

**Certification Report
Advanced Learning
Posted January 2005**

School Whittier Elementary School

Program Spectrum

Whittier has one self-contained Spectrum class at each grade level from 1-5. Our purpose is to provide an accelerated, rigorous academic curriculum for advanced learners that will meet these students' intellectual needs while taking into consideration their unique social and emotional developmental levels.

Students in our Spectrum program work at a level one grade above District standards in reading and math. The content of our social studies, writing, communication, and science programs are grade level specific with instructional methods tailored to meet the needs of our Advanced Learners. Our instruction includes supplemental curriculum materials as well as project and inquiry-based instructional methods. An important goal for our Spectrum students is that all products and outcomes exceed District grade level standards in all academic areas.

As stated in Whittier's vision statement, "through academic excellence, sense of community, respect for each other, and encouragement of discovery, Whittier's graduates become contributing members of their communities and lifelong learners."

The goal of Spectrum at Whittier is to promote the development of Advanced Learners as well-rounded individuals and contributing citizens within the context of our school-wide vision statement while providing the academic rigor necessary to meet their individual intellectual needs.

Strengths/Commendations

Robust student numbers across grades to support classrooms of district-identified students

High energy and dedicated staff

Clear commitment to the program by staff and administration

Areas to be Strengthened

Enhanced articulation of accelerated standards and understandings across the continuum

Enhanced articulation of rigor as it presents itself in curricula and on-going student tasks