

Don Benito Fundamental School Fact Sheet

<p>Address: 3700 Denair Street, Pasadena, CA, 91107</p> <p>Phone: 626-396-5870</p> <p>Website: donbenito.pusd.us</p> <p>School hours: 8:45 am - 3:10 pm Monday Early Dismissal 1:30 pm</p>	<p>Grade levels: TK to 5th</p> <p>Regular school tours: check PEN calendar or call school for upcoming dates</p> <p>Parent Ambassadors: Kalea Dunkleman, Tarah Kennedy</p>
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Principal

John Maynard - Mr. Maynard was appointed principal in July 2023. He previously served as Assistant Principal at Eliot & Altadena Arts, and at McKinley.

Teachers

All of Don Benito’s classroom teachers are certificated; supported by an Instructional Coach. There is also a Wellness Teacher, a part-time Nurse, and a full-time Health Clerk.

Students Total Enrollment: **386** (Demographic data from 2022-23)

Hispanic	Non-Hispanic					Other / No ethnicity given
(Any race)	African-American	Asian	Filipino	White	2 or more ethnicities	
48.7%	6.2%	5.7%	2.8%	27.7%	7.3%	1.6%
English Language Learners (ELLs): 9.3% As English Learners progress they are first designated Initial Fluent English Proficient (7.0%) and eventually Reclassified as Fluent English-Proficient (1.0%)					Socioeconomically Disadvantaged: 57.8%	




Open Enrollment (Data from 2022-23 lotteries not necessarily predictive of next year’s outcomes)

Don Benito now has a neighborhood attendance zone, but still welcomes families from across the district through open enrollment.

# of applicants who listed school as 1st choice	72
% of applicants who listed school as 1st choice and were offered a seat	92%

PUSD will post the range of open enrollment seats projected to be available for the 2024-2025 school year in January 2024. Families are encouraged to rank all schools they would prefer to their assigned school of residence in order of preference, regardless of OE seat projections, and to opt in to the 2nd lottery if they do not get their preferred school in the 1st lottery.

Enrichment “Extras” *See also PEN Fact Sheet guide for “Enrichment Basics”*

-  Librarian paid for by Annual Fund
-  Art studio and parent art-docent program support classroom instruction
-  Hands-on science lab supported by parent volunteers, using the classroom docent model

Don Benito: what has changed in recent years? *New principal appointed in 2023. Teaching staff stable, highly experienced. Don Benito was named a California Gold Ribbon School in 2016. As of 2015, Don Benito is no longer permit-only, but continues to accept students through the Open Enrollment process. Don Benito moved early to implement Common Core and project-based learning approach to instruction.*

School Environment / Social-Emotional Learning

Mission: *We believe the academic potential of each student is unlimited. We know that one of the greatest predictors of success in life is educational success. Therefore, we are committed to creating a school that knows no limits to the academic success of each student.*

Fundamental to Don Benito Elementary School’s mission is developing children who are thoughtful, caring, and responsible, able to positively contribute to our school community while learning to work with people from all walks of life. We treat our students as individuals, worthy of respect and capable of making good choices. The school utilizes positive incentives to promote and reinforce good behavior while simultaneously enforcing specific consequences for inappropriate behavior. Incentives include special monthly awards and recognitions, achievement privileges and prizes. Consequences include recess or lunch detention, campus beautification, citations, and, in rare instances, school or home suspension. Adults on campus strive to model desirable behavior and take advantage of teachable moments. With the implementation of our [social-emotional learning curriculum](#) and increased mindfulness as a school, students learn to positively contribute to our school community while learning to work with people from all walks of life.

After-School Programs

After-school Programs: LEARNS; Before & After School Adventures (Pasadena Parks and Recreation); variety of fee-based afterschool enrichment programs offered (some need-based scholarships available). Before-school care is also available 7:00-8:25 AM.

Parent Involvement

PTA Contact: Kalea Dunkleman (president@donbenitopta.com) **PTA Membership:** 467 (2022-23)

Other Parent Involvement Opportunities: School Site Council, ELAC, African-American Parent Council; Art Docent Program, Science Docent Program, Room Parent & classroom volunteer opportunities.

Annual Fund pays for librarian, project aides and behavior aides.