



Eureka! Inclusive Charter School
Where Inclusion Elevates All

Proposed opening 2018

Eureka! Inclusive TK-8 Charter

The Eureka! Inclusive Mission: Establish an intentionally inclusive and universally designed TK-Grade 8 public charter school reflective of the cultural, linguistic, social, and learning diversity of students in the neighborhoods of San Jose Unified School District. In accordance with the Universal Design for Learning framework, the Eureka! Inclusive curriculum will be an integrated curriculum that emphasizes the arts, humanities, and global social studies. Our students will graduate on-track and ready to take with confidence the next step on their academic and life pathway.

The Eureka! Inclusive Vision: Our vision is that Eureka! Inclusive will serve students with unmet needs in San Jose Unified and that its success will promote the growth of inclusive, universally designed, relationship based, schools throughout Santa Clara County.

Our Commitment: Eureka's commitment to the academic success of all children is neither neutral nor inconsequential. It is the pedagogical challenge of our time that we can and should meet if we are to educate and prepare students to be 21st century civically engaged members of the global community. Eureka! Inclusive will set a new standard of expectation and outcomes for student subgroups that have suffered too long under the myth of inability.

Philosophy

"At the core of what schools are about is relationships...You can get the curriculum right, but if the relationships are not right, the school will not succeed."-Cavanaugh

Eureka! Inclusive has adopted a humanistic philosophy of inclusion and diversity, which recognizes that inclusion is not merely about including one group of students, rather it is based on the value that *no student should be excluded*. Informed by emerging research from the field of translational developmental neuroscience and in accordance with the Universal Design for Learning framework, the Eureka! Inclusive curriculum will be universally designed and emphasize the arts, humanities, and global social studies. Eureka! will connect teaching and learning meaningfully to the outside world thereby strengthening students, the community, families, schools and the larger society. Our students will graduate on-track and ready to take with confidence the next step towards high school, college, career, and life pathway. The Eureka! Inclusive model of inclusion is strengthened by a solid philosophical foundation of the basic human rights of all children to be included in society and anchored by four shared principles:

- Nurturing Relationships are essential to the healthy development of all children.
- Nurturing Environments are essential to healthy explorations for all children.
- Equal access to curriculum is essential to academic success for all children.
- Childhood should be filled with wonder, joy, friends, and play!



Eureka! Inclusive Charter School
Where Inclusion Elevates All

Proposed opening 2018

Overview of Eureka! Inclusive Educational Program and School Design

The Universal Design for Learning (UDL) Framework The UDL framework guides the strategic design of curriculum and school based supports to ensure that *all students have access to all aspects of the curriculum.*

Eureka! Inclusive Integrated Arts Curriculum *“Arts Integration is an approach to teaching in which students construct and demonstrate understanding and engage in a creative process which connects an art form and another subject area and meets evolving objectives in both.” Kennedy Art Center*

Eureka! Inclusive Classroom Teaching Teams provide 1:12 teacher to student ratio and are comprised of general and special education teachers, occupational therapists, and language specialists. Our teams recognize potential, nurture confidence, encourage inquiry, and guide learning.

Eureka! Inclusive Academics are inquiry based, common core aligned, and develop the whole child. It consists of four interwoven program elements: academic, social, physical, and emotional development.

Eureka! Inclusive Daily Designated Learning Hour Students will be flexibly grouped during the designated learning hour to focus on individual areas of challenge or strength. Small group instruction for GATE, ELD, RSP, Social Skills, and Occupational Therapy will be offered weekly at the same hour every day so that students that fall into multiple categories have the opportunity to receive the extra support they need.

Eureka! Inclusive’s MADE by ME is a daily, student driven exploration period and is an extension of our belief that learning occurs naturally when humans feel safe to explore, inquire, and express. Mentors work with students at all grade levels to oversee student-directed special projects, productions, and electives.

Eureka! Inclusive Technology Toolbox: Silicon Valley Technology opens doors to classrooms around the world. Through technology, children share experiences, exchange thoughts, and form friendships. Technology, in particular digital media, makes UDL implementation practical and achievable in a diverse classroom. Digital materials make it possible for the same material to be flexibly presented and accessed – even adapted on a student-to-student basis.

Eureka! Inclusive Instructional Lunch teachers and children share family style lunches together. During this time teachers provide mini lessons on healthy eating habits, nutrition, reinforce table manners and good hygiene.

Eureka! Inclusive Morning Movement Each morning begins with movement! Dancing, yoga, walking, and other forms of movement help children wake up their brains, improve focus, and enhance learning.

Eureka! Inclusive Family and Community Partnerships are important to a happy school and to student success. Weekly and monthly community events such as Community Art Walks, Family Dinner Nights, Interactive Board Meetings, Communication Café Family Lounge, Health and Wellness Resource Center, and Family Learning Experiences are all examples of the Eureka! Inclusive design.

Learn more about the Eureka! Inclusive mission:

Website www.eurekacharter.org **Email** tmaciel@eurekacharter.org **Phone** 408-876-0808



Eureka! Inclusive Charter School
Where Inclusion Elevates All

Proposed opening 2018

Vision of What It Means to be an Educated Person in the 21st Century

At Eureka, children do more than learn, they discover their place in the world!

- Pride in their individual human value and purpose;
- Respect for the human value and purpose of others;
- Demonstrable ability to think independently, work collaboratively, and communicate effectively;
- Demonstrate knowledge and grasp of technological resources that help them navigate in the 21st century;
- Show confidence in their convictions and capability to follow through with solutions;
- Show compassion in their actions and kindness with their words;
- Have an unwavering commitment to challenge the status quo to improve the human condition;
- An appreciation for nature’s beauty and their responsibility as stewards.

Perhaps, most importantly, retaining the wonder, joy, and optimism of childhood, powered by imagination and the ability to look at the seemingly impossible and declare,

“I CAN DO THAT!”

Small School Environment

We have chosen a smaller school model for Eureka! Inclusive for many reasons, a few of which are:

- Small school size supports the emphasis on nurturing relationships across the school community.
- Small school size improves students' outcomes on grades and test scores.
- Students with special needs, including so-called "at-risk," "exceptional," "disadvantaged," and "gifted" students, are better served by smaller school units.

Multi-Age Classrooms

At Eureka students are grouped in multi age classrooms, within three developmental stages, based more upon their personal interests, learning abilities, and stage of social and emotional development rather than their physical age. The multi-age system assumes that all children, even children of the same age, are different in their development and needs; that children construct their own knowledge in their own way; that learning should be child-centered, not curriculum-centered; and that education is a process, not a product. Year 1 proposed class availability

Grade	TK-K(4-6)	K-1(5-7)	1-2(6-8)	2-3(7-9)	3-4(8-10)	4-5(9-11)	5-6(10-13)	6-7(11-13)	7-8(12-14)
Classes	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Students	23	25	25	25	27	27	27	27	27
Year 1	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No



Eureka! Inclusive Charter School
Where Inclusion Elevates All

Proposed opening 2018

The Founders: Charter schools are started when community members see an educational need and decide to actively address it. Eureka! is purely a parent initiated and funded effort to address a documented need.

Tiffany Maciel, attended Olinder Elementary and San Jose High School and is the parent of two students with learning disabilities in SJUSD. Vanessa Wallace graduated from SJSU and has two children with learning disabilities in SJUSD. Both women met while serving as chair and vice chair of the SJUSD Community Advisory Committee for Special Education.

The Board: Every charter school is required by law to have a board of directors that is ultimately responsible for what the school does. Legally, the board oversees the operations of the school and makes sure it is financially sound and follows the law. The Board also helps to create the vision for how the school should operate, and is often made up of parents of children attending the charter school. Eureka! Has three designated board seats for parents of students that fall into one of three identified risk categories, SWD, EL, and economically disadvantaged.

A Founding Parent is someone who is committed to the mission and vision of Eureka! Inclusive and wants to take on a leadership role and actively participate in opening the first intentionally inclusive and universally designed school on Santa Clara County! Activities include talking to SJUSD parents that might be seeking the alternative educational experience Eureka offers, attend meetings with governing boards of education, local politicians, and community agencies that could be potential partners. Participating in the decision making process for before and after school care, enrichments, school calendar, hiring process, and lunch program, developing the Eureka! Family Handbook, and so much more! Enrollment preference can only be given for up to 10% of the schools families, we have 12 spots available! Founding Parents **are not required** to give financially to the school, and financial donations are not taken in lieu of volunteer time.

Top 10 Frequently Asked Questions

1. **How many students:** First year 150 Total size of school: 225
2. **When are we opening:** Proposed opening Fall 2018 **Where:**In talks with SJUSD Allen has been identified as an option.
3. **Before/After school care:** Currently meeting with prospective providers.
4. **Uniforms:** We will provide every student with a school t-shirt, but uniforms are not required
5. **Lunch program:** We will be members of federal school free and reduced lunch program and will decide with parents on additional meal solutions.
6. **School hours:** Grades TK-2 9:30-3:30 Grades 3-8 8:30-3:30 (playground supervised at 8 am)
7. **Any required parent participation:** We respect that our families are busy and do not require parent volunteers to supplement our programs, however, parent participation is welcome, and we provide a parent lounge, and host several family community events a month.
8. **Entrance Tests:** Testing is not required to get into the school, however, we believe in the power of early identification of learning strengths/challenges, and we have developed a comprehensive universal screening protocol to ensure children receive the supports and enhancement they need to feel welcome, and be successful from day 1!
9. **Any tuition fees:** No tuition fees, public school!
10. **What will happen if I sign the petition:** You will receive a phone call from San Jose Unified verifying your name, address, school your child/children currently attend, and your interest in enrolling your child/children at Eureka! Inclusive if it is approved for 2018/2019 school year.



Eureka! Inclusive Charter School
Where Inclusion Elevates All

Proposed opening 2018

Eureka! Inclusive TK-8 Public Charter School Board of Directors

Tiffany Maciel, Eureka! Inclusive Founder, Early Interventionist, Parent

Tiffany Maciel is a lifetime resident of San Jose and attended Olinder Elementary School and San Jose High School. She holds a B.A. in Research Psychology from Mills College and is a certified Circle of Security Early Interventionist. Tiffany serves as the disability representative on the City of San Jose Human Services Commission, is a member of Santa Clara County Strong Start and Inclusion Collaborative, and has volunteered with the American Suicide Prevention Foundation for three years.

Vanessa Wallace, Eureka! Inclusive Co-founder, Music Teacher and Parent

Vanessa Wallace holds a B.A. in Music from San Jose State University and has been teaching for over 25 years, including six years as a K-3 teacher. She currently teaches a variety of musical instruments and offers vocal instruction at Wallace Educational Services.

Elizabeth Bynum, Attorney, Ruderman & Knox, graduate of Lincoln High School, Parent

Elizabeth Bynum is a graduate of Lincoln High School, where she was a member of the band and named valedictorian. She practiced corporate law in China before moving back to the states to start a family. She currently resides in Sacramento with her husband and two daughters and is an attorney representing families of children with disabilities.

Harvard, BA East Asian Languages and Civilizations; Columbia School of Law, JD Law

Mario Blandini, VP Marketing, SwiftStack Inc., Parent

Mario Blandini was born and raised in west San Jose, and currently serves as Vice President of Marketing for San Francisco based startup company SwiftStack. He has previously lead marketing teams during the transition to the digital age for technology companies including Adaptec, Brocade, and Drobo. Mario began his career in Information Technology roles including serving 6 years in the United States Marine Corps, and is considered a thought leader on the intersection between marketing and information technology.

Laurie Blandini, Corporate Event Planner, Entrepreneur, Parent

Laurie Martinez Blandini was born and raised in San Jose, and currently serves as a Marketing consultant for a San Jose based startup company Immersion. She has previously lead event marketing programs at Silicon Valley pioneers including Lucent, Juniper Networks, Brocade, Polycom, and TiVo. Laurie owned her own Event Management company, and has volunteered for several San Jose organizations including the Career Closet.

Leland Wallace, Sr. Engineer, Apple Inc. & Owner, Wallace Educational Services, Parent

Leland Wallace was born in San Jose and raised in the Bay Area. Holds a BS in Computer & Info Sciences from UCSC. He is a 27-year employee of Apple Inc., serving as Server Platform Lead, and Security DRI. His interests include cryptography and security implementation, STEM and scientific thinking, as well as 3D printing, and the Maker Movement. Eagle Scout and member IEEE Educational Society. With his wife, Vanessa, he is co-owner of Wallace Educational Services.

Learn more about the Eureka! Inclusive mission:

Website www.eurekacharter.org Email tmaciel@eurekacharter.org Phone 408-876-0808