

# 2024-25 ANNUAL REPORT

*Celebrating Academic Growth,  
Innovation, and Community Impact*



 **MAGNOLIA**  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## A DISTINGUISHED AWARD-WINNING STEAM EDUCATION

***Magnolia Public Schools is powered by STEAM excellence in education, through the energy of dedicated experienced educators, and student creative endeavor.***

From Los Angeles County to Orange County and San Diego, across a dozen campuses serving more than 3,800 students and over 450 educators and staff, Magnolia is invested in Southern California's future with award-winning academic Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics (STEAM) programming that challenges students to think critically through solutions and innovation.

The recipient of prestigious local and national awards, including the California Distinguished School and the California Charter Schools Association's Hart & Vision Award for its outstanding work in the education field, Magnolia Public Schools consistently outpaces student achievement at regional and state levels. This is largely due to the efforts of educators who work in unison with families and communities to achieve the dream of higher education and career success for each child.

Magnolia proves time and again that when given access to resources, support, and a high-quality public education, all children can achieve their full potential. Its transformative and distinctive educational experience begins in TK-12, while its legacy creates a pipeline of highly-educated critical thinkers who are socially responsible members of a global community and contribute to a better future. Successful alumni prove that the Magnolia way is working.



***"Our success belongs to our dedicated educators, driven students, and supportive families. One team, one mission. MSA-7 is a California Distinguished School. Once Distinguished, always Distinguished. I'm proud of every Dolphin and excited for what's next."***

***- Musa Avsar, MSA-7, Northridge, Principal***



# FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER & SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Magnolia Community,

The 2024-25 school year has been a breakthrough phase leading to notable transformation, discovery and advancement for Magnolia Public Schools. From record-breaking college acceptances and expanding dual-enrollment opportunities, to state and national recognitions for positive school culture, Magnolia is a blueprint for what is possible in public education through collective purpose and innovation.

With ongoing changes to education policy, Magnolia remains unwavering in its mission to offer a whole-child safe, nurturing, high-quality STEAM public education that prepares students for college and careers. Magnolia students learn to become active participants in the creation of a more peaceful and inclusive world through the rigor of science, the power of creativity, and the strength of character.

This year, we've seen a significant increase in student growth and impact, as well as organizational recognition and success, particularly in these areas:

- ▶ **Ninety-three percent acceptance rate of seniors to two and four-year colleges**
- ▶ Reclassification of dozens of English Learners as fluent English proficient, reflecting Magnolia's commitment to equity, multilingualism, and academic achievement
- ▶ Students compete in **statewide and national robotics and AI robotics competitions** alongside private school counterparts
- ▶ **All high schools offer pathways that earn students college credits before graduation**
- ▶ Expanded Learning programming growth in funding and student participation
- ▶ A Magnolia STEAM Expo at Cal State L.A. celebrating creativity, robotics, and hands-on discovery reflecting our vision for the future of learning
- ▶ **Recognition by California PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) with Silver, Gold and Platinum level awards for a whole-child positive school culture**

These accomplishments are a tribute to the dedication of our teachers, the persistence of our students, and parent participation. Thank you for your commitment to this important work.

While the Annual Report is a reflection of recent accomplishments, we're building upon this momentum to propel us to new levels of achievement for our students. Together, we are building the next generation of innovators, thinkers, and compassionate citizens of the world.

Adelante,

*Alfredo Rubalcava*

Alfredo Rubalcava  
Magnolia Public Schools





## WHO WE ARE

**Magnolia Public Schools (MPS), a network of high-performing tuition-free charter public schools, is making important gains for all students, especially students living in underserved communities.**

Magnolia's dedicated educators and staff bring learning to life through hands-on, inquiry-based, and technology-integrated instruction. The network ensures students are well-rounded and college-ready by offering smaller class sizes, individualized attention and more in a safe, thriving, welcoming learning environment.

**Compared to students from similar schools, Magnolia graduates are...**

**54%**

**Fifty-four percent more likely to graduate from a STEM field (Females)**

**54%**

**Fifty-four percent more likely to earn college degrees**

**40%**

**Forty percent more likely to enroll in college**

**22%**

**Twenty-two percent more likely to graduate from a STEM field**

*"Together, we're building a pipeline to STEAM fields, and helping students achieve higher education goals. I'm grateful for the amazing work that makes Magnolia a top charter public school network in Southern California."*

*– Alfredo Rubalcava,  
CEO & Superintendent*

## Campuses

MPS operates ten schools across Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego counties, including:

- **MSA-1 (Reseda):** Grades 6-12
- **MSA-2 (Lake Balboa):** Grades 6-12
- **MSA-3 (Carson):** Grades 6-12
- **MSA-4 (Venice):** Grades 6-12
- **MSA-5 (Winnetka):** Grades 6-12
- **MSA-6 (Koreatown):** Grades 6-8

- **MSA-7 (Northridge):** Grades TK-5
- **MSA-Bell:** Grades 6-8
- **MSA-Santa Ana:** Grades TK-12
- **MSA-San Diego:** Grades 6-8
- **MSA-Orange County (Anaheim):** Grades TK-6\*
- **MSA-Orange County (Placentia-Yorba Linda):** Grades TK-3\*

\*Opening in 2025-26 and will be grades TK-12 by 2030

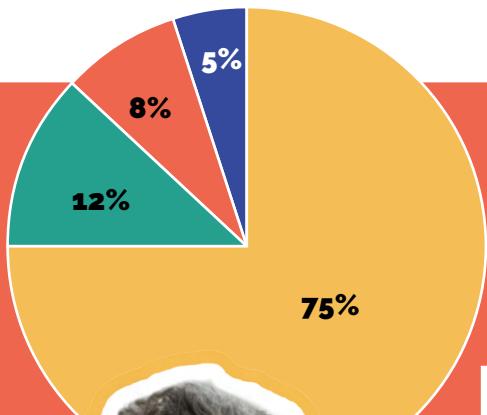
MSA-1, 2, 3, and 5 are authorized by the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE)

MSA-4, 6, 7, and Bell are authorized by the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)

MSA-Santa Ana is authorized by the State Board of Education (SBE)

MSA-San Diego is authorized by the San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD)

MSA-Orange County Anaheim and Placentia-Yorba Linda are authorized by the Orange County Department of Education (OCDE)



## Student Demographics

**Over 70% of MPS students qualify for free or reduced-price meals, and nearly one in four are English Learners—reflecting Magnolia's deep commitment to equity and access.**

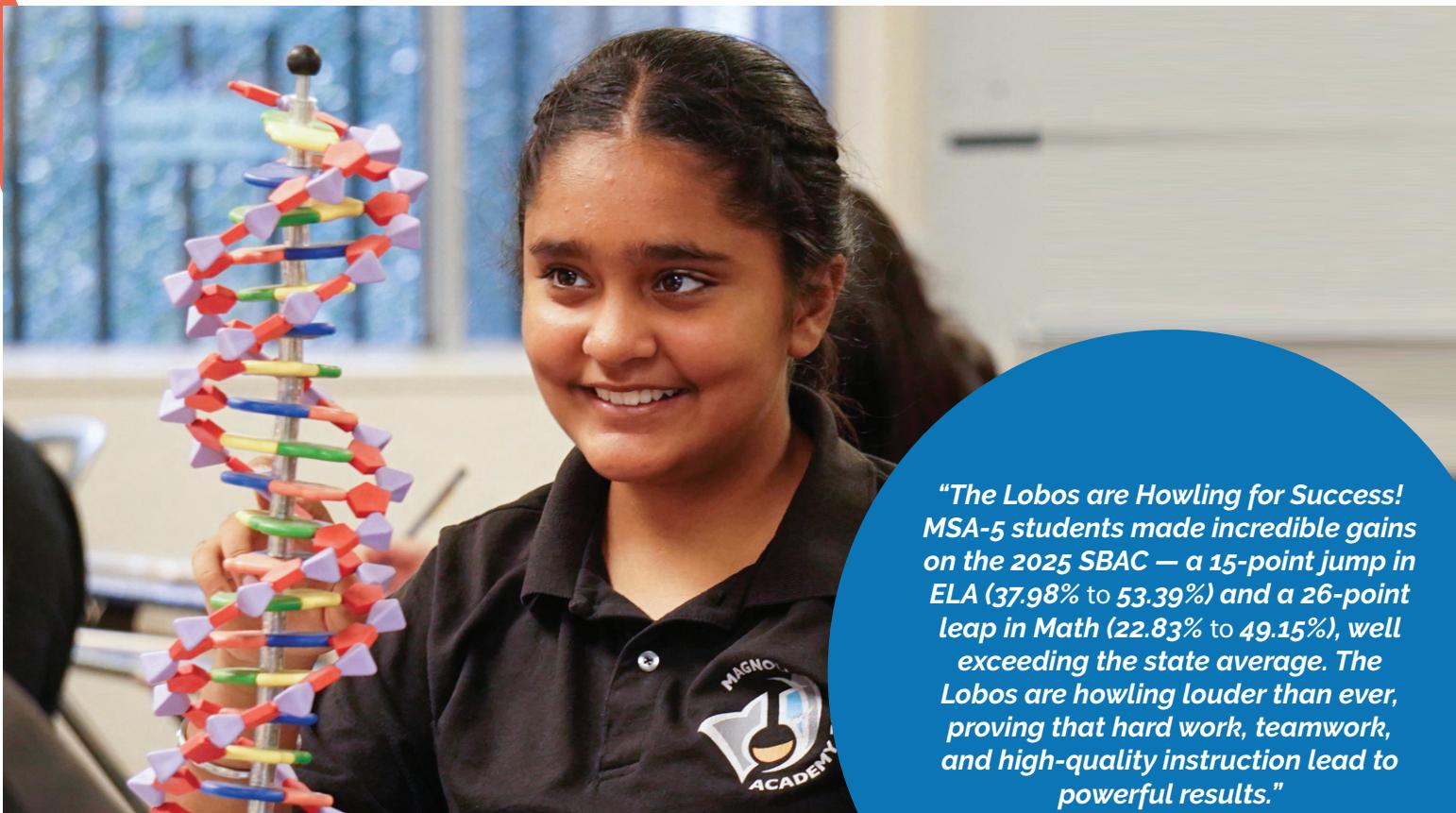
- Hispanic or Latino
- African American
- Asian or Pacific Islander
- White or Other Backgrounds



## Recognitions

- **MSA-7 Distinguished School** Recognition
- **Great Places To Work Certification**
- **High-Performing Charter Network:**  
MPS consistently outperforms local district averages in Science and STEAM disciplines and maintain strong college acceptance rates.





***"The Lobos are Howling for Success! MSA-5 students made incredible gains on the 2025 SBAC — a 15-point jump in ELA (37.98% to 53.39%) and a 26-point leap in Math (22.83% to 49.15%), well exceeding the state average. The Lobos are howling louder than ever, proving that hard work, teamwork, and high-quality instruction lead to powerful results."***

***– Ali Kaplan,  
MSA-5 Principal***

## **WHAT WE DO & How WE Do IT**

***All schools serve English Language Learners, Special Education students, and students on the federal Free and Reduced Lunch program, which makes Magnolia's success all the more noteworthy in closing academic achievement gaps and helping students reach their potential.***

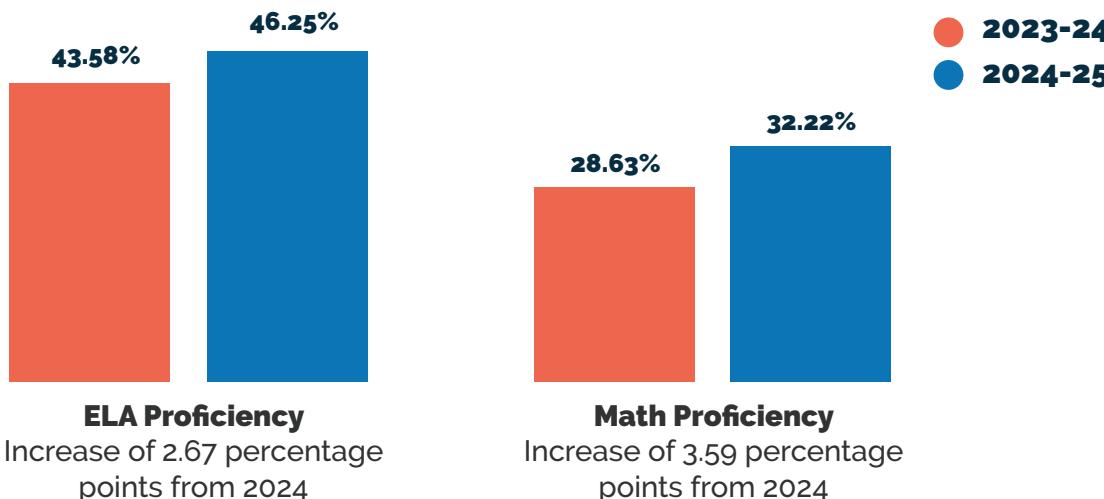
At the time of its founding in 2002, Magnolia Public Schools came into an education space demonstrating significant achievement gaps and low student proficiency in Grades K-12, particularly for economically disadvantaged students, special education students, and English Language learners. This prompted the California State Legislature to develop a California Master Plan for Education, which noted that, "The sobering reality of California's education system is that too few schools can now provide the conditions in which the State can fairly ask students to learn to the highest standards, let alone prepare themselves to meet their future learning needs."

Today, Magnolia exhibits steady academic growth and postsecondary readiness across its network of schools via rigorous instruction, expanded access to advanced coursework, and targeted support for English Learners and Students with Disabilities. Magnolia maintains academic performance above or on par with state averages across multiple measures.

According to the 2024-25 California Department of Education's California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) report, the state's end-of-year assessment for ELA and math that measures college and career readiness and is also known as Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBAC), some MPS student scores surpassed those of regional school districts like Los Angeles, Santa Ana and San Diego.

## Standardized Test Results

CAASPP (SBAC 2025 Results)



Several schools posted notable gains—particularly MSA-5 (+15 points ELA; +26 points Math) and MSA-SD maintaining top-tier ELA proficiency (72%) well above county averages.



## MAP Growth

(NWEA Proficiency Projections, Spring 2025)

- ▶ **Reading projections show 47.33%** of MPS students expected to meet/exceed CAASPP standards (+1.9 points YoY).
- ▶ **Math projections indicate 34.15%** meeting/exceeding proficiency, reflecting a 5.9-point gain from 2024.
- ▶ **MPS outperformed statewide growth** trends

## Advanced Placement (AP) Programs

- ▶ Network-wide, MPS offered **52 AP courses** across subjects from STEM to Humanities
- ▶ **247 students enrolled in AP courses** during 2024-25, with 62% scoring 3 or higher on AP exams — outperforming the state average of 56%
- ▶ Top performers included **MSA-5 (80% scores 3+)** and **MSA-SA (67%)**

## Dual-Enrollment Partnerships

Through collaborations with local community colleges (LA Pierce, West LA, LA Harbor, Santa Ana College), students earn college credits in high-level courses such as English 1000, Biology 003, Sociology 001, and Political Science .

Across the Magnolia network, students enrolled in more than 100 dual-enrollment sections during Fall 2025, with nearly half participating in Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC)-approved college courses.



## GRADUATION AND COLLEGE READINESS

**96.7%**

**Graduation Rate for the Class of 2024**  
(above state average of 86.4%)

**93%**

**Seniors Graduated and Accepted to  
2-Year or 4-Year Colleges**

**88%**

**College Eligibility of graduates who met  
UC/CSU A–G requirements, surpassing  
state (51.9%) and county (59.5%)  
benchmarks**

**83%**

**First-Generation College  
Students**

**68%**

**Accepted to 4-Year  
Institutions**

**62%**

**Advanced Placement  
Exam Passing Rate**





## AN EXPANSIVE PORTFOLIO OF EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

More than 1,200 students participated in extracurricular programs such as clubs or athletics; a record high for Magnolia.

### **Extracurricular programs include:**

- ▶ **STEAM & Robotics Competitions:** Each MSA campus hosts competitive robotics teams that participate in FIRST Tech and VEX competitions.
- ▶ **Visual & Performing Arts:** Theater and music departments produce shows and performances engaging hundreds of students from throughout Magnolia's network.
- ▶ **Athletics:** Middle and high school teams compete in soccer, basketball, volleyball, and cross-country, with several students earning league recognition.
- ▶ **Student Leadership:** Associate Student Body (ASB) and service club initiatives like Community Schools Day and STEM for All Week, raise awareness and school spirit.

## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

**MPS to strengthen reserves, advances key facilities projects, and expands student-centered programs while ensuring fiscal stability.**

In the 2023-24 fiscal year, Magnolia Educational & Research Foundation (MERF), which manages all MPS schools, showed steady operations and a solid foundation for long-term sustainability, as Magnolia diversified revenue streams and continued investments in classrooms, staff, and student programs, showing a total revenue of \$87.9 million and total expenses of \$82.4 million.

With strong financials, Magnolia experienced continued growth in the following year. This positive performance marked another year of responsible financial stewardship, enabling MPS to strengthen reserves, advance key facilities projects, and expand student-centered programs.

*"As part of the Magnolia Science Academy robotics team, I am learning many valuable skills like teamwork, leadership, and how to strategize."*

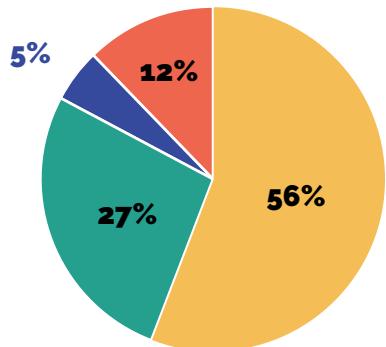
*– Frank Martinez, student member of the MSA-Santa Ana AI Robotics Team*

## Key Financial Highlights

<b>Change in Net Assets (Surplus)</b>	\$5.5 million
<b>Total Assets</b>	\$206.3 million
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	\$160.6 million
<b>Net Assets (Ending Balance)</b>	\$45.7 million

## Revenue Composition

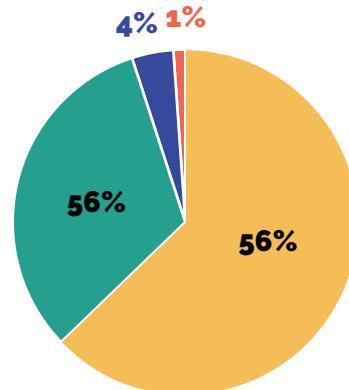
Funding sources remained balanced and stable, with the majority of revenue derived from public education funding supplemented by grants, philanthropy, and federal programs.



Legend: Local Control Funding Formula (Yellow), Other State Revenue (Teal), Federal Revenue (Blue), Local and Philanthropic Revenue (Orange)

## Expenditures and Investment Priorities

MPS strategically invests the majority of its expenditures in people and learning environments that directly support student achievement.



Legend: Salaries and Benefits (Yellow), Services and Operating Costs (Teal), Books, Supplies, and Materials (Blue), Depreciation and Interest (Orange)

The increase in "Other State Revenue" reflects growth in facilities reimbursements, expanded learning programs, and categorical support, while local revenue includes philanthropic contributions and foundation grants that enhanced STEAM education and student enrichment. These include funds from the Community Engagement Initiative.

Magnolia maintained efficient cost ratios aligned to instructional priorities and continued to fund capital projects at MSA-2, MSA-5, and MSA-7, advancing long-term infrastructure stability.

## Financial Health and Reserves

The audited balance sheet shows 200+ days of cash on hand, debt-service coverage above 2x, and continued investment-grade metrics consistent with MPS's Baa3 Moody's rating (Stable Outlook) reaffirmed in early 2025. These indicators highlight MPS's disciplined approach to liquidity, reserve management, and debt oversight, ensuring operational flexibility amid changing funding conditions.

## CHAMPIONS IN EDUCATION

**Teachers are the single most important school factor in a student's academic success, studies show.**

Magnolia employs more than 450 dedicated educators and staff, each contributing to a culture of collaboration and innovation that defines the network's schools. In 2024-25, more than 77% of teachers held advanced degrees, exceeding the statewide average and underscoring Magnolia's commitment to academic rigor and professional growth.

Magnolia's workforce also reflects the diverse communities it serves. Nearly one in three teachers identifies as Hispanic or Latino, and representation among African American educators is more than double the state average.

Teacher skills must be nurtured. For this reason, Magnolia encourages a culture of continued learning, growth and improvement for its educators. Throughout the year, staff participate in professional learning focused on data-driven instruction, differentiated teaching, and culturally responsive practices.

Network-wide symposiums and collaborative Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) provide space for teachers to share strategies, strengthen instructional coherence, and deepen alignment around Magnolia's STEAM framework. Additionally, Magnolia invests in teacher leadership development through coaching and career pathways that encourage internal growth and stability across schools.

## VOICES FROM OUR TEAM

Magnolia's sense of community extends to its staff, who describe their work not just as a job, but as a shared mission:

- ▶ ***"The camaraderie among coworkers makes it feel like family."***
- ▶ ***"Innovation is encouraged — we're trusted to bring new ideas to life."***
- ▶ ***"The organization truly cares about serving communities and supporting its people."***

These reflections speak to what defines Magnolia as an employer of choice: a mission-driven community where educators feel empowered to make a lasting difference.



***"I am incredibly proud of our students for their hard work, perseverance, and dedication. These results reflect their determination to succeed and the unwavering commitment of our teachers, who go above and beyond every day to support and inspire our students. That's the Wizard Way."***

***– Megan Craig, MSA-San Diego Principal***



## STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITIES, INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES, AND RESOURCES

**As an educational institution focused on academic excellence in STEAM and whole-child development, Magnolia is invested in providing safe and modern learning environments akin to those offered by competitive private schools.**

Across the network Magnolia is investing in learning environments that reflect its commitment to excellence in STEAM education and nurture all aspects of a child's growth.

Capital projects and technology enhancements advanced significantly in 2024-25, ensuring that every campus is equipped with 21st century technologies – ready to meet the needs of today's learners and tomorrow's innovators.

**Here are some of the exciting modernization projects reshaping the Magnolia experience:**

- ▶ **MSA-1 (Reseda):** A new gymnasium for student and community programming spaces. In addition, MSA-1 completed major site upgrades, including a roof replacement, HVAC modernization, and parking lot improvements.
- ▶ **MSA-2 (Lake Balboa):** A new purpose-built campus is coming to 16600 Vanowen Street. The project has City of Los Angeles CUP approval and entered the design and preconstruction phase in partnership with Berliner Architects.
- ▶ **MSA-5 (Winnetka):** A new state-of-the-art campus at 7111 Winnetka Avenue, is slated for completion in July 2026. The facility will feature advanced STEAM labs, collaborative classrooms, and sustainable design elements.
- ▶ **MSA-7 (Northridge):** Expansion plans are underway to increase student capacity with additional STEAM programming and community space.
- ▶ **MSA-Orange County (Anaheim):** Magnolia's growing Orange County presence now includes a property at 412 Carl Karcher Way, which supports the long-term goal of establishing a permanent regional cluster.

Magnolia's Information Technology Department continues to enhance cybersecurity, strengthen cloud infrastructure, and integrate scalable systems that support both instructional and operational excellence. In summary, Magnolia's campuses are updated with the latest technology; safe, connected, and equipped to deliver transformative learning.

Tech-savvy students require updated technology. This is why classrooms are equipped with interactive displays, cloud-based learning platforms, and adaptive instructional software that enables data-driven, personalized learning.

*"Magnolia has become more than a school: it's a community resource where families feel heard and empowered."*

*- Parent Advisory Council Member, MSA-Bell*

## NURTURING THE WHOLE CHILD

***Magnolia acknowledges the importance of family and community connections that support each child's identity, while responding to individual and diverse needs.***

The California Community Schools Partnership Program (CCSPP) builds on this enduring foundation by strengthening and scaling this work. It aligns instruction, wellness, and family engagement so that every student thrives, individually.

## Community Schools Strategic Vision

Magnolia's community schools model is guided by the network's Strategic Vision for Community Schools and aligns with pillars connecting academic achievement to holistic development. Across the network, Community School coordinators, site leaders, and parent advisory councils advance this vision daily, transforming campuses into dynamic centers of learning and belonging.



### Integrated Student Supports

More than 40 community partners collaborated with Magnolia this year, an increase of 25% from the prior year.

### Family and Community Engagement

Partnerships supported nearly 70% of MPS students and families, aligning resources to increase attendance, engagement, and academic success.

### Collaborative Leadership and Shared Power

The Parent and Community Advisory Councils (PAC/CAC) met eight times this year to review academic priorities, safety plans, and budgets, ensuring community perspectives guide decision-making.

### Extended and Enriched Learning Opportunities

With ELO-P and philanthropic support, Magnolia delivered 200,000+ hours of enrichment, from robotics and performing arts to academic tutoring and service learning.

Schools like MSA-Bell and MSA-Santa Ana expanded counseling hours and launched family resource centers through partnerships with I Have a Dream Foundation, LA Education Partnership, and Cal State LA.



## MAGNOLIA 2030: STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

**Magnolia 2030 is a five-year strategic plan designed to guide the network through its next chapter ensuring lasting academic excellence, organizational strength, and managed growth. The plan, which advances our mission of preparing every Magnolia student to lead and thrive in a rapidly changing world, is shaped by the voices of students, families, and educators.**

Magnolia 2030, the organization's five-year expansion plan is anchored in three long-term pillars that define its path forward:

### **Student Experience**

Magnolia seeks to deepen academic excellence through a unified TK-12 STEAM framework, expand dual-enrollment and early-college pathways, and grow enrichment opportunities in athletics, robotics, and the arts in a safe, inclusive, and learning engaging environment.

### **Organizational Talent**

Magnolia will expand professional learning, strengthen leadership pipelines, and maintain equitable compensation structures that sustain a high-performing, mission-driven workforce.

### **Operational Excellence**

Magnolia will build efficient, service-oriented systems that support schools through data-driven accountability, modernized operations, and transparent financial management.



## AN EYE TO THE FUTURE

**Magnolia Public Schools is a charter public school network built with the purpose of building a better world and a mission to bring STEAM-focused learning to some of the region's most underserved communities and prove that when resources, commitment and investments are present in public education, the future is brighter for students, families and communities.**

The 2024–25 fiscal year was a transformative year of growth, collaboration, and purpose for Magnolia Public Schools. Across all campuses, students achieved significant academic milestones, educators advanced innovative teaching practices, and above all, Magnolia's community strengthened its shared commitment to equity and excellence.

This year also marked a pivotal moment in Magnolia's long-term vision for growth and expansion. Guided by the Magnolia 2030 Strategic Plan and our Growth and Facilities Master Plan, the network opened two new Magnolia Science Academy–Orange County campuses in Anaheim and Placentia–Yorba Linda. The young campuses expand access to a top college-preparatory education and lays the groundwork for a regional cluster model with operational sustainability and community impact at its center.

A third Orange County campus scheduled to open in Irvine in 2026, continues Magnolia's growth thoughtfully and strategically. Supported by partnerships with OCDE, the federal Charter School Program (CSP) CMO Expansion Grant, Silicon Schools Fund (SSF), and the Charter School Growth Fund (CSGF), the new campus is a welcomed addition to the Magnolia family of high-quality STEAM schools.

Through the collective efforts of our students, families, educators, and partners, Magnolia has advanced its mission of preparing students for success in college, career, and life. Grounded in a solid, proven model of STEAM excellence and innovation in education, Magnolia successfully and consistently prepares students for success in college, career, including highly-competitive STEAM fields.

These achievements reflect the dedication and support of partners who believe in the power of public education to change lives; the power of Magnolia to build a stronger, more sustainable education model that empowers students to lead with curiosity, compassion and purpose. Magnolia extends its heartfelt gratitude to the Board of Directors, staff, families, donors, and community partners whose commitment makes this progress possible.

## GOVERNING BOARD

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Naim Bayraktar





To donate, scan the QR code above.

For more information or partnership opportunities, please contact:

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