



MOUNTAIN EMPIRE
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

2026-2027

EXPANDED LEARNING FAMILY HANDBOOK

BEFORE SCHOOL • AFTER SCHOOL
INTERSESSION • SUMMER LEARNING



ASES



ASSETS



ELOP

ENGAGE. ENRICH. EMPOWER.

EVERY DAY. EVERY STUDENT.

Welcome!

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Welcome to the Mountain Empire Unified School District's Expanded Learning Programs!

We are excited to have your child participate in our enrichment opportunities that extend learning beyond the traditional school day. Our programs—which include Before and After School (ASES) and seasonal learning during Fall Break, Spring Break, and Summer (ELOP)—are designed to provide a safe, engaging, and supportive environment for all students in grades TK–12.

Our commitment is to support each child's academic, social-emotional, and creative development through a wide variety of enrichment activities that align with California's Quality Standards for Expanded Learning. We believe these programs help students thrive by offering meaningful learning experiences, building confidence, and nurturing leadership and life skills.

Please take time to read this handbook carefully. It outlines the policies, expectations, and procedures that guide our Expanded Learning Programs. A printed copy is available at your school site upon request. Your signature on the enrollment form—whether electronic or printed—indicates that you understand and agree to follow the guidelines outlined in this handbook.

If you have any questions, please contact your school site's Expanded Learning Program Site Lead or reach out to our district office at (619) 473-9022. You can also visit our website at www.meusd.org for the latest updates and resources.

We look forward to a successful year of learning, enrichment, and fun!

Warm regards,

Amy Conforth

Director of Education and Instructional Services
Expanded Learning Program Director
Mountain Empire Unified School District



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★ EVERY DAY. EVERY STUDENT. ★



Let's Explore!

UNDERSTANDING OUR EXPANDED LEARNING PROGRAMS

Mountain Empire Unified School District offers a variety of Expanded Learning opportunities designed to help students learn, grow, explore, and connect throughout the year.





ASES

After School Education & Safety

GRADES TK-6

ASES provides before and after-school programming in a safe, engaging environment where students can:

- Receive homework support
- Participate in STEM, arts, and enrichment activities
- Build friendships and leadership skills
- Enjoy nutritious meals and physical activity








ASSETS

After School Safety & Enrichment for Teens

GRADES 7-12

ASSETS provides after-school opportunities designed specifically for teens, including:

- Academic support
- Leadership development
- College and career readiness activities
- Enrichment opportunities and special events
- Community engagement experiences







ELOP

Expanded Learning Opportunities Program

GRADES TK-6

ELOP provides learning and enrichment opportunities during school breaks and summer.







ARTS



STEM



SPORTS



READING



LEADERSHIP

➤ YEAR-ROUND LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES ➤

 FALL CAMP November 23–25, 2026 TK-6	 WINTER CAMP December 21 & 22, 2026 TK-6	 SPRING BREAK CAMP Week 1: March 29 – April 2, 2027 Week 2: April 5 – 9, 2027 TK-6	 SUMMER PROGRAM June 14 – July 9, 2027 TK-6
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★ **NOTE:** Summer programming for students in grades 7–12 is dependent on available funding.

➤ STUDENTS CAN EXPECT ➤

 NUTRITIOUS MEALS & SNACKS	 HOMEWORK SUPPORT	 STEM ACTIVITIES	 ARTS & CREATIVITY	 PHYSICAL ACTIVITY	 SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING	 SAFE & SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT
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★ EVERY DAY. EVERY STUDENT. ★

★ **Please note:** Expanded Learning Programs will be closed on **June 18, 2027**, in observance of Juneteenth.



OUR COMMITMENT TO *QUALITY*

CALIFORNIA'S EXPANDED LEARNING QUALITY STANDARDS

At Mountain Empire Unified School District, our Expanded Learning Programs follow the California Quality Standards for Expanded Learning, ensuring every student has a safe, engaging, and enriching experience before school, after school, during intersessions, and throughout the summer.



*Our Promise
TO FAMILIES*

At MEUSD, we are committed to providing programs that are:



SAFE



ENGAGING



INCLUSIVE



SUPPORTIVE



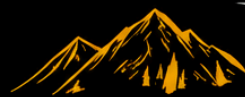
CREATIVE



FOCUSED ON
EVERY CHILD'S
SUCCESS



Together, we create opportunities for students to
LEARN. EXPLORE. GROW. THRIVE.
BEYOND THE SCHOOL DAY.





PROGRAM HOURS & LOCATIONS

2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR



Our Expanded Learning Programs provide safe, engaging opportunities for students before and after the school day.



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROGRAMS

SCHOOL SITE	BEFORE SCHOOL	AFTER SCHOOL
• CAMPO ELEMENTARY	6:45 AM – 8:45 AM	3:15 PM – 6:15 PM
• CLOVER FLAT ELEMENTARY	6:45 AM – 8:45 AM	3:15 PM – 6:15 PM
• DESCANSO ELEMENTARY	6:45 AM – 8:45 AM	3:15 PM – 6:15 PM
• POTRERO ELEMENTARY	7:00 AM – 9:00 AM	3:15 PM – 6:15 PM



SECONDARY SCHOOL PROGRAMS

SCHOOL SITE	BEFORE SCHOOL	AFTER SCHOOL
• MOUNTAIN EMPIRE JR HIGH	N/A	2:30 PM – 5:30 PM
• MOUNTAIN EMPIRE HIGH SCHOOL	N/A	2:30 PM – 5:30 PM



IMPORTANT REMINDERS



Students must be signed in and out according to site procedures.



All students must have a completed registration form on file before attending.



Families will be notified if a program reaches capacity and a waitlist is necessary.



QUESTIONS?

Expanded Learning Office



(619) 473-9022



www.meusd.org



ASES

AFTER SCHOOL EDUCATION & SAFETY
GRADES TK-6



ASSETS

AFTER SCHOOL SAFETY &
ENRICHMENT FOR TEENS
GRADES 7-12



ELOP

EXPANDED LEARNING
OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM
GRADES TK-6



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★ EVERY DAY. EVERY STUDENT. ★



READY TO JOIN THE ADVENTURE?

REGISTERING FOR EXPANDED LEARNING IS EASY!

Whether you're returning to the program
or joining us for the first time,
we're excited to help your family get started!

★ RETURNING FAMILIES

Already part of our Expanded Learning family?

As a returning family, you'll receive Priority Registration before enrollment opens to new families.



1 WATCH YOUR EMAIL

During the summer, you'll receive an email from SDCOE CitySpan inviting you to register for the upcoming school year.



2 COMPLETE YOUR REGISTRATION

Review and update your information and submit your registration before the deadline.



3 RECEIVE CONFIRMATION

Once your registration has been reviewed, you'll receive confirmation of your child's enrollment.



NEW FAMILIES

New to Expanded Learning?

We're excited to welcome you!



1 COMPLETE AN INTEREST FORM

Before the school year begins, new families will be invited to complete an Interest Form.



2 CHOOSE YOUR PROGRAMS

The Interest Form helps us know which programs your family is interested in.



Before School Program



After School Program



Fall Intercession



Spring Intercession



Summer Program

3 WELCOME TO EXPANDED LEARNING!

Get ready for a year of learning, friends, and fun!

WHAT IS AN INTERCESSION?

Intercessions are special Expanded Learning opportunities offered when school is not in session.

They provide students with fun, engaging activities during scheduled school breaks.

INTERCESSIONS MAY INCLUDE:



FALL INTERCESSION

(Thanksgiving Break)



SPRING INTERCESSION

(Spring Break)



SUMMER PROGRAM

(Summer Break)



OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Additional intercession programs may be offered throughout the year!

★ PRIORITY ENROLLMENT ★

California requires that certain students receive priority enrollment.



Students experiencing homelessness



Foster Youth



English Learners



Students eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals



IMPORTANT REMINDER: Submitting a registration form or an Interest Form does not guarantee enrollment.

- ✓ Enrollment is based on available space, staffing, and priority enrollment requirements.
- ✓ Families will receive an email confirming enrollment once placement has been finalized.



REDHAWK SAYS...

Register early so you don't miss out on a year full of learning, adventure, and fun!



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★ EVERY DAY. EVERY STUDENT. ★



ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

EVERY DAY IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN, GROW, AND HAVE FUN!



WHY ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Students benefit most when they attend regularly and participate for the full program. Consistent attendance helps children:



Build academic skills



Develop friendships



Participate in enrichment activities



Gain confidence



Receive nutritious meals & snacks

REDHAWK SAYS...

The more you attend, the more adventures you'll experience!



EVERY DAY COUNTS!



MON

Great Start!



TUE

Keep Going!



WED

You're Amazing!



THU

Stay Focused!



FRI

Finish Strong!



ASES

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL (TK-6)

Students enrolled in ASES are expected to:

- ✓ Attend regularly
- ✓ Participate until the end of the program each day
- ✓ Be signed in and out according to program procedures

NEED TO LEAVE EARLY?

Families must notify the Site Lead in advance. Early releases are permitted only for approved reasons, such as:

- ➕ Medical appointments
- 🏫 School-sponsored activities
- 👨‍👩‍👧 Family emergencies



ASSETS

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM (GRADES 7-12)

Students are encouraged to participate consistently to get the most from the program.

RECOMMENDED PARTICIPATION:



At least **3 DAYS EACH WEEK**

OR



Approximately **9 HOURS PER WEEK**



ELOP & INTERCESSIONS

TK-6

Students enrolled in:

- 🍁 Fall Intercession
- 🌸 Spring Intercession
- ☀️ Summer Program

are expected to attend each day they are registered.

Regular attendance allows students to participate in projects, field trips, enrichment activities, and special events.



ATTENDANCE SUCCESS TIPS

- ✓ Arrive on time
- ✓ Attend consistently
- ✓ Stay for the full program whenever possible
- ✓ Communicate changes with your Site Lead
- ✓ Have fun learning every day!



HELPFUL REMINDER

If your child will be absent, arriving late, or leaving early, please notify your Expanded Learning Site Lead as soon as possible.

Good communication helps us ensure your child's safety and maintain accurate attendance records.



EVERY DAY COUNTS!

When we show up, we grow together.

THANK YOU FOR MAKING ATTENDANCE A PRIORITY!



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★ EVERY DAY. EVERY STUDENT. ★



SOARING TOGETHER EVERY DAY

OUR SHARED EXPECTATIONS



BE RESPECTFUL

Treat others the way you want to be treated.

- Use kind words and actions.
- Listen when others are speaking.
- Include everyone.
- Respect staff, classmates, and property.
- Use technology appropriately.



BE RESPONSIBLE

Take ownership of your choices.

- Follow directions.
- Participate in activities.
- Stay with your group.
- Take care of materials.
- Ask for help when needed.



BE SAFE

Help create a safe environment for everyone.

- Keep hands and feet to yourself.
- Walk indoors.
- Follow safety procedures.
- Report unsafe situations to staff.
- Make choices that help everyone stay safe.

AT EXPANDED LEARNING WE...



Learn Together



Encourage One Another



Try New Things



Work as a Team



Celebrate Success



REDHAWK SAYS...

“Every choice helps make Expanded Learning a fun, safe place for everyone!”



SERIOUS BEHAVIORS

While our goal is always to teach, support, and help students grow, some behaviors can threaten the safety of students or staff and may result in suspension or removal from the program.

Learn more about how we handle these situations on the next page.



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★ EVERY DAY. EVERY STUDENT. ★



Helping Students Be Successful

EVERY CHILD CAN LEARN, GROW, AND SUCCEED.

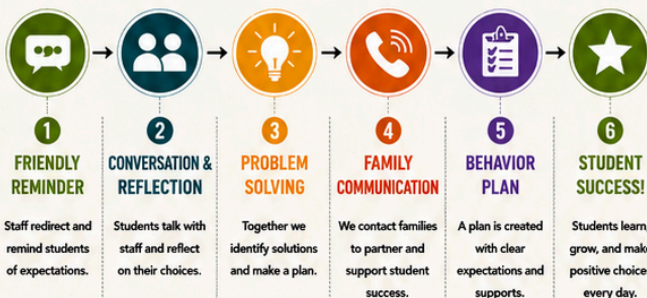
Our staff work with students to solve problems, build positive relationships, and learn from mistakes. Most situations are resolved with encouragement, guidance, and communication.



OUR GOAL

Every student feels safe, supported, and empowered to make positive choices every day.

MOST BEHAVIORS ARE HANDLED THROUGH SUPPORT



D.I.M.M. BEHAVIORS

Some behaviors are so serious that they may result in immediate consequences, including suspension or removal.



DA

- Fighting
- Physical aggression
- Leaving supervision
- Tampering equipment



ILLEGAL

- Weapons
- Drugs
- Alcohol
- Tobacco / Vapes



MAJOR

- Threats
- Sexual misconduct
- Serious harassment
- Bullying



MODERATE DISRUPTIONS

- Repeated severe disruption
- Repeated defiance
- Unsafe behavior

IMMEDIATE CONSEQUENCES

When a student chooses to engage in a D.I.M.M. behavior, staff will take action to keep our program safe.



Immediate parent notification



Removal from activity or privilege



Conference with student



Documentation of incident

SUSPENSION & PROGRAM REMOVAL

Some behaviors are serious enough that they may result in:

- Immediate parent notification
- Suspension from the program
- Required parent conference
- Behavior contract
- Permanent removal from the Expanded Learning Program

Final decisions are made by the Site Lead and Expanded Learning Administrators in consultation with school administrators, based on the severity of the behavior and the safety of students and staff.



BEHAVIOR CONTRACTS

For repeated concerns, families may be asked to participate in a behavior support meeting. Together we may develop:

- ✓ Behavior Contract
- ✓ Support Plan
- ✓ Home-School Partnership



LEARNING FROM MISTAKES

Whenever possible, staff use restorative practices to help students:

- ✓ Repair relationships
- ✓ Reflect on choices
- ✓ Take responsibility
- ✓ Learn positive replacement behaviors



OUR COMMITMENT

We believe every student deserves opportunities to learn from mistakes, repair relationships, and be successful. However, the safety of students and staff will always remain our highest priority.

When serious or repeated behaviors interfere with the safety or learning of others, suspension or removal from the program may be necessary.



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👉 Welcome TO OUR EXPANDED LEARNING Family

Together, we help students
learn, grow, and soar. ❤️



WE BELIEVE...

At Mountain Empire Unified School District, we believe students are most successful when families and staff work together. Open communication, trust, and teamwork help create a safe, welcoming, and enriching environment where every child can thrive.



STAY CONNECTED

- Read emails and ParentSquare messages.
- Keep your contact information up to date.
- Reach out if you have questions.



SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

- Encourage regular attendance.
- Follow sign-in and sign-out procedures.
- Talk with your child about their day.



PARTNER WITH US

- Celebrate successes.
- Share concerns early.
- Treat everyone with kindness and respect.



Family Tip ❤️

Ask your child every day:

*“What was the best part of
Expanded Learning today?”*

This simple question encourages conversation and helps families stay connected to their child's experiences.



IMPORTANT REMINDER

To help maintain a safe and positive environment, families are expected to follow program procedures and treat staff, students, and other families with respect. Repeated or serious concerns may result in a conference or removal from the program when necessary.



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EVERY DAY. EVERY STUDENT.



TECHNOLOGY, CELL PHONES & PERSONAL BELONGINGS



Helping students stay present, safe, and focused while they learn and have fun. 

At Expanded Learning, we encourage students to be fully engaged in activities, build friendships, and explore new interests—without distractions. Thank you for partnering with us!



CELL PHONES

*Our School is
Phone-Free!*

In accordance with the Mountain Empire Unified School District Cell Phone Policy, personal cell phones and smart devices must remain put away during Expanded Learning program hours.



If a student needs to contact a parent or guardian, program staff will gladly assist them.



If a parent needs to reach a student during the program, please contact the school office or Expanded Learning Site Lead.



These guidelines help us create a safe, respectful, and engaging environment for all students.



WHY IT MATTERS

- ✓ Helps students stay focused and engaged
- ✓ Encourages face-to-face connections
- ✓ Supports a positive and respectful environment
- ✓ Keeps everyone safe



PERSONAL BELONGINGS

Please help students keep their belongings organized and secure.

- Label all personal items.
- Leave toys, trading cards, and valuables at home.
- The district is not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen items.



*Redhawk
Says...*



Put devices away,
participate each day,
and make memories
that last!



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★ EVERY DAY. EVERY STUDENT. ★



CHILD PICK-UP & EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Keeping Every Student Safe

The safety of every child is our highest priority. Please help us ensure your student can always be picked up safely by keeping your emergency information current.



PARENTS/GUARDIANS AGREE TO:

- ✓ Keep phone numbers current.
- ✓ List **at least two emergency contacts** who are authorized to pick up your child.
- ✓ Notify the school immediately if emergency contact information changes.
- ✓ Ensure emergency contacts know they may be called if you cannot be reached.



Help Us Keep Your Child Safe

Please update your emergency contacts whenever:

- You change your phone number
- You move
- Your emergency contacts change
- Custody or pick-up permissions change



Keeping your information current helps us reunite students with their families as quickly and safely as possible.



IF A CHILD IS NOT PICKED UP

If a student has not been picked up at the end of the Expanded Learning Program:

-  Staff will supervise and remain with the student.
-  Staff will attempt to contact the parent/guardian.
-  If the parent/guardian cannot be reached, staff will contact the emergency contacts listed in the student's records.
-  If no authorized adult can be reached after all reasonable efforts have been exhausted, the district will follow **Mountain Empire Unified School District safety procedures**, which may include contacting law enforcement to ensure the child's safety.



QUESTIONS?
CONTACT US!



(619) 478-5930

Mountain Empire Unified School District



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EVERY DAY. EVERY STUDENT.



MOUNTAIN EMPIRE
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

WE'RE HERE TO HELP!

Our Expanded Learning team is here to support your family. Please reach out to your school or district office with any questions.



★ SCHOOL CONTACTS ★

 SCHOOL	 PHONE
 Campo Elementary School	 (619) 478-5583
 Clover Flat Elementary School	 (619) 766-4655
 Descanso Elementary School	 (619) 445-2126
 Potrero Elementary School	 (619) 478-5930
 Mountain Empire Junior High School	 (619) 326-6662
 Mountain Empire High School	 (619) 473-8601



HOW WE CAN HELP YOU

Our Expanded Learning staff are happy to assist with:



Registration
& Enrollment



Attendance
& Scheduling



Field Trips
& Activities



Health or
Medication
Needs



Special Events
& Program
Information



Program
Hours &
Schedules



Before & After
School Programs



Intersessions
(Fall, Spring
& Summer)

We're here for you!

Thank You! 

Thank you for choosing Mountain Empire Unified School District's Expanded Learning Programs. We are honored to partner with your family and look forward to a wonderful year filled with learning, friendships, discovery, and fun!

REDHAWK SAYS...

*See you at our
next adventure!*



STAY CONNECTED!



WATCH YOUR EMAIL
for CitySpan registration
and program updates.



VISIT WWW.MEUSD.ORG
for calendars, announcements,
and resources.



REACH OUT ANYTIME.
our Expanded Learning
team is here to support
your family.



ENGAGE. ★ ENRICH. ★ EMPOWER.
Every Day. Every Student. Every Opportunity.