	--	--
Homeless	0	0	0	0	0
Military	--	--	--	--	--
Students Receiving Migrant Ed. Services	0	0	0	0	0
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	70	69	98.57	1.43	39.13
Students with Disabilities	35	34	97.14	2.86	32.35

Note: ELA test results include the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment and the CAA. The "Percent Met or Exceeded" is calculated by taking the total number of students who met or exceeded the standard on the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment plus the total number of students who met the standard (i.e., achieved Level 3-Alternate) on the CAAs divided by the total number of students who participated in both assessments.

Note: Double dashes (--) appear in the table when the number of students is ten or fewer, either because the number of students in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or to protect student privacy.

Note: The number of students tested includes all students who participated in the test whether they received a score or not; however, the number of students tested is not the number that was used to calculate the achievement level percentages. The achievement level percentages are calculated using only students who received scores.

CAASPP Test Results in Science for All Students						
	Percent of Students Meeting or Exceeding State Standards					
	School		District		State	
	22-23	23-24	22-23	23-24	22-23	23-24
Science (grades 5, 8, and 10)	52.1	47.0	49.2	50.2	30.3	30.7

Note: Double dashes (--) appear in the table when the number of students is ten or fewer, either because the number of students in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or to protect student privacy.

Science test results include the CAST and the CAA for Science. The "Percent Met or Exceeded" is calculated by taking the total number of students who met or exceeded the standard on the CAST plus the total number of students who met the standard (i.e., achieved Level 3-Alternate) on the CAA for Science divided by the total number of students who participated in a science assessment.

The number of students tested includes all students who participated in the test whether they received a score or not; however, the number of students tested is not the number that was used to calculate the achievement level percentages. The achievement level percentages are calculated using only students who receive scores.

CAASPP Test Results in Science by Student Group (2023-24)					
Student Groups	Total Enrollment	# Tested	% Tested	% Not Tested	Percent Met or Exceeded
All Students	83	83	100.00	0.00	46.99
Female	29	29	100.00	0.00	51.72
Male	54	54	100.00	0.00	44.44
Amer. Indian or Alaska Native	--	--	--	--	--
Asian	12	12	100.00	0.00	58.33
Black or African-Amer.	--	--	--	--	--
Filipino	--	--	--	--	--
Hisp. or Latino	38	38	100.00	0.00	39.47
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0
Two or More Races	--	--	--	--	--
White	16	16	100.00	0.00	56.25
English Learners	--	--	--	--	--
Foster Youth	0	0	0	0	0
Homeless	0	0	0	0	0
Military	0	0	0	0	0
Students Receiving Migrant Ed. Services	0	0	0	0	0
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	24	24	100.00	0.00	37.50
Students with Disabilities	--	--	--	--	--

Note: Double dashes (--) appear in the table when the number of students is ten or fewer, either because the number of students in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or to protect student privacy.

Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP)

As part of the new Local Control Funding Formula, school districts are required to develop, adopt, and annually update a three-year Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP). The following components of this SARC address some of the priorities identified in the District's LCAP:

Conditions of Learning (Basic Services) – State Priority 1: Degree to which teachers are appropriately assigned and fully credentialed in the subject areas and for the pupils they are teaching; pupils have access to standards-aligned Instructional materials and school facilities are maintained in good repair. Covered in Teacher Preparation and Placement, including the Teacher Credentials & Misassignments chart; Instructional Materials, including the Textbooks chart; and School Facilities & Maintenance, including the Campus Description and School Facility Good Repair Status charts.

Conditions of Learning (Implementation of State Standards) – State Priority 2: Implementation of academic content and performance standards adopted by the state board for all pupils. Not covered in the School Accountability Report Card.

Parental Involvement – State Priority 3: Efforts to seek parent input in decision making, promotion of parent participation in programs for unduplicated pupils and special need subgroups. Covered in Parent Involvement.

Pupil Achievement – State Priority 4: Performance on standardized tests, score on Academic Performance Index, share of pupils that are college and career ready, share of English learners that become English proficient, English learner reclassification rate, share of pupils that pass Advanced Placement exams with a 3 or higher, and share of pupils determined prepared for college by the Early Assessment Program. Covered in California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress, including the CAASPP charts.

Engagement (Pupil Engagement) – State Priority 5: School attendance rates, chronic absenteeism rates, middle school dropout rates, high school dropout rates, and high school graduation rates. Covered in Dropout & Graduation Rates, including the Dropout chart; and Graduation Requirements, including the Graduation Rate chart for high schools only.

School Climate – State Priority 6: Pupil suspension rates, pupil expulsion rates, other local measures including surveys of pupils, and parents and teachers on the sense of safety and school connectedness. Covered in Discipline & Climate for Learning, including Suspension & Expulsion chart; and School Site Safety Plan.

Conditions of Learning (Course Access) – State Priority 7: Pupil enrollment in a broad course of study that includes all of the subject areas. Not covered in the School Accountability Report Card.

Other Pupil Outcomes – State Priority 8: Pupil outcomes in the subject areas. Covered in Physical Fitness, including the Physical Fitness Test chart.

Parent Involvement

Parents are encouraged to get involved in their child's learning environment either by volunteering in the classroom, participating in a decision-making group, or simply attending school events.

Parents stay informed on upcoming events and school activities through flyers, the school marquee, the school website, and e-blast. Contact the PTA President at president@fernpta.org for more information on how to become involved in your child's learning environment.

Opportunities to Volunteer

Adventures in Art Proctor
Chaperone Field Trips
Classroom Helper
Library
PTA Events

Committees

English Learner Multicultural Advisory Committee (ELMAC)
Parent Teacher Association
School Site Council
Title I Advisory Committee

School Activities

Back to School Night
Book Fair
Family Math Night
Family Restaurant Nights
Halloween Parade
Harvest Festival
Monthly SOAR Award Ceremony
Movie Night
Open House - Portfolio Day
Parent Education Nights

Primary Grades Event
Spring Festival
Upper Grades Event

School Facilities & Maintenance

The district takes great efforts to ensure that all schools are clean, safe, and functional through proper facilities maintenance and campus supervision. Fern Elementary School's original facilities were built in 1932; ongoing maintenance and campus improvements ensure facilities remain up to date and provide adequate space for students and staff. District maintenance and site custodial staff ensure that the repairs necessary to keep the school in good condition are completed in a timely manner. A work order process is used by school and district staff to communicate non-routine maintenance requests. Emergency repairs are given the highest priority. In the last 12 months, the following improvements have been completed:

2023-24 Campus Improvements:
• Emergency notification system
• Installation of new audiovisual equipment in the MPR
• Installation of HVAC system in the MPR
• Installation of HVAC thermostats in classrooms

2024-25 Planned Campus Improvements:
• Improvements to preschool room
• Renovation of preschool play structure
• Installation of new school marquee

Every morning before school begins, the custodian inspects facilities for safety hazards or other conditions that need attention prior to students and staff entering school grounds. One day custodian and one evening custodian are assigned to Fern Elementary School. The day custodian is responsible for:

• Cafeteria setup/cleanup
• General maintenance
• Restroom cleaning
• Trash removal
• Event setup/cleanup

Restrooms are checked throughout the day for cleanliness and subsequently cleaned as needed. The evening custodian is responsible for:

• Classroom cleaning
• Office area cleaning
• Restroom cleaning
• Event setup/cleanup

The principal communicates with custodial staff daily concerning maintenance and school safety issues.

Campus Description	
Year Built	1932
Acreage	4.4
Square Footage	41131
	Quantity
Permanent Classrooms	22
Portable Classrooms	1
Restrooms (sets)	4
Library	1
Administration Building(s)	1
Intervention Classroom(s)	1
Learning Center Classroom(s)	2
Multipurpose Room/Cafeteria(s)	1
Occupational Therapist Office(s)	1
Science Lab(s)	1
Staff Lounge	1

Deferred Maintenance

Fern Elementary School participates in the State School Deferred Maintenance Program, which provides dollar-for-dollar matching funds to assist school districts with major repairs or replacement of existing school building components. Deferred maintenance projects generally include roofing, plumbing, heating, air conditioning, electrical systems, interior/exterior painting, and floor systems. During the 2023-24 school year, Fern Elementary School did not qualify to receive deferred maintenance funds for campus repairs and/or improvements.

Facilities Inspection

The district's maintenance department inspects Fern Elementary School on an annual basis in accordance with Education Code §17592.72(c)(1). Fern Elementary School uses a school site inspection survey to identify unsafe or hazardous conditions and facility improvement needs. The most recent school inspection took place on Saturday, November 23, 2024. Deficiencies noted in the school inspection survey were corrected immediately by the district's maintenance department. During fiscal year 2024-25, all restrooms were fully functional and available for student use at the time of the inspection.

School Facility Good Repair Status
Most Recent Inspection: Saturday, November 23, 2024

Item Inspected	Repair Status		
	Good	Fair	Poor
A. Systems	✔		
B. Interior		✔	
C. Cleanliness	✔		
D. Electrical		✔	
E. Restrooms / Fountains	✔		
F. Safety	✔		
G. Structural	✔		
H. External	✔		

Repair Needed and Action Taken or Planned	
Section Number	Comment
(B)	Admin Bldg, First Floor - Health Office hole in wall around outlet
(D)	Admin Bldg, First Floor - Workroom one light panel out
	New Bldg, Second Floor - Girls restroom one light panel out

Overall Summary of School Facility Good Repair Status			
Exemplary	Good	Fair	Poor
	✔		

Rating Description
Good: The school is maintained in good repair with a number of non-critical deficiencies noted. These deficiencies are isolated, and/or result from minor wear and tear, and/or are in the process of being mitigated.

Campus Supervision

School administration and teaching staff place a high priority on providing adequate adult supervision on campus before, during, and after school. As students arrive on campus each morning, teachers, the counselor, and student supervision assistants are strategically assigned to designated entrance areas and the playground. During recess, teachers supervise playground activity. The principal and student supervision assistants monitor lunch time activity in the cafeteria and on the playground. At the end of the day when students are dismissed, teachers monitor student behavior to ensure a safe and orderly departure.

Fern Elementary School is a closed campus. During school hours, all visitors must be buzzed in at the front school entry gate where office staff can monitor who is at the gate. They must also show their state issued identification at the school's office to be scanned through the Raptor system and wear the printed identification sticker while on school grounds.

School Site Safety Plan

The Comprehensive School Site Safety Plan was developed for Fern Elementary School in collaboration with local agencies and the district office to fulfill Senate Bill 187 requirements. Components of this plan include child abuse reporting procedures, teacher notification of dangerous pupil procedures, disaster response procedures, procedures for safe arrival and departure from school, sexual harassment policy, and dress code policy. The school's most recent school safety plan was reviewed, updated, and discussed with school staff in February 2024.

Classroom Environment

Discipline & Climate for Learning

Fern Elementary School's discipline policies are based upon Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS), a multi-tiered approach to social, emotional and behavior support. This schoolwide positive behavior management plan is used as a guide to develop school rules, develop behavior management programs, promote responsibility, promote respect, and minimize classroom disruptions. Progressive discipline and proactive measures are employed in the classroom for those students experiencing difficulty following school rules and demonstrating positive behavior. Disciplinary intervention is managed by school administrators in a fair, firm, and consistent manner based upon the nature of each situation.

During the 2023-24 school year, Fern Elementary School utilized one USC social worker intern two days per week to work with students who have attendance and behavioral issues, and also received the PBIS silver award for PBIS practices from the California Department of Education.

Suspensions & Expulsions			
	21-22	22-23	23-24
	School		
% Students Suspended	0.0	0.0	0.0
% Students Expelled	0.0	0.0	0.0
	District		
% Students Suspended	1.5	1.8	1.2
% Students Expelled	0.1	0.1	0.0
	State		
% Students Suspended	3.2	3.6	3.3
% Students Expelled	0.1	0.1	0.1

Suspensions and Expulsions by Student Group (2023-24)		
Student Group	Suspensions Rate	Expulsions Rate
All Students	0.0	0.0
Female	0.0	0.0
Male	0.0	0.0
Non-Binary	0.0	0.0
Amer. Indian or Alaska Native	0.0	0.0
Asian	0.0	0.0
Black or African-Amer.	0.0	0.0
Filipino	0.0	0.0
Hisp. or Latino	0.0	0.0
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0
Two or More Races	0.0	0.0
White	0.0	0.0
English Learners	0.0	0.0
Foster Youth	0.0	0.0
Homeless	0.0	0.0
Students Receiving Migrant Ed. Services	0.0	0.0
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	0.0	0.0
Students with Disabilities	0.0	0.0

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Class Size

The Class Size Distribution table in this report illustrates the distribution of class sizes by grade level, the average class size, and the number of classes that contain 1-20 students, 21-32 students, and 33 or more students. Calculations exclude classrooms of 50 or more students.

Average Class Size and Class Size Distribution				
	2021-22			
Grade	Avg. Class Size	Number of Classes 1-20	21-32	33+
K	22.0		4	
1	27.0		3	
2	24.0		3	
3	25.0		3	
4	27.0		3	
5	26.0		4	
Other**	4.0	1		
	2022-23			
Grade	Avg. Class Size	Number of Classes 1-20	21-32	33+
K	20.0	2	3	
1	22.0	1	2	
2	27.0		3	
3	24.0		3	
4	22.0		3	
5	24.0		3	
6			2	
	2023-24			
Grade	Avg. Class Size	Number of Classes 1-20	21-32	33+
K	14.0	3	2	
1	24.0	1	2	
2	25.0		3	
3	22.0	1	3	
4	24.0	1	2	
5	27.0		3	

**Number of classes indicates how many classes fall into each size category (a range of total students per class).*

***"Other" category is for multi-grade level classes.*

Pupil Engagement

Chronic Absenteeism

The following chart identifies the chronic absenteeism rates by student group for Fern Elementary School for the 2023-24 school year. A "chronic absentee" has been defined in EC Section 60901(c)(1) as "a pupil who is absent on 10 percent or more of the school days in the school year when the total number of days a pupil is absent is divided by the total number of days the pupil is enrolled and school was actually taught in the regular day schools of the district, exclusive of Saturdays and Sundays."

Chronic Absenteeism By Student Group (2023-24)				
Student Group	Cumulative Enrollment	Chronic Absenteeism Eligible Enrollment	Chronic Absenteeism Count	Chronic Absenteeism Rate
All Students	499	493	51	10.3
Female	221	218	18	8.3
Male	278	275	33	12.0
Amer. Indian or Alaska Native	--	--	--	0.0
Asian	71	71	6	8.5
Black or African-Amer.	12	12	3	25.0
Filipino	37	36	2	5.6
Hisp. or Latino	207	203	32	15.8
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	--	--	--	0.0
Two or More Races	43	42	2	4.8
White	122	122	5	4.1
English Learners	70	70	7	10.0
Foster Youth	--	--	--	0.0
Homeless	--	--	--	0.0
Students Receiving Migrant Ed. Services	--	--	--	0.0
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	219	218	30	13.8
Students with Disabilities	98	98	18	18.4

Note: Double dashes (--) appear in the table when the number of students is ten or fewer, either because the number of students in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or to protect student privacy.

Curriculum & Instruction

Staff Development

All training and curriculum development activities at Fern Elementary School revolve around the California State Content Standards and Frameworks. During the 2023-24 school year, Fern Elementary School held staff development training devoted to:

- Response to Intervention (RtI) Strategies
- Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)
- Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (PBIS)
- English Language Development (ELD) Strategies
- Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)
- Web-Based Learning (Achieve 3000, ST Math & Freckle Math)
- Art (City of Torrance - Adventures in Art)
- Music Development

Decisions concerning selection of staff development activities are performed by all staff using tools such as state assessment results and districtwide teacher input to determine the areas in which additional teacher training may enhance classroom instruction and increase student achievement levels. Fern Elementary School supports ongoing professional growth throughout the year at weekly site PLC meetings on early release Wednesdays and on PE Fridays. Teachers meet in grade level teams to conduct data analysis to identify areas of need. Teaching staff are provided the opportunity to participate in district-sponsored staff development workshops or training sessions as 1) a supplement to site-based staff development, 2) for reinforcement of or follow-up on previous training, or 3) follow-up training for newly implemented programs/curricula.

During the 2022-23, 2023-24, and 2024-25 school years, Fern Elementary School's teachers had the opportunity to attend the following events hosted by the Torrance Unified School District:

2022-23 Trainings:
• PLC Institute
• The Summit on RtI at Work
• Best First Instruction
• CGI Math - Building Thinking Classrooms
• Math - Unpacking Essentials and Alignment
• Writing - Unpacking Essentials and Writing

2023-24 Trainings:
• Best First Instruction
• CGI Math
• Math essential Standards
• Writing - Unpacking Essentials and Writing
• Writer's Workshop
• i-Ready Implementation
• Quality Teaching for English Learners (QTEL) Strategies
• Trauma Informed Skills for Educators (TISE) Training
• Elementary Project Lead the Way Training
• Early Childhood Strategies for TK Expansion
• Literacy Strategies

2024-25 Trainings:
• Reading Literacy (Grades TK-2)
• Mathematics (Grades 3-5)
• Building Thinking Classrooms
• ELA/Equity Training

Fern Elementary School's teachers also had the opportunity to attend supplemental professional development offered by the Torrance Unified School District relating to the following:

• Guided Reading
• CGI Math
• Department Specific Courses

Fern Elementary School offers support to new and veteran teachers through peer coaching and mentoring. Instructional aides are provided targeted training focused on teaching strategies and curriculum content. Substitute teachers are invited to participate in designated staff development activities. All staff are encouraged to attend professional workshops and conferences. Classified support staff receive job-related training from department supervisors and district representatives.

Number of School Days Dedicated to Staff Development and Continuous Improvement		
2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
5	5	5

Instructional Materials

All textbooks used in the core curriculum at Fern Elementary School are aligned to the California Content Standards and Frameworks. Instructional materials are selected from the state's most recent list of standards-based materials and adopted by the State Board of Education. The district follows the State Board of Education's eight-year adoption cycle for core content materials (English/language arts, math, science, and social science).

On Monday, September 16, 2024, the Torrance Unified School District's Board of Education held a public hearing to certify the extent to which textbooks and instructional materials have been provided to students. The Board of Education adopted a resolution which certifies as required by Education Code §60119 (1) that textbooks and instructional materials were provided to all students, including English learners, in the district to the extent that each pupil has a textbook or instructional materials, or both, to use in class and to take home, and (2) sufficient textbooks and instructional materials were provided to each student, including English learners, that are aligned to the academic content standards and consistent with the cycles and content of the curriculum frameworks in math, science, history-social science, and English/language arts.

In addition to core subject areas, districts are required to disclose in their SARCs the sufficiency of instructional materials used for their visual/performing arts curricula. During the 2024-25 school year, Torrance Unified School District provided each student, including English learners, enrolled in a visual/performing arts class with a textbook or instructional materials to use in class and to take home. These materials complied with the state's content standards and curriculum frameworks.

Textbooks		
Adoption Year	Publisher & Series	Pupils Lacking Textbooks
English Language Arts		
2017	McGraw Hill, *California Wonders*	0 %
Health		
2016	Health Connected, *Puberty Talk*	0 %
History-Social Science		
2019	Pearson Education, *History-Social Science*	0 %
Mathematics		
2014	Pearson, *EnVision Math*	0 %
Science		
2020	Accelerate Learning, *STEMScopes*	0 %

Professional Staff

Counseling & Support Staff

Fern Elementary School provides professional, highly qualified staff that provide additional services and support centered on the whole student academically, physically, and mentally. The Counseling and Support Services table in this report illustrates the availability of non-instructional support staff to Fern Elementary School's students. Full-time equivalent (FTE) is a standard measurement used to identify an employee's regular work load on a weekly basis. For example, an FTE of 1.0 designates a full-time position and the employee is on campus and available all day every day of the week; an FTE of 0.5 indicates that the staff member is available and on campus a portion (50%) of the week.

Academic Counselors & Other Support Staff (Nonteaching Professional Staff) 2023-24	No. of Staff	FTE
Academic Counselor	0	0
Adaptive PE Specialist	1	0.4
Behavior Analyst	1	0.4
Counselor	1	1.0
Health Services Assistant	1	1.0
Nurse	1	0.2
Occupational Therapist	1	0.5
Psychologist	1	0.4
Speech Pathologist	1	1.0

Note: One Full Time Equivalent (FTE) equals one staff member working full time; one FTE could also represent two staff members who each work 50% of full time.

Teacher Preparation and Placement

The charts below identify the number of teachers at Fern Elementary School, Torrance Unified School District and the State who are 1) fully credentialed; 2) intern credential holders who are properly assigned; 3) teachers without credentials and misassignments; and 4) credentialed teachers who are assigned out-of-field under ESSA.

The charts also report Fern Elementary School information related to 1) the number of teachers on permits and waivers; 2) the number misassigned; 3) the number of vacant positions; 4) the number of credentialed teachers authorized on a permit or waiver; 5) the number of local assignment options; 6) the percent of misassignments for English Learners; and 7) the percent with no credential, permit or authorization to teach.

Teacher Preparation and Placement Authorization / Assignment (2022-23)	School Number	School Percent	District Number	District Percent	State Number	State Percent
Fully (Preliminary or Clear) Credentialed for Subject and Student Placement (properly assigned)	23.9	96.0	933.3	91.5	234405.2	84.0
Intern Credential Holders Properly Assigned	0.0	0.0	3.5	0.3	4853.0	1.7
Teachers Without Credentials and Misassignments ("ineffective" under ESSA)	0.0	0.0	9.1	0.9	12001.5	4.3
Credentialed Teachers Assigned Out-of-Field ("out-of-field" under ESSA)	0.0	0.0	28.0	2.8	11953.1	4.3
Unknown	1.0	4.0	46.0	4.5	15831.9	5.7
Total Teaching Positions	24.9	100.0	1020.0	100.0	279044.8	100.0

Teacher Preparation and Placement Authorization / Assignment (2021-22)	School Number	School Percent	District Number	District Percent	State Number	State Percent
Fully (Preliminary or Clear) Credentialed for Subject and Student Placement (properly assigned)	23.9	96.0	933.3	91.5	234405.2	84.0
Intern Credential Holders Properly Assigned	0.0	0.0	3.5	0.3	4853.0	1.7
Teachers Without Credentials and Misassignments ("ineffective" under ESSA)	0.0	0.0	9.1	0.9	12001.5	4.3
Credentialed Teachers Assigned Out-of-Field ("out-of-field" under ESSA)	0.0	0.0	28.0	2.8	11953.1	4.3
Unknown	1.0	4.0	46.0	4.5	15831.9	5.7
Total Teaching Positions	24.9	100.0	1020.0	100.0	279044.8	100.0

Teacher Preparation and Placement Authorization / Assignment (2020-21)	School Number	School Percent	District Number	District Percent	State Number	State Percent
Fully (Preliminary or Clear) Credentialed for Subject and Student Placement (properly assigned)	23.6	96.0	869.5	89.0	228366.1	83.1
Intern Credential Holders Properly Assigned	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4205.9	1.5
Teachers Without Credentials and Misassignments ("ineffective" under ESSA)	0.0	0.0	3.8	0.4	11216.7	4.1
Credentialed Teachers Assigned Out-of-Field ("out-of-field" under ESSA)	0.0	0.0	33.1	3.4	12115.8	4.4
Unknown	1.0	4.1	70.6	7.2	18854.3	6.9
Total Teaching Positions	24.6	100.0	977.2	100.0	274759.1	100.0

Note: The data in this table is based on Full Time Equivalent (FTE) status. One FTE equals one staff memeber working full time; one FTE could also represent two staff members who each work 50 percent of full time. Additionally, an assignment is defined as a position that an educator is assigned to based on setting, subject, and grade level. An Authorization is defined as the services that an educator in authorized to provide to students.

Teachers Without Credentials and Misassignments (Considered "ineffective" under ESSA) Authorization/Assignment (2022-23)	Number
Permits and Waivers	0.0
Misassignments	0.0
Vacant Positions	0.0
Total Teachers Without Credentials and Misassignments	0.0

Teachers Without Credentials and Misassignments (Considered "ineffective" under ESSA) Authorization/Assignment (2021-22)	Number
Permits and Waivers	0.0
Misassignments	0.0
Vacant Positions	0.0
Total Teachers Without Credentials and Misassignments	0.0

Teachers Without Credentials and Misassignments (Considered "ineffective" under ESSA) Authorization/Assignment (2020-21)	Number
Permits and Waivers	0.0
Misassignments	0.0
Vacant Positions	0.0
Total Teachers Without Credentials and Misassignments	0.0

Credentialed Teachers Assigned Out-of_Field (Considered "out-of-field" under ESSA) / Indicator (2022-23)	Number
Credentialed Teachers Authorized on a Permit or Waiver	0.0
Local Assigment Options	0.0
Total Out-of-Field Teachers	0.0

Credentialed Teachers Assigned Out-of_Field (Considered "out-of-field" under ESSA) / Indicator (2021-22)	Number
Credentialed Teachers Authorized on a Permit or Waiver	0.0
Local Assigment Options	0.0
Total Out-of-Field Teachers	0.0

Credentialed Teachers Assigned Out-of_Field (Considered "out-of-field" under ESSA) / Indicator (2020-21)	Number
Credentialed Teachers Authorized on a Permit or Waiver	0.0
Local Assigment Options	0.0
Total Out-of-Field Teachers	0.0

Class Assignments / Indicator (2022-23)	Percent
Misassignments for English Learners (a percentage of all the classes with English Learners taught by teachers that are misassigned)	0.0
No credential, permit or authorization to teach (a percentage of all the classes taught by teachers with no record of an authorization to teach)	0.0

Class Assignments / Indicator (2021-22)	Percent
Misassignments for English Learners (a percentage of all the classes with English Learners taught by teachers that are misassigned)	0.0
No credential, permit or authorization to teach (a percentage of all the classes taught by teachers with no record of an authorization to teach)	0.0

Class Assignments / Indicator (2020-21)	Percent
Misassignments for English Learners (a percentage of all the classes with English Learners taught by teachers that are misassigned)	0.0
No credential, permit or authorization to teach (a percentage of all the classes taught by teachers with no record of an authorization to teach)	0.0

Note: For more information, refer to the Updated Teacher Equity Definitions web page at https://www.cde.ca.gov/pd/ee/teacherequitydefinitions.asp

District Expenditures

Salary & Budget Comparison

State law requires comparative salary and budget information to be reported to the general public. For comparison purposes, the State Department of Education has provided average salary data from school districts having similar average daily attendance throughout the state. (Note: 2022-23 salary comparison data was the most recent data available at the time this report was published.)

Teacher and Administrative Salaries 2022-23		
	District	State Average of Districts in Same Category
Beginning Teacher Salary	$57,863	$56,573
Mid-Range Teacher Salary	$88,006	$87,186
Highest Teacher Salary	$111,318	$119,665
Superintendent Salary	$316,147	$338,699
Average Principal Salaries:		
Elementary School	$143,487	$148,486
Middle School	$143,954	$154,835
High School	$183,857	$170,008
Percentage of Budget:		
Teacher Salaries	36.81%	31.41%
Administrative Salaries	5.03%	4.86%

For detailed information on salaries, see the CDE Certificated Salaries & Benefits Web page at http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/fd/cs/.

Expenditures Per Student

For the 2022-23 school year, Torrance Unified School District spent an average of $14,649 of total general funds to educate each student (based on 2022-23 audited financial statements and in accordance with calculations defined in Education Code §41372). The table in this report 1) compares the school's per pupil expenditures from unrestricted (basic) and restricted (supplemental) sources with other schools in the district and throughout the state, and 2) compares the average teacher salary at the school site with average teacher salaries at the district and state levels. Detailed information regarding salaries can be found at the CDE website at www.cde.ca.gov/ds/fd/ec/ and www.cde.ca.gov/ds/fd/cs/. (The figures shown in the table below reflect the direct cost of educational services, per ADA, excluding food services, facilities acquisition and construction, and certain other expenditures.)

In addition to general fund state funding, Torrance Unified School District receives state and federal categorical funding for special programs. For the 2022-23 school year, the district received categorical, special education, and support programs funds for:

- American Rescue Plan - Homeless Children and Youth
- Arts, Music, and Instructional Materials Discretionary Block Grant
- CA Community Schools Partnership Act
- Career and Technical Education Programs
- Career Technical Education Incentive Grant Program
- Child Development
- Child Nutrition: Kitchen Infrastructure and Training
- Classified School Employee Summer Assistance Program
- COVID Relief Funding
- Department of Rehabilitation
- Education Protection Account
- Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA): Title IX, McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance
- Expanded Learning Opportunities Program
- Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant
- Lottery: Instructional Materials
- Mental Health-Related Services
- Other Local: Locally Defined
- Other State: Locally Defined
- Special Education
- Special Education Early Intervention Preschool Grant
- State Lottery
- Title I
- Title II
- Title III
- Title IV

Expenditures Per Pupil and School Site Teacher Salaries 2022-23					
	Dollars Spent per Student				
	School	District	% Diff. School & Dist.	State	% Diff. School & State
Total**	$6,621	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Restricted	$350	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Unrestricted	$6,270	$6,357	98.63	$10,771	58.22
Average Teacher Salary	$100,968	$94,528	106.81	$94,625	106.70

Note: Cells with N/A values do not require data.

SARC Data

DataQuest

DataQuest is an online data tool located on the CDE DataQuest web page at http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/ that contains additional information about Fern Elementary School and comparisons of the school to the district and the county. DataQuest is a dynamic system that provides

reports for school accountability (e.g., test data, enrollment, high school graduates, dropouts, course enrollments, staffing and data regarding English learners).

California School Dashboard

The California School Dashboard (Dashboard) https://www.caschooldashboard.org/ reflects California's new accountability and continuous improvement system and provides information about how LEAs and schools are meeting the needs of California's diverse student population. The Dashboard contains reports that display the performance of LEAs, schools, and student groups on a set of state and local measures to assist in identifying strengths, challenges, and areas in need of improvement.

Internet

Internet access is available at public libraries and other locations that are publicly accessible (e.g., the California State Library). Access to the Internet at libraries and public locations is generally provided on a first-come, first served basis. Other use restrictions may include the hours of operation, the length of time that a workstation may be used (depending on availability), the types of software programs available on a workstation and the ability to print documents.

Disclosure

The statistical information disclosed in this report is obtained from the California Department of Education and the Torrance Unified School District. At the time of publication, this report met all SARC-related state and federal requirements, using the most current data available. Data to prepare the instructional materials section were acquired in October 2024. Data to prepare the school facilities section were acquired in December 2024.