
Staff

SYVCS employs a school director and office manager, as well as 10 teachers, each with a California teaching credential, who are qualified to teach the grades and subjects that they teach. 6 instructional assistants provide classroom support and playground supervision for students K-8. Specialized instruction in music, art, garden are provided through highly trained staff members and partnerships with local organizations such as Explore Ecology and Arts Outreach.

Healthy Meals Program

The SYVCS Kitchen provides healthy and delicious snacks and meals each day. Lunch menu items are updated monthly and include a fresh salad bar. Kitchen staff work to support dietary needs of all students. Free meals are provided to students that qualify for free or reduced meals.

Music Programs

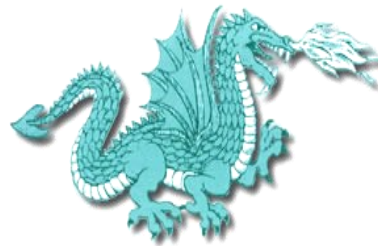
The music program at SYVCS helps students develop the ability to participate in the creative processes of music, exposes them to a wide repertoire of vocal and instrumental music of many periods and styles, and leads all students to a greater interest in and a better understanding of the art. Students perform publicly at the holiday concert and spring performing arts week.

Board of Directors

The SYVCS Board of Directors consists of 9 members; 6 community members, 2 staff representatives, and the College School District Superintendent. The Board meets the last Tuesday of each month at 6 pm in the music room.

PTSO

The Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO) meets monthly, providing opportunities for parents, teachers, and students to come together to support the school. PTSO raises funds to support enrichment programs such as class trips, art, drama and music programs, P.E. equipment, assemblies and more.



Education Foundation

The Santa Ynez Valley Education Foundation is a non-profit foundation that seeks to provide financial support to Santa Ynez Valley Charter School in order to sustain, maintain and develop the school's strong core curriculum and visual arts, performing arts, foreign language, physical education and technology programs. The annual auction and golf tournament are the largest fundraisers organized by the SYVEF.

Santa Ynez Valley Charter School

Home of the Dragons



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A Public School of Choice

Santa Ynez Valley Charter School has been in operation since July 2001. SYVCS is a public school of choice formed by a group of parents, students and teachers who were looking for an alternative to regular public school in the Santa Ynez Valley. Charter law provides flexibility in school practices. It allows a vision of creating a school where all students are welcome, all students are successful and all students are appreciated.

The SYVCS uses a variety of measures to hold students accountable for their education. While it is understood that the learning process takes place in an environment designed to be encouraging, challenging, supportive, and individualized to the needs of the students, each child must present a clear understanding and competency of grade level standards. Student goal setting and assessment is included in student-led conferences twice a year. Each student is evaluated by benchmark assessments throughout the year and state mandated assessments each spring.



Programs

- Character Counts
- Buddy Program
- Healthy Lunch Program
- Physical Education
- Garden Curriculum
- Music
- Arts Outreach
- Fieldtrips / Science Camps
- Extended Day Intervention
- After School Sports Program
- Math Super Bowl
- Author Go Round
- Spelling Bee
- Service Learning
- Parent Education

Parent Involvement

Parents are a vital component of SYVCS, and parent volunteer efforts have been important to our school community, beginning with our founding families. Each family contributes at least 3-5 hours of volunteer time each month. A variety of opportunities exist including working in the classroom, coordinating and driving for fieldtrips, working on fundraising events, gardening, and more.

We Burn To Learn

SYVCS is a K-8 program. Grade levels of instruction and class configurations are determined by evaluation of the projected student enrollment, staffing, and facility resources. Kindergarten through 4th grade have single grade classrooms; grades 5th through 8th have single grade classes for all subjects. SYVCS has worked closely with the high school to articulate math and language arts coursework.



Garden Education

The SYVCS Garden has grown into a wonderful 3 acre outdoor teaching and learning classroom used by students in Grades K-8. Garden instruction is provided through a partnership with Explore Ecology.

Special Education Services

Support for the needs of all learners is important at SYVCS. Special education services are provided on campus in accordance with student's Individualized Education Program (IEP).
