

## 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.



## Lennox School District Lennox, CA

Situated in metropolitan Los Angeles and a little over a square mile in size, Lennox School District has an outsized impact and a wealth of opportunities for their students, families, and the greater Lennox community.

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**Grades Served:** PreK–8

**Enrollment:** 5,106 Students

Founded in 1910

[Website](#)

- 100% of schools in the district are AVID.
- Named a 2017 District of Distinction in *District Administration Magazine*

# Lennox School District

## Lennox, CA

### School of Engineering

The Lennox School District's School of Engineering (SOE) resulted from efforts to increase the rigor of STEM and demonstrate that engineering was a viable career pathway for all—especially female and minority students. Led by five full-time engineers who work with students in grades 4–8, the SOE operates in two elementary schools and is an elective at the district's middle school. With a focus on inquiry and project-based learning, students tackle real-world problems with guidance from trained professionals.

Exposure to and collaboration with professional role models is critical in a district like Lennox, where 97% of students receive free and reduced-price lunch. Within the state-of-the-art labs, engineers guide students through scientific concepts—like biomimicry, robotics, and rocketry—and utilize the engineering design process to facilitate learning. Due to popularity, SOE uses a lottery system for admissions. All students—including those with limited English proficiency, special needs, or low grades—can participate in the lottery.

The results have been impressive. Students in the middle school scored 10% higher in ELA and 14% higher in math.

### Whole-Family Wraparound Services

Community building is a goal of Lennox School District's vision, specifically the vital role that parents play in the education process. Parents play a central role on the District School Leadership Team that writes the district's Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP). Bi-weekly School Board meetings highlight student and parent achievements, and the decision-making process includes parent leadership. Each school site has a Lennox Parent Center and a full-time parent liaison who coordinates parent activities, supports, and services.

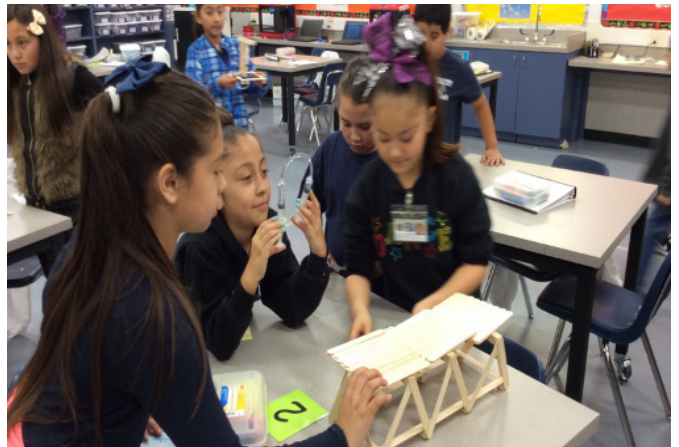
Parent Centers serve as a hub for parent volunteer work and meetings. They also provide workshops and adult learning classes such as GED and business courses. Therapy and intervention services are also at the disposal of families. To identify and meet high demand for social and emotional support, all Lennox teachers are trained on trauma-informed practices.

Everyone wins when schools understand that parents are those best positioned to know the unique needs of their children. By creating an inclusive community where leadership opportunities and professional and personal development are taken seriously, Lennox uplifts and addresses whole-family needs, creating a true 21st century learning environment that serves the whole child.



## Lennox Voice

With English learners comprising 60% of the student population, creative methods for language mastery led to a partnership with Loyola Marymount University. The district and Loyola Marymount developed a work-based curriculum where English learner students train as journalists, review and select topics, interview community members, and print and produce a newspaper. The *Lennox Voice*, which is distributed in the community, often tops 5,000 copies. The production of the newspaper increases motivation towards language mastery for English learners and creates agency, ownership, and accomplishment with tangible proof of hard work and growth.



## 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](https://bfk.me/p21_ExemplarProgram)