



**Conejo Valley Unified School District
Instructional Services Division**

**Westlake Hills Elementary School
School Vision and Mission**

The mission of the Conejo Valley Unified School District is to meet the academic, cultural, social, and individual needs of students in order to prepare them to make a meaningful contribution to a democratic society.

In support of our District's philosophy and efforts, our school's mission is to provide a comprehensive, rigorous, yet balanced educational program with an on-going support system that enables all students to grow academically and socially in a setting that fosters mutual respect and good citizenship. We celebrate learning, literacy, and community outreach.

Our primary goal is reflected in our school's "Catch Our Wave of Excellence" motto, which represents strong academics in a safe, nurturing, participatory environment. Achieving excellence requires setting high expectations. At Westlake Hills Elementary, everyone is encouraged and supported in setting and achieving realistic, rigorous goals. Our students' families are partners with us, as outlined in the California Strategic Plan for Parent Involvement in Education. Westlake Hills has forged strong, meaningful relationships with parents and other stakeholders via significant volunteer participation opportunities, parent education coffee "chats" and nights, and family fun events. New families are welcomed and encouraged to participate by bringing fresh insights, and supporting our diverse instructional programs.

In our enriched educational setting, we celebrate diversity in our student population. We offer students many opportunities to appreciate others and enhance their own positive self-concept. Through classroom instructional activities, along with school-wide assemblies and events, we strive to accommodate children's individual needs while maximizing the expression of every child's potential.

We strive to ensure that every student will:

- Read, write, listen, and speak effectively.
- Develop strong computational and problem-solving skills.
- Develop creative abilities in all academic areas.
- Build a foundation for a lifetime of physical fitness, as well as positive health and safety awareness.
- Participate in experiences that foster appreciation for art, music, dance, and drama (visual and performing arts).
- Use technology as a tool for learning new concepts, accessing and analyzing information, and presenting findings in varied formats.
- Demonstrate high moral standards in gaining and showing respect for oneself and others, civic responsibility, and patriotism throughout the year.
- Develop personal responsibility for their behavior in line with our Conejo Valley Unified School District's Character Education program – Respect, Kindness, Integrity, Responsibility, and Perseverance.

Our instructional staff has successfully implemented the Everyday Math curriculum. This year represents the first year of our Open Court (K-2), Houghton Mifflin (3-5), and Holt, Rinehart & Winston (6) Language Arts implementation. Teachers collaborate and plan weekly to support the English/language arts, math, social studies, science, content, and delivery of instruction. Our school has also focused on specific instruction and efforts to augment writing. We have incorporated two research-based programs, “Step Up to Writing,” and “Mountain Language.” Reading Results and Accelerated Reader are two programs that support our regular reading program, particularly in decoding, and comprehension. These programs and specific curricula demonstrate our emphasis on California State Standards in conjunction with exemplary teaching practices.