

CASE STUDY BRIEF

Since 2013, the Partnership for 21st Century Learning (P21) has annually designated 21st Century Learning Exemplars based upon exceptional implementation of the [Framework for 21st Century Learning](#).

Each year, P21 has highlighted a cohort of early learning centers, K–12 schools, school districts, and beyond school programs in the U.S. as 21st Century Learning Exemplars. Now that P21 is a network of Battelle for Kids, we are leading together in celebrating the current year of 21st Century Learning Exemplars.

As part of celebrating these awardees, Battelle for Kids and its P21 network provide ways for their stories and impactful practices to be shared with others. This case study brief and those for the other awardees provide powerful insights to guide other school districts, schools, and programs so that every child can experience the best of 21st century learning experiences.



Moreno Valley High School Moreno Valley, CA

With an unflagging drive to improve and provide high-quality, student-centered instruction, Moreno Valley High School takes seriously its commitment to prepare its students to be competent and caring citizens.

Grades Served: 9–12

Enrollment: 2,350 Students

Founded in 1965

[Website](#)

- Moreno Valley Unified School District named a College Board Advanced Placement District of the Year
- AVID National Demonstration School
- California Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) Coalition Silver Implementation Award

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Positive Parent Involvement

Recognizing the importance of the parent and family to student success and school sustainability, Moreno Valley High School has instituted a number of robust programs to improve school culture and foster stronger ties to the community.

With multiple Parent Advisory Committees, such as the African American and English Learner Committees, parents are actively engaged in the school culture. They contribute targeted feedback and input on a variety of topics to improve operations, instruction, and offerings.

Originally begun at the district level, Moreno Valley has two Parent Ambassadors who are tasked with improving positive relationships between the parents, community, school, and the district. At the school level, the Ambassadors serve as a welcoming body to new parents and facilitate the weekly parent book club. Moreno Valley also offers an Annual Parent Summit attended by more than 150 parents who engage in a full morning of parent workshops. Topics range from sexually transmitted infections, health and nutrition, planning for college, and safety.

As the school has increased its parent involvement, noticeable shifts have occurred. Positive correlations have occurred in increased attendance rates and higher rates of graduation and overall reduction in the number of dropouts.

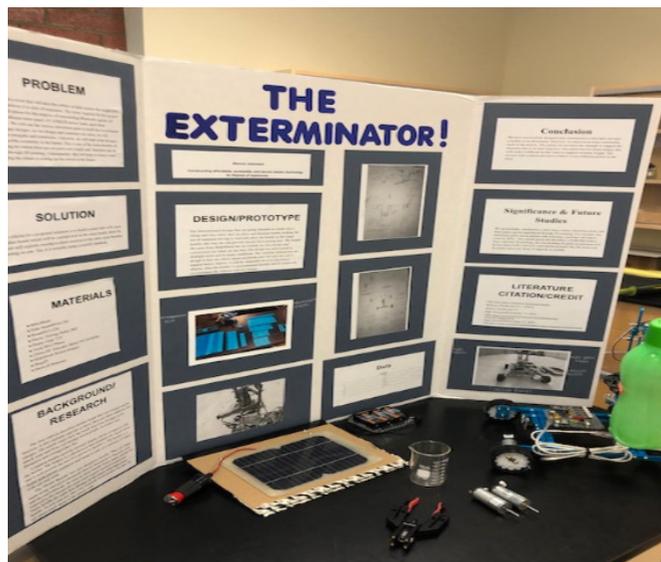
The Viking Way

In addition to the positive impacts of increased parental involvement, improvements to school culture are happening through Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) and the grade 9 small cohort Building Assets, Reducing Risk (BARR) program.

With a positive reward system in place, the school instituted an alternative to suspension whenever behavioral issues arise. With the aid of a behavioral interventionist, students visit the “resiliency room” to reflect on their actions and, in some cases, engage in facilitated restorative justice exercises.

All grades 9 and 10 students receive growth-mindset training at the beginning of the school year to set positive intentions.

A school-wide honor code focuses on being respectful, responsible, and resilient, the “Viking Way.” Posters with the honor code and the school motto to “Walk with a Purpose” adorn all classroom walls and serve as a reminder to students and staff to engage in positive interactions and lead with kindness and respect.



Career Readiness and Work Based Learning

Students at Moreno Valley High School are offered a plethora of opportunities to engage in career readiness and real-world, work-based learning opportunities.

Through the Accelerating, Success Through Employment Responsibility Inspiration Skills and Knowledge (A.S.T.E.R.I.S.K.) program, approximately 150 students district-wide have the option to participate in a summer internship. With local Moreno Valley businesses, students gain work experience and develop on-the-job skillsets that will serve them throughout their lifetime. Students receive a paid stipend and instruction on resume building, interviewing, and business writing. Several students have been hired on part-time following their internship.

Robust career and technical offerings are also in high demand at Moreno Valley, with significant growth in the past three years. Nearly 100 students have benefited with official certification from the only certified welding program in the county. With a new virtual welding machine, students are drawn not only to the technology component but the immediacy of the work they are performing.

Support is provided to students seeking employment during school and post-graduation. The work-study teacher helps with work-permit guidance, the job application process, and local employment opportunities.



2019 21ST CENTURY LEARNING EXEMPLARS

Each of the following earned this year's award for its outstanding practices in equipping students with the necessary skills and knowledge for success in college, career, and life:

Early Learning

The Goddard School Located in Broadview Heights
(Broadview, OH)

The Goddard School Located in Simpsonville
(Simpsonville, SC)

K-12 Schools

Canyon Crest Elementary School (Fontana, CA)

Elon Elementary School (Elon, NC)

EVSC New Tech Institute (Evansville, IN)

Henry Ford Academy: Alameda School for Art + Design
(San Antonio, TX)

Kairos Public School Vacaville Academy (Vacaville, CA)

Kensington Elementary School (Waxhaw, NC)

Moreno Valley High School (Moreno Valley, CA)

Saint Ambrose School (Brunswick, OH)

Santiago Charter Middle School (Orange, CA)

Valley View High School (Moreno Valley, CA)

Vineyard STEM Magnet (Ontario, CA)

Vista Heights Middle School (Moreno Valley, CA)

Wolf Springs Elementary School (Overland Park, KS)

Districts

Lennox School District (Lennox, CA)

Vicksburg Warren School District (Vicksburg, MS)

Beyond School Programs

Camp Champions (Marble Falls, TX)

[Learn more](#) about the 21st Century Learning Exemplars at: bfk.me/p21_ExemplarProgram