

Desert Sands Unified School District Palm Desert Charter Middle School

Grades 6 through 8
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2020-21 School Accountability Report Card *Published January 2022*

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Principal's Message

Palm Desert Charter Middle School (PDCMS), formerly Palm Desert Middle School, converted to a charter school at the beginning of the 2008/09 school year. We have a Governing Council comprised of certificated and classified staff, parents, and community members who monitor school operations, revenue and curriculum. The principal and business consultant are non-voting members of the Council.

PDCMS, home of the Panthers, is a dynamic educational community focusing on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Math) curricula for adolescents in grades six through eight. PDCMS is a California Gold Ribbon School. In previous years, PDCMS has twice been named a California Distinguished School and was also selected, out of hundreds of other middle schools across the country, as an Intel School of Distinction in Science. Challenging core subjects are augmented by award-winning elective classes including Band, Choir, Art, Robotics, Foreign Languages, Engineering, Culinary Arts and Color Guard. The PDCMS Color Guard is the current state champion in its division and has held the title for four straight years. The AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) program teaches all students in all grades vital skills for success in college and career.

Our school provides one-to-one technology for students in addition to a wide variety of programs and activities to meet their educational needs. The City of Palm Desert has provided a grant for an after-school program that provides academic support and enrichment classes under the direction of administrators and teachers. It is also our goal to provide opportunities to assure that our students have the social skills needed to make contributions as effective citizens in our communities. Intervention programs, such as KARE (Kindness, Advocacy, Respect & Excellence) at the direction of Jacob Shefa, Ph.D., assist students experiencing personal hardships. Among the strongest components for student success at Palm Desert Charter Middle School are the enthusiastic and dedicated teachers and staff who follow our guiding principles of respect, perseverance, open-mindedness, innovation, responsibility and teamwork.

Palm Desert Charter Middle School believes that communication between home and school is the key to a successful middle school experience. Parents can stay informed by subscribing to weekly Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) emails. The PDCMS Web site also provides up-to-date school news and information. Our shared support agreement, known as the Panther Contract, signed each year by student, parent and teacher reinforces our commitment to provide an optimal learning environment and clearly identifies expectations for all stakeholders. The mutual respect and responsibility of our students, parents and staff, along with the strong academic programs have earned us great success and Panther Pride.

DSUSD Mission

The mission of the Desert Sands Unified School District is to inspire and nurture every student ... one opportunity at a time.

DSUSD Vision

We will be the district of choice to successfully prepare every student for college, career, and life.

School Mission

The community of Palm Desert Charter Middle School collaborates to provide a safe nurturing environment in which students pursue academic excellence, environmental stewardship, and social accountability as global citizens.

School Vision

The community of Palm Desert Charter Middle School is guided by the principles of respect, perseverance, open-mindedness, responsibility and teamwork.

This report contains information that may or may not have occurred either in person or via online platform in the 2019-20, 2020-21, and 2021-22 school years due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. If you have any questions about any particular section of this document, please contact your school site administrator.

School Description

Palm Desert Charter Middle School is located in the central region of Palm Desert and serves students in grades six through eight following a traditional calendar. At the beginning of the 2020-21 school year, 1372 students were enrolled, including 7.4% in special education, 13% qualifying for English Language Learner support, and 47.3% qualifying for free or reduced price lunch.

Student Enrollment by Student Group / Grade Level 2020-21			
Student Group	% of Total Enrollment	Grade Level	# of Students
Female	51.50%	Grade 6	438
Male	48.50%	Grade 7	480
Non-Binary	0.00%	Grade 8	454
Amer. Indian or Alaska Native	0.10%	Ungraded	0
Asian	5.40%		
Black or African-Amer.	1.60%		
Filipino	2.00%		
Hisp. or Latino	48.80%		
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.10%		
Two or More Races	3.90%		
White	37.60%		
English Learners	13.00%		
Foster Youth	0.10%		
Homeless	1.80%		
Students Receiving Migrant Ed. Services	0.00%		
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	47.30%		
Students with Disabilities	7.40%		
Total Enrollment			1,372

Student Achievement

Physical Fitness

In the spring of each year, Palm Desert Charter Middle School is required by the state to administer a physical fitness test to all students in grade seven. The physical fitness test measures each student's ability to complete fitness tasks in six major areas. Students who either meet or exceed the standards in all six fitness areas are considered to be in the "healthy fitness zone." The chart reported in this document reports only the percentage in each category, not a cumulative total of the results for categories 4 of 6 and 5 of 6. Comparative district and state results can be found at the CDE's website.

Physical Fitness Test Percentage of Students Meeting California Fitness Standards 2020-21			
Grade Level Tested	Percentage of Students Meeting Standards		
	Four of Six Fitness Standards	Five of Six Fitness Standards	Six of Six Fitness Standards
Seventh	N/A	N/A	N/A

Note: Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the Physical Fitness Test was suspended during the 2020-2021 school year and therefore no data are reported.

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	
	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21
English-Language Arts/Literacy (grades 3-8 and 11)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mathematics (grades 3-8 and 11)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Note: The 2019-2020 data cells with N/A values indicate that the 2019-2020 data are not available due to the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting summative test suspension. The Executive Order N-30-20 was issued which waived the assessment, accountability, and reporting requirements for the 2019-2020 school year.

The 2020-2021 data cells have N/A values because these data are not comparable to other year data due to the COVID-19 pandemic during the 2020-2021 school year. Where the CAASPP assessments in ELA and/or mathematics is not the most viable option, the LEAs were allowed to administer local assessments. Therefore, the 2020-2021 data between school years for the school, district, state are not an accurate comparison. As such, it is inappropriate to compare results of the 2020-2021 school year to other school years.

CAASPP Test Results in ELA by Student Group (2020-21)						
Student Groups	Total Enrollment	# Tested	% Tested	% Not Tested	Percent Met or Exceeded	
All Students	1344	NT	NT	NT	NT	
Female	690	NT	NT	NT	NT	
Male	653	NT	NT	NT	NT	
Amer. Indian or Alaska Native	--	NT	NT	NT	NT	
Asian	74	NT	NT	NT	NT	
Black or African-Amer.	21	NT	NT	NT	NT	
Filipino	24	NT	NT	NT	NT	
Hisp. or Latino	664	NT	NT	NT	NT	
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	--	NT	NT	NT	NT	
Two or More Races	62	NT	NT	NT	NT	
White	497	NT	NT	NT	NT	
English Learners	159	NT	NT	NT	NT	
Foster Youth	--	NT	NT	NT	NT	
Homeless	--	NT	NT	NT	NT	
Military	--	NT	NT	NT	NT	
Students Receiving Migrant Ed. Services	--	NT	NT	NT	NT	
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	455	NT	NT	NT	NT	
Students with Disabilities	98	NT	NT	NT	NT	

CAASPP Test Results in Mathematics by Student Group (2020-21)					
Student Groups	Total Enrollment	# Tested	% Tested	% Not Tested	Percent Met or Exceeded
All Students	1344	NT	NT	NT	NT
Female	690	NT	NT	NT	NT
Male	653	NT	NT	NT	NT
Amer. Indian or Alaska Native	--	NT	NT	NT	NT
Asian	74	NT	NT	NT	NT
Black or African-Amer.	21	NT	NT	NT	NT
Filipino	24	NT	NT	NT	NT
Hisp. or Latino	664	NT	NT	NT	NT
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	--	NT	NT	NT	NT
Two or More Races	62	NT	NT	NT	NT
White	497	NT	NT	NT	NT
English Learners	159	NT	NT	NT	NT
Foster Youth	--	NT	NT	NT	NT
Homeless	--	NT	NT	NT	NT
Military	--	NT	NT	NT	NT
Students Receiving Migrant Ed. Services	--	NT	NT	NT	NT
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	455	NT	NT	NT	NT
Students with Disabilities	98	NT	NT	NT	NT

Note: N/T values indicate that this school did not test students using the CAASPP for ELA.

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

CAASPP Test Results in Science for All Students						
Science (grades 5, 8, and 10)	Percent of Students Meeting or Exceeding State Standards					
	School		District		State	
	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21
	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Note: The 2019-2020 data cells with N/A values indicate that the 2019-2020 data are not available due to the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting summative testing suspension. The Executive Order N-30-20 was issued which waived the assessment, accountability, and reporting requirements for the 2019-2020 school year.

Any 2020-2021 data cells with N/T values indicate that this school did not test students using the CAASPP for Science.

CAASPP Test Results in Science by Student Group (2020-21)					
Student Groups	Total Enrollment	# Tested	% Tested	% Not Tested	Percent Met or Exceeded
All Students	443	NT	NT	NT	NT
Female	235	NT	NT	NT	NT
Male	207	NT	NT	NT	NT
Amer. Indian or Alaska Native	0	0	0	0	0
Asian	25	NT	NT	NT	NT
Black or African-Amer.	--	NT	NT	NT	NT
Filipino	--	NT	NT	NT	NT
Hisp. or Latino	206	NT	NT	NT	NT
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	--	NT	NT	NT	NT
Two or More Races	18	NT	NT	NT	NT
White	177	NT	NT	NT	NT
English Learners	43	NT	NT	NT	NT
Foster Youth	--	NT	NT	NT	NT
Homeless	--	NT	NT	NT	NT
Military	0	0	0	0	0
Students Receiving Migrant Ed. Services	0	0	0	0	0
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	142	NT	NT	NT	NT
Students with Disabilities	25	NT	NT	NT	NT

Note: N/T values indicate that this school did not test students using the CAASPP for Science.

Local Assessment Test Results

The Desert Sands Unified School District administered iReady local assessments for English Language Arts and Mathematics in lieu of administering the CAASPP test for the 2020-21 school year, and the results are shown below in this report.

Local Assessment Test Results in ELA by Student Group (2020-21)					
Assessment Name: i-Ready Assessment					
Student Groups	Total Enrollment	# Tested	% Tested	% Not Tested	Percent Met or Exceeded*
All Students	1258	1240	99	1.00	54
Female	650	640	98	2.00	57
Male	607	599	99	1.00	51
Amer. Indian or Alaska Native	--	--	--	--	--
Asian	94	93	99	1.00	81
Black or African-Amer.	18	17	94	6.00	47
Filipino					
Hisp. or Latino	607	595	98	2.00	46
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	--	--	--	--	--
Two or More Races	50	50	100	0.00	64
White	471	467	99	1.00	58
English Learners	147	141	96	4.00	13
Foster Youth	--	--	--	--	--
Homeless	--	--	--	--	--
Military					
Students Receiving Migrant Ed. Services					
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	559	549	98	2.00	44
Students with Disabilities	93	93	100	0.00	11

Local Assessment Test Results in Mathematics by Student Group (2020-21) Assessment Name: i-Ready Assessment					
Student Groups	Total Enrollment	# Tested	% Tested	% Not Tested	Percent Met or Exceeded*
All Students	1210	1204	100	0.00	47
Female	623	620	100	0.00	50
Male	586	583	99	1.00	44
Amer. Indian or Alaska Native	--	--	--	--	--
Asian	92	92	100	0.00	82
Black or African-Amer.	19	19	100	0.00	26
Filipino					
Hisp. or Latino	584	580	99	1.00	34
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	--	--	--	--	--
Two or More Races	45	45	100	0.00	58
White	453	451	100	0.00	56
English Learners	139	137	99	1.00	9
Foster Youth	--	--	--	--	--
Homeless	--	--	--	--	--
Military					
Students Receiving Migrant Ed. Services					
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	530	525	99	1.00	34
Students with Disabilities	90	89	99	1.00	9

*At or above the grade-level standard in the context of the local assessment administered.

Note: Double dashes (--) appear in the table when the number of students is ten or less, 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 receive a handbook outlining the school's policies and expectations at the beginning of each school year.

Parents stay informed on upcoming events and school activities through flyers, school newsletters, the school marquee, the school website, automated telephone messages, and weekly e-blast email. Contact the school office at (760) 862-4320 for more information on how to become involved in your child's learning environment.

Opportunities to Volunteer

Classroom Aides
Library Aides
Events
Field Trips
Watch DOGS Program
Extracurricular Class Volunteer
Governing Council
Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)
Band Boosters

Organizations

English Learner Advisory Council
Parent Teacher Organization
Band Boosters
Robotics
PDMS Foundation (www.pdcms.org)

School Activities

Student Orientation
8th Grade Promotion
Math Field Day
Fundraising
ASB
Renaissance
Rock the House
5K
Student of the Month
Annual Fundraiser Gala
Walk-A-Thon
Field Trips
Battle of the Books
Spelling Bees
Rallies & Assemblies
6th Grade Preview Day

Note: The above events were planned for the school year and will occur as Department of Public Health allows due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

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. Palm Desert Charter Middle School's original facilities were built in 1977 and remodeled between 2005 and 2008; 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 campus improvements were completed:

2020-21 Campus Improvements

- Installation of solar panels
- Installation of additional security cameras throughout the campus
- Repaint the exterior of the campus (scheduled for 2021-22)

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 two evening custodians are assigned to Palm Desert Charter Middle School. The day custodian is responsible for:

- Cafeteria setup/cleanup
- Office area cleaning
- Restroom cleaning
- MPR cleaning
- Disinfecting of high touch surface points

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

- Classroom cleaning
- Cafeteria cleanup
- Office area cleaning
- Restroom cleaning
- Disinfecting of high touch surface points

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

Campus Description	
Year Built	1977
Acreage	13
Square Footage	74,969
	Quantity
Permanent Classrooms	52
Portable Classrooms	0
Restrooms (sets)	6
Multipurpose Room(s)	1
Staff Lounge/Work Room(s)	2
Library	1
Administrative Offices(s)	1
Cafeteria(s)	1
Music Room(s)	2
Outdoor Lunch Area(s)	2
School Garden	1

Facilities Inspection

The district's maintenance department inspects Palm Desert Charter Middle School on an annual basis in accordance with Education Code §17592.72(c)(1). Palm Desert Charter Middle 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 Tuesday, November 02, 2021. No emergency repairs were needed and no unsafe conditions were found. During fiscal year 2021-22, all restrooms were fully functional and available for student use at the time of the inspection.

School Facility Good Repair Status Most Recent Inspection: Tuesday, November 02, 2021			
Item Inspected	Repair Status		
	Good	Fair	Poor
A. Systems	✓		
B. Interior	✓		
C. Cleanliness	✓		
D. Electrical	✓		
E. Restrooms / Fountains	✓		
F. Safety	✓		
G. Structural	✓		
H. External	✓		

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

Rating Description

Exemplary: The school meets most or all standards of good repair. Deficiencies noted, if any, are not significant and/or impact a very small area of the school.

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, the principal, two assistant principals, teachers, school site monitors, counselors, and security agents patrol the campus, entrance areas, and designated common areas. School site monitors also work as crossing guards. The principal, two assistant principals, teachers, school site monitors, counselors, and security agents monitor lunch time activity in the cafeteria and common student activity areas. At the end of the day when students are dismissed, the principal, two assistant principals, teachers, school site monitors, counselors, and security agents monitor student behavior and ensure students either leave campus or travel to after-school activities in a safe and orderly manner.

Palm Desert Charter Middle School is a closed campus. During school hours, all visitors must sign in at the school's office with a valid state issued identification to be scanned through the Raptor Security System and wear an identification sticker while on school grounds. They must then check out at the school office upon exit from the school site.

School Site Safety Plan

The Comprehensive School Site Safety Plan was developed for Palm Desert Charter Middle 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 will be reviewed, updated, and discussed with school staff by March 1, 2022.

Classroom Environment

Discipline & Climate for Learning

Palm Desert Charter Middle School's discipline practices and behavior management strategies comply with approved board policies and are designed to create effective learning environments 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.

Suspensions & Expulsions			
	18-19	19-20	20-21
	School		
% Students Suspended	6.1	0.0	0.1
% Students Expelled	0.1	0.0	0.0
	District		
% Students Suspended	4.6	3.1	0.1
% Students Expelled	0.1	0.1	0.0
	State		
% Students Suspended	3.5	2.5	0.2
% Students Expelled	0.8	0.1	0.0

Note: Data collected during the 2020-2021 school year may not be comparable to earlier years of this collection due to differences in learning mode instruction in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 2019-2020 suspensions and expulsions rate data are not comparable to prior year data because the 2019-2020 school year is a partial school year due to the COVID-19 crisis. As such, it would be inappropriate to make any comparisons in rates of suspensions and expulsions in the 2019-2020 school year compared to other school years.

Suspensions and Expulsions by Student Group (2020-21)			
Student Group	Suspensions Rate	Expulsions Rate	
All Students		0.1	0.0
Female		0.1	0.0
Male		0.2	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		0.2	0.0
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander		0.0	0.0
Two or More Races		0.0	0.0
White		0.2	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

Class Size

The Class Size Distribution table in this report illustrates the distribution of class sizes by subject area, the average class size, and the number of classes that contain 1-22 students, 23-32 students, and 33 or more students. Calculations exclude classrooms of 50 or more students.

Average Class Size and Class Size Distribution				
2018-19				
Subject	Avg. Class Size	Number of Classes		
		1-22	23-32	33+
English	25.0	12	14	12
Mathematics	24.0	13	20	6
Science	30.0	1	25	6
Social Science	24.0	13	15	11
2019-20				
Subject	Avg. Class Size	Number of Classes		
		1-22	23-32	33+
English	27.0	6	26	3
Mathematics	27.0	5	26	3
Science	30.0	1	28	3
Social Science	25.0	8	26	3
2020-21				
Subject	Avg. Class Size	Number of Classes		
		1-22	23-32	33+
English	24.0	13	19	7
Mathematics	30.0	2	20	9
Science	31.0		20	10
Social Science	23.0	15	19	7

**Number of classes indicates how many classrooms fall into each size category (a range of total students per classroom). At the secondary level, this information is reported by subject area rather than grade level.*

Pupil Engagement

Chronic Absenteeism

The following chart identifies the chronic absenteeism rates by student group for Palm Desert Charter Middle School for the 2020-21 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 (2020-21)				
Student Group	Cumulative Enrollment	Chronic Absenteeism Eligible Enrollment	Chronic Absenteeism Count	Chronic Absenteeism Rate
All Students	1400	1385	56	4.0
Female	722	711	27	3.8
Male	677	673	29	4.3
Amer. Indian or Alaska Native	2	2	1	50.0
Asian	75	74	1	1.4
Black or African-Amer.	24	22	1	4.5
Filipino	28	28	1	3.6
Hisp. or Latino	678	675	31	4.6
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1	1	0	0.0
Two or More Races	55	54	0	0.0
White	531	523	21	4.0
English Learners	181	180	10	5.6
Foster Youth	2	2	1	50.0
Homeless	5	5	0	0.0
Students Receiving Migrant Ed. Services	1	1	0	0.0
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	669	663	37	5.6
Students with Disabilities	110	107	5	4.7

Curriculum & Instruction

Staff Development

All training and curriculum development activities at Palm Desert Charter Middle School revolve around the California State Content Standards and Frameworks. During the 2020-21 school year, Palm Desert Charter Middle School held staff development training devoted to:

- Data Analysis
- Instructional Strategies
- Technology Strategies
- Professional Learning Communities (PLC's)
- Common Core State Standards
- Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)
- Critical Reading Training
- Writing Workshops
- Leadership Training
- Math Training
- Science Training
- Social Emotional Learning (SEL)
- Distance Learning Platforms
- Technology Training

Decisions concerning selection of staff development activities are performed by all staff using tools such as teacher input and data analysis to determine the areas in which additional teacher training may enhance classroom instruction and increase student achievement levels. Palm Desert Charter Middle School supports ongoing professional growth throughout the year on early release days and workshops two times per month. Teachers meet in both grade level and department 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 2019-20, 2020-21, and 2021-22 school years, Palm Desert Charter Middle School's teachers had the opportunity to attend the following events hosted by the Desert Sands Unified School District:

2019-20 Training:

- Rigor, Relevance and Engagement Rubrics
- Trauma Informed Practices
- Professional Learning Communities at Work
- Instructional Technology (including coding)
- Engagement (Kagan, etc.)
- Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)
- Core content Support (supported by district facilitators)

2020-21 Training:

- i-Ready
- Trauma Informed Practices
- Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)
- Mathematics (supported by district facilitators)

- Early Literacy (supported by district facilitators)
- Distance Learning (Zoom, Seesaw, Distance Learning Playbook, Google Classrooms, Goalbook)

2021-22 Training:

- i-Ready
- AVID Strategies
- Synergy Assessment
- Digital Citizenship
- Mystery Science
- Coding
- Elementary Math - Cognitively Guided Instruction

Palm Desert Charter Middle 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		
2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
2	2	2

Instructional Materials

All textbooks used in the core curriculum at Palm Desert Charter Middle 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 Tuesday, October 05, 2021, the Desert Sands 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 Resolution No. 08/2021-2022 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 2021-22 school year, Desert Sands 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, <i>Study Sync</i>	0 %
Foreign Languages		
2013	Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, <i>Avancemos (Spanish)</i>	0 %
2015	Vista Higher Learning, <i>D'accord (French)</i>	0 %
Health		
2004	Holt, Rinehart and Winston, <i>Decisions for Health</i>	0 %
2018	Positive Prevention Plus, <i>Sexual Health for Americas Youth</i>	0 %
History-Social Science		
2006	McGraw, <i>World History and Geography</i>	0 %
Mathematics		
2015	McGraw, <i>California Math CCSS Course 1-3</i>	0 %
Science		
2007	Holt, <i>California Inspire</i>	0 %

Professional Staff

Counseling & Support Staff

Palm Desert Charter Middle 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 Palm Desert Charter Middle 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) 2020-21		
	No. of Staff	FTE
Academic Counselor	3	3.0
Adaptive PE	1	*
Library Clerk	1	0.5
Library Specialist	1	1.0
Nurse	1	0.2
Occupational Therapist	1	*
Psychologist	1	0.4
Speech Therapist	1	*
Counselor-to-Student Ratio: 1:457		

* as needed

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 Palm Desert Charter Middle School, Desert Sands 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 Palm Desert Charter Middle 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 (2019-20)	School Number	School Percent	District Number	District Percent	State Number	State Percent
Fully (Preliminary or Clear) Credentialed for Subject and Student Placement (properly assigned)						
Intern Credential Holders Properly Assigned						
Teachers Without Credentials and Misassignments ("ineffective" under ESSA)						
Credentialed Teachers Assigned Out-of-Field ("out-of-field" under ESSA)						
Unknown						
Total Teaching Positions						

Note: The data in this table is based on Full Time Equivalent (FTE) status. One FTE equals one staff member 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 is authorized to provide to students.

Teachers Without Credentials and Misassignments (Considered "ineffective" under ESSA) Authorization/Assignment (2019-20)	Number
Permits and Waivers	
Misassignments	
Vacant Positions	
Total Teachers Without Credentials and Misassignments	

Credentialed Teachers Assigned Out-of-Field (Considered "out-of-field" under ESSA) / Indicator (2019-20)	Number
Credentialed Teachers Authorized on a Permit or Waiver	
Local Assignment Options	
Total Out-of-Field Teachers	

Class Assignments / Indicator (2019-20)	Percent
Misassignments for English Learners (a percentage of all the classes with English Learners taught by teachers that are misassigned)	
No credential, permit or authorization to teach (a percentage of all the classes taught by teachers with no record of an authorization to teach)	

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: 2019-20 salary comparison data was the most recent data available at the time this report was published.)

Teacher and Administrative Salaries 2019-20		
	District	State Average of Districts in Same Category
Beginning Teacher Salary	\$53,124	\$50,897
Mid-Range Teacher Salary	\$86,049	\$78,461
Highest Teacher Salary	\$107,010	\$104,322
Superintendent Salary	\$285,000	\$297,037
Average Principal Salaries:		
Elementary School	\$139,203	\$131,863
Middle School	\$142,857	\$137,086
High School	\$166,806	\$151,143
Percentage of Budget:		
Teacher Salaries	33%	32%
Administrative Salaries	4%	5%

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 2019-20 school year, Desert Sands Unified School District spent an average of \$13,515 of total general funds to educate each student (based on 2019-20 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, Desert Sands Unified School District receives state and federal categorical funding for special programs. For the 2019-20 school year, the district received categorical, special education, and support programs funds for:

- After School Education & Safety (ASES)
- After School Kids Code Grant Pilot Program
- Career and Technical Education Programs
- Career Technical Education Incentive Grant Program
- Education Protection Account
- Governor's CTE Initiative: CA Partnership Academies
- Head Start Program
- Indian Education
- Lottery: Instructional Materials
- Medi-Cal Billing Option
- On-Behalf Pension Contributions
- Other Local: Locally defined
- Partnership Academies Program
- Special Education
- State COVID Relief Funding
- State Lottery
- Title I
- Title II
- Title III
- Title IV
- Tobacco-Use Prevention Education

Expenditures Per Pupil and School Site Teacher Salaries 2019-20					
	Dollars Spent per Student				
	School	District	% Diff. School & State		% Diff. School & State
			Dist.	State	
Total**	\$741	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Restricted	\$596	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Unrestricted	\$144	\$7,397	1.95	\$8,444	1.71
Average Teacher Salary	\$95,485	\$91,416	104.45	\$84,665	112.78

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 Palm Desert Charter Middle 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 Desert Sands 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 December 2021. Data to prepare the school facilities section were acquired in January 2022.