Celebrations & Successes!

Free To Think. Inspired To Lead.
Curriculum & Instruction

SCVi’s curriculum and instruction are based on authentic **Gold Standard Project-Based Learning (PBL)**

Not only do facilitators work with a variety of curricula to support personalized learning, but SCVi learners have opportunities to follow their passions and set their own unique goals for their education. SCVi follows Common Core state standards. All SCVi staff go through extensive training every August before the school year starts and throughout the year. Authentic project-based learning is the ideal way to prepare our learners for higher learning in college and the 21st-century workplace.

Personalized Learning

Beginning in kindergarten, every learner sets goals in their **Individual Learning Plan**. These goals are both academic and social-emotional. Learners and facilitators work on these goals throughout the year and keep track of progress in their **Leadership Notebooks**. Learners in 10th grade are given the opportunity to personalize their learning even more as they discover more about themselves and set goals for after graduation. They participate in a **year-long capstone project that gives them the opportunity to dive deep into subjects they love**. The process includes research, meeting with mentors, practicing skills, making mistakes, hitting roadblocks, failing, taking another direction, pushing through, revising, writing, completing the product, and . . . **REFLECTION**. In their senior year, learners are required to do an internship.

SCVi Senior Internships

**What is the “why” behind our Internship/Senior Project Program?**

- We believe our learners will gain valuable professional experience by **learning beyond the classroom walls**. This is an opportunity for learners to take responsibility for their own learning through their passions and interests while developing relationships within the community. Sometimes **beyond the walls** may be defined as learning more about the education occupations within our walls, but diving more deeply into each profession.

- In the fall semester, seniors explore college and career choices, create a résumé, and apply for internships. In the spring, the seniors spend time in the career of their choice completing day-to-day jobs and one special project.

- We want our learners to leave SCVi with an understanding of how to apply, interview and work within a field that interests them.
SCVi Student Aerospace Projects

Through iLEAD Student Aerospace Projects, SCVi learners participate in several unique aerospace opportunities:

**DreamUp To Space and Genes In Space:** Learners design experiments focusing on the effects of microgravity that are then carried out at the International Space Station. SCVi has sent two experiments to the ISS so far and will be sending the third experiment in the spring of 2020.

**Soaring & Aeronautics:** Learners study aeronautics in 8th grade as part of their science curriculum. Learners get hands-on lessons and have the opportunity to fly a glider!

**Science Accelerator** is an international collaborative project between SCVi and students in Israel. This project challenges teams to identify and solve a problem associated with colonizing the moon. Learners have the opportunity to participate in a competition held in Israel in January during Space Week, and then participate in the Hack into Space Competition at NASA Ames in May. In a partnership with Out of the Box, this project addresses the need for innovation and international collaboration by providing the opportunity for US and Israeli students to work together.

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**International Baccalaureate**

The **SCVi International Baccalaureate (IB) Program** encourages students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

Since 2013, members of the SCVi IB team (learners, facilitators, and administrators) have been in constant collaboration with the International Baccalaureate Global Headquarters (Hague, Netherlands). Some of these collaborative initiatives include:

- Development of workshops: Power and Impact of Digital Assessment
- Technology Literacy

SCVi representatives participated in an initiative for creative frameworks for technology literacy. Using SCVi’s background and context, we were part of creating the AID (Agency, Information, and Design) framework and guide.

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**Communication and Parent Support**

**Monday Message** - SCVi’s weekly online publication sent to all families and the community. The Monday Message provides a wealth of information on curriculum, IB, college, PBL, and technology opportunities/ideas. This is the main source of school information. Facilitators also send out grade-level weekly emails that highlight the specifics of weekly school life including academics, upcoming events, and projects.

SCVi also has monthly “Coffee with the Director,” the school website, Parent Universities on PBL, Growth Mindset, Social-Emotional Learning and monthly events such as math and science nights, Multicultural Festival, and Expresstival, giving parents the opportunity to participate and learn more about SCVi.
The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People

1. Be Proactive
2. Begin with the End in Mind
3. Put First Things First
4. Think Win-Win
5. Seek First to Understand Then to be Understood
6. Synergize
7. Sharpen the Saw

Staff Training and Support

• Facilitators trained to run multi-age advisories focusing on social emotional learning utilizing Leader in Me and Circle Ways curriculum
• Attend annual conferences: CCSA, A Plus, College Board, CCIS, Student Support Symposium, School Pathways
• Maker Team: supports and gives ongoing training on current topics in EL, PBL, conflict resolution, leadership, and 7 Habits as well as conducting twice annual “Camp Make” intensive staff development multi-day workshops
• Collaborations: weekly grade-level collaboration, monthly team meetings, Think Tanks

Leader in Me:
Leader in Me (LiM) is an evidence-based, comprehensive school improvement model—developed in partnership with educators—that empowers students with the leadership and life skills they need to thrive in the 21st century. Instead of focusing on academic measures alone, Leader in Me embodies a holistic approach to education, redefining how schools measure success. This approach empowers educators with effective practices and tools to teach LEADERSHIP to every student, create a CULTURE of student empowerment, and align systems to drive results in ACADEMICS.

Circle Ways:
SCVi partners with Circle Ways to build a healthy school through restorative practices. Facilitators are trained in the implementation of circle practices, including way of council, restorative justice, and connections to nature.

Student Support Services

• Regular staff development
• Staffing:
  • 25 on staff including one director, one psychologist, three counselors, one speech specialist, seven education specialists, and support staff
  • Multiple service providers to provide OT, adaptive PE, DHH
• Third year of hosting a Student Support Symposium that offers training to everyone on staff about special-education-related support. This is open to staff, parents, and outside school communities in the area to help them on special education supports.
• SST process with multiple-tiered interventions has been developed and implemented over the past couple years, promoting growth and support for general education learners so they can be successful.
SCVi Campus Clubs and Student Life

Learners at SCVi have the opportunity to participate in several clubs and become involved in meaningful projects beyond their daily lives.

- **Gay/Straight Alliance (GSA):** Both middle school and high school have GSA clubs that meet regularly. SCVi is a Safe School and is committed to supporting our LGBTQ+ population.
- **Interact Club:** SCVi partners with the Sunshine and Noon rotary clubs in Santa Clarita to provide this opportunity for community service to our learners.
- **Advisory Council and Advisory Ambassadors**
- **SCVi School Newspaper**
- **Dungeons & Dragons Club**
- **Robotics** (Lego for lower grades, VEX for older learners)

The SCVi Peace Garden

In partnership and through a generous grant provided by the Santa Clarita Rotary Club, our SCVi Learner Interact Club designed and built the SCVi Peace Garden.

This garden serves as a space for learners to gather, have peace talks (circle ways) and to honor learners who have passed away.

SCVi Theatre Arts

SCVi Theatre Arts strives to share our love of the theatrical arts with our learners! By creating professional-level productions, learners gain experience onstage, backstage, and in all areas of design. Our program offers experiences in many forms of theatre led by professionals who care about the craft as well as creating an environment of growth and inspiration for learners in 3rd grade through 12th grade!
Field Studies

The field study program at SCVi provides our learners with that opportunity to become “personally” involved in their learning through these practical field applications and hand-on experiences. It is directly connected with the projects learners are working on at the studios and gives them an opportunity to work and learn beyond the learning space. Field studies can result in greater achievement in all subjects. Real-life application of the lessons and Presentations of Learning in the field extend learners’ knowledge and they are more likely to understand and appreciate the importance and relevance of what they are learning.

Learners have the opportunity to participate in 5 field study day trips a year. SCVi also offers overnight opportunities beginning in 4th grade.

Annual Events

The SCVi Multicultural Feast is a yearly event where the entire SCVi community comes together to celebrate the wide range of cultures that make up our family! A potluck style event, the Multicultural Feast allows families, learners, and friends to explore the SCVi campus while sampling foods and gaining understanding of a variety of amazing cultures.

The SCVi Expressstival: Every school has an open house, but SCVi takes it to the next level! The SCVi Expressstival is designed to celebrate the creativity and ingenuity of all our learners while opening our doors to anyone who wants to know more about SCVi. Talent Shows, Entrepreneurial Fairs, Arts Exhibits and so much more are a part of this event. If you want to see what makes SCVi special in action, this is the event for you!

SCVi Learners Are Passionate About Sports!

SCVi currently offers 12 high school and 6 middle school sports throughout the year including Equestrian and E-Sports.

• Last year the high school teams had four different teams qualify for CIF Playoffs.
• Middle School Basketball and High School Varsity Softball have both been undefeated league champions over the last two seasons.
**Aeronautic Unit:**
During this unit, learners are looking towards the sky and thinking big! We study all things Aeronautics (physics of flight, functions of parts, fluid dynamics, weather patterns, etc.) and end the unit out in Llano, California, where learners test their knowledge in a real aircraft under observation of a certified instructor. Our goal in this project is to look at how our perspective can change when new opportunities arise. We bring in many important experts in the field to share their knowledge on the subject and inspire the next generation of pilots, engineers, aerodynamicists, and flight enthusiasts. At this point, we have well over 20 learners who either have their pilot's license, are currently in lessons, or are studying at a school for flight (Embry-Riddle, California Aero University, etc.) We have raised well over $10,000 for the Wounded Veteran Soaring Program as well as Southern California Soaring Academy.

**Civil War Living History Project:**
During the Civil War project learners are thrown back in time to the 1800s to relive America's most treacherous time. The world was changing, but not just in the social forum. Conflicts spark change and the Civil War was no different. This project examines how the innovations of war changed the scientific community, the nature of warfare, and the changing role in American society for women, African Americans, and children. For the duration of the project, learners are working on our Civil War Living History Day and producing an event for the entire school, as well as our community at Rancho Camulos in Piru. To date, our program has raised over $20,000 for Rancho Camulos Museum, a national landmark organization that helps to promote California history to hundreds of local schools at a low cost.

**Get Lit & Expresso Yourself:**
SCVi has used the Get Lit Curriculum to help engage learners in literature and empower youth voices since 2016. The Get Lit model follows an original call-and-response technique. Poets learn classic poetry, claim a poem that resonates, and then compose their own spoken word response pieces, which they perform in tandem.

SCVi learners in each grade level participate in the Get Lit: Words Ignite Project each year. The project culminates with an annual Slam Poetry Coffee House event we affectionately call Expresso Yourself, a night of spoken word poetry, music, and visual arts complete with coffee, hot cocoa, and pastries.
Griffin Loch
(filmmaker extraordinaire)
SCVi Exploration
At the age of 14, Griffin wrote, directed, produced, and edited his second feature, The Adventure of T.P. Man and Flusher. He shot it on 4k Ultra HD and it was released on Amazon, Google Play and iTunes. He was honored with ‘BEST DIRECTOR’ and was nominated for ‘BEST PICTURE’ at the IFS Film Festival.

Connor Raskin
(aerospace - DreamUp, Genes In Space, and Science Accelerator) SCVi site based
Connor pursued a path to learn more about the science and math fields, while still challenging himself in other IB classes. Connor’s work in the aerospace programs throughout his time included sending experiments to space through the DreamUp project. He also spent his spring break the last two years serving the community of Puerto Rico with iLEAD Cultural Bridges.

Ethan Guthrie
(entrepreneur and National Merit Scholarship semifinalist) SCVi Innovation Studios
Ethan is a highly charged academic who is a model for what successful independent study learners look like. While still completing his high school education, Ethan created and founded his own non-profit streaming service that offers access to both television and radio providers. Ethan’s entrepreneurial mindset allows him to thrive in situations that may present challenges to others and will continue to make him successful as he moves into college and beyond.

Morgen Kaufman:
(entrepreneur, Interact, winner at Shakespeare Festival) SCVi site based
Morgen is a true renaissance individual. They (Morgen identifies nonbinary and uses they/them pronouns) launched their first business at age 12, and were a founding member of the school’s GSA at age 13. As a freshman in high school, Morgen took lead in the school’s Interact Club, was assistant stage manager and costume designer for multiple productions, and won 1st place for costume design at the Chapman University Shakespeare Festival, all while maintaining a 4.0 GPA.

Sami Fisher
(student advocate, middle school GSA) SCVi Innovation Studios
Sami is a model for inclusion and a proud representative of our LGBTQ+ community. As someone who has gone through tremendous personal growth in their own path of discovery, Sami is selfless, caring, loving and someone who genuinely wants to support those around them. Sami’s heart is their most precious asset as they work in a mentorship role for our younger learners who are going through their own personal journey with respect to gender and sexual identity.

Gabby Ismail
(artist, and published illustrator) SCVi site based
Gabby is an artist! As a 7th grade learner Gabby jumped at an opportunity to compete for a chance to illustrate a children’s book, “A Bug Needs Love.” Her artistic rendition of the bug was so impressive that she won the competition and is now a published illustrator. Her character has also been made into a plush toy (pictured with Gabby above) and she is working with the artists at Disney to create an animated version of the book.