



Reginald M. Benton Middle School - Visual and Performing Arts Magnet

15709 E. Olive Branch • La Mirada, CA 90638 • (562) 210-2500 • Grades 6-8
Ben Webster, Principal
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2019-20 School Accountability Report Card Published During the 2020-21 School Year



Norwalk-La Mirada Unified

School District

12820 Pioneer Blvd
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District Governing Board

Karen Morrison
Board President

Norma Amezcua
Board Vice President

Jude Cazares
Board Member

Jose Rios
Board Member

Chris Staples
Board Member

Jorge Tirado
Board Member

Jesse Urquidi
Board Member

District Administration

John Lopez
Superintendent

Dr. Patricio Vargas
**Assistant Superintendent -
Educational Services**

Estuardo Santillan
**Assistant Superintendent, Business
Services**

Dr. Michael Gotto
**Assistant Superintendent, Human
Resources**

School Description

At Benton Middle School, our Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) magnet program is the premier program in our area for students interested in exploring the arts! We offer courses in Guitar, Orchestra, Band, Choir, World Percussion, Piano, Dance, Theatre Arts (Drama), Stagecraft, Media Arts, Studio Art, 3D Art, Cartooning, Video Productions, and Photography. We also offer French as a World Language. Trained professionals support students through a challenging academic program while supporting them during their adolescent years. Our teachers participate in professional development regularly to enhance our understanding of teaching and learning strategies focused on instructional practices proven to work especially well with middle school students.

Currently, the school and district are immersed in Common Core initiatives designed to train teachers on the latest techniques and strategies to create an enriched learning environment and to implement the new curriculum. Teachers in all subject areas have been trained to support comprehension of their respective subjects and higher levels of engagement and inquiry.

Benton students are well-equipped for the rigorous coursework required in high school. Our focus is to prepare students to meet the Common Core outcomes of college and career readiness.

Mission Statement: Benton Middle School inspires and empowers all students to achieve academic excellence in a creative visual and performing arts environment.

About the SARC

By February 1 of each year, every school in California is required by state law to publish a School Accountability Report Card (SARC). The SARC contains information about the condition and performance of each California public school. Under the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) all local educational agencies (LEAs) are required to prepare a Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP), which describes how they intend to meet annual school-specific goals for all pupils, with specific activities to address state and local priorities. Additionally, data reported in an LCAP is to be consistent with data reported in the SARC.

- For more information about SARC requirements and access to prior year reports, see the California Department of Education (CDE) SARC web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/sa/>.
- For more information about the LCFF or the LCAP, see the CDE LCFF webpage at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/lc/>.
- For additional information about the school, parents/guardians and community members should contact the school principal or the district office.

2019-20 Student Enrollment by Grade Level

Grade Level	Number of Students
Grade 6	167
Grade 7	191
Grade 8	169
Total Enrollment	527

2019-20 Student Enrollment by Group

Group	Percent of Total Enrollment
Black or African American	2.8
Asian	1.7
Filipino	2.8
Hispanic or Latino	72.1
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.2
White	17.5
Two or More Races	1.7
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	60.5
English Learners	4.7
Students with Disabilities	12.3
Foster Youth	0.4
Homeless	27.3

A. Conditions of Learning

State Priority: Basic

The SARC provides the following information relevant to the State priority: Basic (Priority 1):

- Degree to which teachers are appropriately assigned and fully credentialed in the subject area and for the pupils they are teaching;
- Pupils have access to standards-aligned instructional materials; and
- School facilities are maintained in good repair

Teacher Credentials for Reginald M. Benton	18-19	19-20	20-21
With Full Credential	26	26	26
Without Full Credential	0	0	1
Teaching Outside Subject Area of Competence	0	0	0

Teacher Credentials for Norwalk-La Mirada	18-19	19-20	20-21
With Full Credential	♦	♦	830
Without Full Credential	♦	♦	8
Teaching Outside Subject Area of Competence	♦	♦	14

Teacher Misassignments and Vacant Teacher Positions at Reginald M. Benton Middle School - Visual and Performing Arts Magnet

Indicator	18-19	19-20	20-21
Teachers of English Learners	0	0	0
Total Teacher Misassignments*	0	0	0
Vacant Teacher Positions	0	0	0

Note: "Misassignments" refers to the number of positions filled by teachers who lack legal authorization to teach that grade level, subject area, student group, etc.
*Total Teacher Misassignments includes the number of Misassignments of Teachers of English Learners.

Quality, Currency, Availability of Textbooks and Instructional Materials (School Year 2020-21)

All textbooks meet the content standards for each of their curricular areas. These materials are supplemented with instructional materials aligned with the California Common Core State Standards.

Textbooks and Instructional Materials

Year and month in which data were collected: 2019- September

Core Curriculum Area	Textbooks and Instructional Materials/Year of Adoption
Reading/Language Arts	Grades 6-8 English Language Arts: Pearson-California My Perspectives, Adopted 2017 The textbooks listed are from most recent adoption: Yes Percent of students lacking their own assigned textbook: 0
Mathematics	Grades 6-8 Mathematics: Cengage Learning – Math Big Ideas Course (1, 2, & 3), Adopted 2014 The textbooks listed are from most recent adoption: Yes Percent of students lacking their own assigned textbook: 0
Science	Grades 6-8 Science: Pearson Prentice Hall – California Focus on Earth Science, Adopted 2008 The textbooks listed are from most recent adoption: Yes Percent of students lacking their own assigned textbook: 0
History-Social Science	Grades 6-8 Social Science: National Geographic Learning/ Cengage- CA World History- Ancient Civilizations, CA World History- Medieval, and CA US History- Beginnings to WW1, Adopted 2019 The textbooks listed are from most recent adoption: Yes Percent of students lacking their own assigned textbook: 0

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

School Facility Conditions and Planned Improvements (Most Recent Year)

Benton has recently undergone a 10-million dollar modernization project. As a result, we have state-of-the art classrooms and buildings fully equipped with new lighting, air conditioning, plumbing, paint, and flooring to provide an excellent environment for teaching and learning. Our new Visual and Performing Arts classrooms offer our students a second-to-none learning experience. These classrooms include, new music classrooms, a large theatre room with space for stagecraft building and prop design, an expanded art and ceramics room, a media arts room with space for stop motion animation, and a photography room with studio space. In addition, two new computer labs, four new science labs, and a new library offer space for inquiry and exploration.

Our school is kept clean by students and staff who care about their environment and a hard-working custodial team.

School Facility Good Repair Status (Most Recent Year)

Using the **most recently collected** FIT data (or equivalent), provide the following:

- Determination of repair status for systems listed
- Description of any needed maintenance to ensure good repair
- The year and month in which the data were collected
- The rate for each system inspected
- The overall rating

Year and month in which data were collected: 12/11/2016

System Inspected	Repair Status	Repair Needed and Action Taken or Planned
Systems: Gas Leaks, Mechanical/HVAC, Sewer	Good	
Interior: Interior Surfaces	Good	
Cleanliness: Overall Cleanliness, Pest/ Vermin Infestation	Good	
Electrical: Electrical	Good	
Restrooms/Fountains: Restrooms, Sinks/ Fountains	Good	
Safety: Fire Safety, Hazardous Materials	Good	
Structural: Structural Damage, Roofs	Good	
External: Playground/School Grounds, Windows/ Doors/Gates/Fences	Good	
Overall Rating	Exemplary	

B. Pupil Outcomes

State Priority: Pupil Achievement

The SARC provides the following information relevant to the State priority: Pupil Achievement (Priority 4):

- **Statewide assessments** (i.e., California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress [CAASPP] System, which includes the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments for students in the general education population and the California Alternate Assessments [CAAs] for English language arts/literacy [ELA] and mathematics given in grades three through eight and grade eleven. Only eligible students may participate in the administration of the CAAs. CAAs items are aligned with alternate achievement standards, which are linked with the Common Core State Standards [CCSS] for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities); and
- The percentage of students who have successfully completed courses that satisfy the requirements for entrance to the University of California and the California State University, or career technical education sequences or programs of study.

CAASPP Test Results in ELA and Mathematics for All Students

Grades Three through Eight and Grade Eleven

Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding the State Standard

Subject	School 18-19	School 19-20	District 18-19	District 19-20	State 18-19	State 19-20
ELA	51	N/A	47	N/A	50	N/A
Math	28	N/A	35	N/A	39	N/A

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

Note: The 2019-2020 data are not available. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Executive Order N-30-20 was issued which waived the requirement for statewide testing for the 2019-2020 school year.

Note: Percentages are not calculated when the number of students tested is ten or less, either because the number of students in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or to protect student privacy.

Note: 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 Science for All Students

Grades Five, Eight, and High School

Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding the State Standard

Subject	School 18-19	School 19-20	District 18-19	District 19-20	State 18-19	State 19-20
Science	34	N/A	20	N/A	30	N/A

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

Note: The 2019-2020 data are not available. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Executive Order N-30-20 was issued which waived the requirement for statewide testing for the 2019-2020 school year.

Note: The new California Science Test (CAST) was first administered operationally in the 2018-2019 school year.

State Priority: Other Pupil Outcomes

The SARC provides the following information relevant to the State priority: Other Pupil Outcomes (Priority 8):

- Pupil outcomes in the subject areas of physical education.

2019-20 Percent of Students Meeting Fitness Standards

Grade Level	4 of 6	5 of 6	6 of 6
5	N/A	N/A	N/A
7	N/A	N/A	N/A
9	N/A	N/A	N/A

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

Note: The 2019–2020 data are not available. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Executive Order N-56-20 was issued which waived the requirement to administer the physical fitness performance test for the 2019–2020 school year.

**CAASPP Test Results in Science by Student Group
Grades Three through Eight and Grade Eleven (School Year 2019-2020)**

Student Group	Total Enrollment	Number Tested	Percent Tested	Percent Not Tested	Percent Met or Exceeded
All Students	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Male	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Female	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Black or African American	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
American Indian or Alaska Native	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Filipino	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic or Latino	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
White	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Two or More Races	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
English Learners	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Students with Disabilities	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Students Receiving Migrant Education Services	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Foster Youth	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Homeless	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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

Note: The 2019-2020 data are not available. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Executive Order N-30-20 was issued which waived the requirement for statewide testing for the 2019-2020 school year.

**CAASPP Test Results in ELA by Student Group
Grades Three through Eight and Grade Eleven (School Year 2019-2020)**

Student Group	Total Enrollment	Number Tested	Percent Tested	Percent Not Tested	Percent Met or Exceeded
All Students	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Male	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Female	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Black or African American	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
American Indian or Alaska Native	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Filipino	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic or Latino	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
White	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Two or More Races	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
English Learners	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Students with Disabilities	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Students Receiving Migrant Education Services	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Foster Youth	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Homeless	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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

Note: The 2019-2020 data are not available. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Executive Order N-30-20 was issued which waived the requirement for statewide testing for the 2019-2020 school year.

**CAASPP Test Results in Mathematics by Student Group
Grades Three through Eight and Grade Eleven (School Year 2019-2020)**

Student Group	Total Enrollment	Number Tested	Percent Tested	Percent Not Tested	Percent Met or Exceeded
All Students	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Male	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Female	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Black or African American	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
American Indian or Alaska Native	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Filipino	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic or Latino	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
White	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Two or More Races	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
English Learners	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Students with Disabilities	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Students Receiving Migrant Education Services	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Foster Youth	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Homeless	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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

Note: The 2019-2020 data are not available. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Executive Order N-30-20 was issued which waived the requirement for statewide testing for the 2019-2020 school year.

C. Engagement

State Priority: Parental Involvement

The SARC provides the following information relevant to the State priority: Parental Involvement (Priority 3):

- Efforts the school district makes to seek parent input in making decisions for the school district and each school site

Opportunities for Parental Involvement (School Year 2020-21)

Parental involvement at Benton is paramount to all that we do. Parents are invited and encouraged to partner with us to provide an enriched learning experience for every student. Parents are involved in decision-making processes at various levels

Parents elect three representatives who participate on our School Site Council (SSC). The SSC makes recommendations regarding our school calendar, schedules, school-wide goals and priorities, annual school plan, incentive programs, and budget. Parents of English Learners are vital to our English-Learner Advisory Committee and assist in supporting students who are in the process of acquiring the English language

Our Parent-Teacher-Student-Association (PTSA) works with teachers to host Back-to-School Night in the fall and Open House in the spring. In addition to these popular events, the Benton PTSA facilitates a number of special programs and enrichment opportunities for our students. Parents, along with student leaders, help to organize field trips, dances, and our 8th grade promotion ceremony. Parents also serve on our production teams for all of our theatre and musical performances, as well as our visual arts exhibits. They sponsor annual fundraisers to help enhance the learning experience, and our school environment. Parent education nights are held in conjunction with PTSA meetings to better communicate and educate parents in the community. Volunteer sign-ups are ongoing. There are a variety of ways in which parents can be involved. To find out more about becoming involved in the school, call our school office at (562) 210-2500, or contact our PTSA President or our PTA Volunteer Coordinator via our website at www.bentonms.org.

State Priority: School Climate

The SARC provides the following information relevant to the State priority: School Climate (Priority 6):

- Pupil suspension rates;
- Pupil expulsion rates; and
- Other local measures on the sense of safety.

School Safety Plan (School Year 2020-2021)

Our School Safety Plan is revised annually. The plan includes procedures for emergencies, exit routes, communication systems, and inventories of emergency supplies. We make the plan available at our school site and keep copies in the office for review. We share the plan with all staff during schoolwide staff meetings. We practice fire and earthquake drills regularly and review procedures with staff as needed. Teachers regularly review with students the rules and expectations for safe, responsible behavior in school. A Student Handbook has been developed to provide clear expectations for a safe and appropriate learning environment.

Although we welcome and encourage parent/community involvement, we strive to ensure our campus is safe. As such, Benton is a closed campus. Visitors must enter the school through the main door and sign in at the office. Volunteers who work directly with our students must be cleared by the school district. Parents who assist as chaperones on our travel excursions must be willing to undergo a national background check. Students are not allowed off campus during the school day, except for study field trips and travel excursions under the direction of their teachers. Supervision and the custodial staff routinely monitor gates and exits throughout the day.

Suspensions and Expulsions

(data collected between July through June, each full school year respectively)

Rate	School 2017-18	School 2018-19	District 2017-18	District 2018-19	State 2017-18	State 2018-19
Suspensions	6.2	7.8	3.7	3.8	3.5	3.5
Expulsions	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1

Suspensions and Expulsions for School Year 2019-2020 Only

(data collected between July through February, partial school year due to the COVID-19 pandemic)

Rate	School 2019-20	District 2019-20	State 2019-20
Suspensions			
Expulsions			

Note: 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 prior years.

D. Other SARC Information

The information in this section is required to be in the SARC but is not included in the state priorities for LCFF.

Ratio of Pupils to Academic Counselor (School Year 2019-2020)

Title	Ratio
Academic Counselor*	263.5

*One full time equivalent (FTE) equals one staff member working full time; one FTE could also represent two staff members who each work 50 percent of full time.

Student Support Services Staff (School Year 2019-2020)

Title	Number of Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)
Counselor (Social/Behavioral or Career Development)	2
Library Media Teacher (Librarian)	
Library Media Services Staff (Paraprofessional)	
Psychologist	
Social Worker	
Nurse	
Speech/Language/Hearing Specialist	1
Resource Specialist (non-teaching)	
Other	

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

Average Class Size and Class Size Distribution (Secondary)

Subject	2017-18 Average Class Size	2017-18 # of Classes* Size 1-20	2017-18 # of Classes* Size 21-32	2017-18 # of Classes* Size 33+	2018-19 Average Class Size	2018-19 # of Classes* Size 1-20	2018-19 # of Classes* Size 21-32	2018-19 # of Classes* Size 33+	2019-20 Average Class Size	2019-20 # of Classes* Size 1-20	2019-20 # of Classes* Size 21-32	2019-20 # of Classes* Size 33+
English	25	6		7	28	4	5	4	27	5	6	4
Mathematics	30	2	4	6	30	1	13	4	27	4	4	6
Science	32	3	2	8	32	1	4	6	30	1	6	5
Social Science	28	3	2	5	35		2	8	32	1	3	7

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

Professional Development (Most Recent Three Years)

Measure	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Number of school days dedicated to Staff Development and Continuous Improvement	18	18	37

Benton Middle School provides professional development for staff on an ongoing basis. Teachers are provided time every Wednesday to plan, collaborate, and receive professional development on the latest curriculum and instructional shifts. Instructional support is provided by administration, common core coaches, common core leads, and intervention coaches. We continue to strengthen our analysis of data and best practices in order to increase student achievement.

FY 2018-19 Teacher and Administrative Salaries

Category	District Amount	State Average for Districts In Same Category
Beginning Teacher Salary	\$54,842	\$52,484
Mid-Range Teacher Salary	\$85,033	\$81,939
Highest Teacher Salary	\$111,551	\$102,383
Average Principal Salary (ES)	\$140,662	\$129,392
Average Principal Salary (MS)	\$161,068	\$136,831
Average Principal Salary (HS)	\$144,834	\$147,493
Superintendent Salary	\$288,282	\$254,706

Percent of District Budget	District Amount	State Average for Districts In Same Category
Teacher Salaries	34.0	34.0
Administrative Salaries	6.0	5.0

* For detailed information on salaries, see the CDE Certificated Salaries & Benefits webpage at www.cde.ca.gov/ds/fd/cs/.

FY 2018-19 Expenditures Per Pupil and School Site Teacher Salaries

Level	Total	Restricted	Unrestricted	Average Teacher Salary
School Site	13148.52	3516.19	9632.32	98236.40
District	N/A	N/A	9878.33	\$92,057
State	N/A	N/A	\$7,750	\$84,577

Percent Differences	Unrestricted	Average Teacher Salary
School Site/District	-2.5	6.5
School Site/ State	21.7	14.9

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

Types of Services Funded

Benton Middle School provides an array of support services for students. Services include, Special Education, Gifted and Talented Education (GATE), Visual and Performing Arts, and academic and behavioral interventions. We strive to identify students who require additional support and implement targeted resources to meet their individual needs.

DataQuest

DataQuest is an online data tool located on the CDE DataQuest web page at <https://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/> that contains additional information about this school and comparisons of the school to the district and the county. Specifically, DataQuest is a dynamic system that provides reports for 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.