

VIEWMONT ELEMENTARY



Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports Plan 2023-2024

Viewmont Elementary is committed to the development of academic and practical skills so that students can become lifelong learners. To drive this mission, we have implemented a Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports Plan.

A Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) plan is a multi-tiered framework for organizing data, systems, and practices in a way that supports each and every student. At Viewmont Elementary, we believe that:

- All students deserve to be part of a safe, nurturing community.
- All students can be inspired and empowered to love learning.
- All students can develop the ability to persevere and be resilient.

Our PBIS plan is influenced by prevention science, in other words, the risk and protective factor model. Prevention science has determined that strengthening youth protective factors, such as school engagement and community involvement, may prevent problematic behaviors, such as substance abuse or violence (*National Prevention Science Coalition, 2019*).

Our PBIS plan begins with very simple behavioral standards, which we expect of all students, and a system of rewards for prosocial involvement. It continues through each level of intervention toward targeted intervention and support for students with more specific needs.

Data collection and team decision-making inform decisions regarding positive behavioral intervention and support, and we rely on the support of our district, the greater community, and, most importantly, students, parents and guardians.

Our PBIS plan is described below:

Tier One	Evidence
Eagle Expectations	<p>The foundation of a strong school-wide PBIS program is a very simple behavior motto. Viewmont’s Eagle Expectations are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Be Respectful ● Be Responsible ● Be Safe ● <i>& Be Kind!</i> <p>A more detailed explanation of each behavior can be found in Viewmont’s school-wide behavior matrix. Students are instructed on these expectations at the beginning of each school year (and reviewed and reinforced throughout the year) by classroom teachers and the school social worker.</p> <p>The school social visited each Viewmont class on September 1, 2023, to review the school motto with the students and to give them a red/black Viewmont school motto bracelet. (Opportunities and incentives for pro-social involvement are available on Fridays, when students may wear school colors and earn Eagle Tickets.)</p>
Eagle Tickets	<p>Viewmont students are rewarded for demonstrating behavior expectations and kind actions towards others by receiving Eagle Tickets. These are given by <u>any</u> faculty or staff member and can be redeemed in their classrooms for prizes or “Eagle Experiences.” Prevention science suggests that students who receive rewards for prosocial behavior exhibit fewer risk factors.</p>
Eagle Experiences	<p>Eagle Experiences are optional activities, offered as rewards for prosocial behavior (respectful, responsible, safe & kind), for students who choose to purchase the activity using their Eagle Tickets. These experiences offer students further opportunities to interact with prosocial peers and adults who assist in facilitating these activities. Eagle Experiences are fully sponsored and supported by our PTA and are an integral part of our PBIS program.</p> <p>Our 2023-2024 Eagle Experiences are as follows:</p>

	<p>October 23 Puppy Time November 20 "Fall" into Art December 18 Connect 4 Tournament (and other games) January 31 6th Grade Read-A-Thon February 12 Cookie Art March 18 Custom Backpack Clip April 15 Wacky Science! May 20 Sports and Cheer!</p>
<p>School Spirit Days</p>	<p>All Viewmont students and staff are invited to participate in monthly “School Spirit Days” in an effort to increase student engagement in school. The 2023-2024 School Spirit Days consist of the following crazy dress opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Crazy Hair Day (September 13) ● Mismatch Day (October 11) ● Anything But A Backpack Day (November 8) ● PJ Day (December 13) ● Superhero/Princess Day (January 10) ● 100th Day! (February 5) ● Red / Pink Day (February 14) ● Disney Day (March 13) ● Twin Day (April 10) ● America Day / USA (May 8) <p>Additionally, students are encouraged to wear Viewmont school colors or logos on Fridays, and they may receive extra “Eagle Tickets,” if they are spotted wearing school colors or school shirts. New this year were bracelets, given to each student with the school colors and motto, which could be worn for additional Eagle tickets on Fridays.</p> <p>These activities contribute to a student's feeling of school connectedness and belonging. In addition, our School Spirit Dress Days contribute to positive teacher-student relationships, an important youth protective factor that is associated with fewer risk factors.</p>
<p>ASCENDING Eagle Recognition</p>	<p>Students who embody the Viewmont Vision, Viewmont Eagles ASCEND, receive an additional award. ASCEND is an acronym for:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Accountable Solution-Oriented</p>

	<p>Communicative Engaged Noble Driven</p> <p>Each quarter, each teacher selects two to four students from their class to receive this award, according to an individual quality in the vision. These students are recognized at quarterly grade-level assemblies, where the principal gives direct instruction on the meaning of each ASCEND value. Additionally, ASCENDING Eagles may be recognized on a bulletin board in the school's main lobby.</p>
<p>Highly Qualified Teachers</p>	<p>Viewmont Elementary employs a diverse faculty of highly qualified teachers who offer an engaging curriculum, which is approved by elected board members and are aligned with State standards. Viewmont teachers receive ongoing professional learning and have been trained in both equitable and trauma-informed practice. Viewmont teachers are skilled in scaffolding and differentiation to meet learners where they are.</p> <p>Additionally, Viewmont teachers and staff have a genuine interest in being around children. Each teacher and staff member are familiar with research to support this. In an article written by researchers Hammond Darling and Harvey Cook found that, "Relationships are the essential ingredient that catalyzes healthy development and learning" (Darling-Hammond & Cook-Harvey, 2018).</p>
<p>Peer Learning Communities (PLCs)</p>	<p>All teachers are part of a Professional Learning Community (PLC) and have received training on effectively participating in a PLC to affect student learning and growth. Dedicated weekly time is built into each teacher's schedule for PLC meetings. PLCs evaluate student learning data and plan strategies to help each student achieve learning targets.</p> <p>Additional instruction is given to district Inquiry teams, which include all Viewmont 2nd & 4th grade teachers, who collaborate with other grade-level district teachers and receive extra instruction and assistance in data-driven and evidence-based instruction. Our 1st & 3rd grade teachers will continue this important collaborative work at Viewmont while continuing to do their work with one</p>

	another, the school’s instructional coach, principal and the district math coach.
Instructional Coach	Viewmont teachers are further supported by a highly qualified, full-time instructional coach who specializes using a data-driven framework to inform support for struggling students. Together with the principal, she assists teachers with instructional strategies, "data dives" and progress monitoring to help students reach academic goals.
Principal and Building Leadership Team	Viewmont’s principal is dedicated to maintaining a positive school climate and to ensuring that students receive equitable access to supports. Together, the principal and the Building Leadership Team assess the strengths and needs of the school with a commitment to the school’s mission of developing “academic and practical skills so that students can become lifelong learners.” Additionally, the principal continues to work with staff members at both the school and district level to implement a restorative justice model in order to respond effectively and appropriately to student violations of behavior expectations. Restorative practices in schools encourage students to be responsible and have been shown to enhance learning (McCluskey, et al., 2008).
Student Support Team	Viewmont has a Student Support Team to whom teachers may refer students who are struggling (academically, behaviorally, socially, or with attendance concerns). Through data collection, assessment, and collaboration with parents or guardians, various supports and interventions may be implemented to support the student. Viewmont's Student Support Team meets weekly to discuss student concerns and strategies.
School Social Worker	Viewmont Elementary has a full-time school social worker who assists on all levels of PBIS, including delivering evidence-based prevention education, facilitating life skills and social skills groups, offering short-term individual counseling and connecting families to supportive resources in the community.
Classroom-Based PBIS System	Each Viewmont classroom emphasizes the three school-wide behavior expectations, as well as more specific learning behaviors. In addition to Eagle Tickets,

	<p>teachers offer creative awards to individual students and to their entire class. These awards may include the following: Student of the Day, extended Brain Breaks, or Preferred Activity Time/PAT. Some Viewmont teachers award the students points on ClassDojo, and they convert Eagle Tickets to Dojo points for the ease of purchasing prizes.</p>
<p>Restorative/Community Circles</p>	<p>Numerous Viewmont teachers have been trained in using restorative circles for building community or addressing problem behaviors. Restorative practices have shown positive effects on student behavior and school culture, as they contribute to cultural humility, a feeling of safety, and friendships (Ingram et al., 2016). Many teachers also implement a daily "Community Circle" and report on the positive impact it has on their classroom culture.</p>
<p>Eagle Postcards</p>	<p>Eagle postcards can be sent in the mail by <u>any</u> teacher or staff member to recognize students for individual achievements, growth, or service. We have found that the traditional postcard is an effective way to communicate with guardians who may not engage in electronic communication, and that the postcard also increases family rewards for prosocial involvement, when families additionally recognize their children for their success in school. The postcard is also a tangible, lasting form of positive communication and celebration between the school and home.</p>
<p>Second Step</p>	<p>Second Step is a State-adopted and district-approved, school-wide social emotional learning program that is aimed at improving students' pro-social skills. During the 2023-24 school year at Viewmont, Second Step lessons will be implemented in each class, K-6. Second Step is part of a larger group of research on social emotional learning programs, which have shown decreased emotional distress, conduct disorder and substance abuse in students receiving the lessons (Low et al., 2015).</p> <p>Viewmont faculty members participated in a Second Step training on October 18, 2023, during professional development, and teachers implemented lessons throughout the year. Additionally, the social worker visited with each class on March 4th, 5th and 6th and taught an introduction to the Second Step problem-solving model. Giant posters were hung in the</p>

	cafeteria to reinforce concepts and to encourage a common language surrounding problem solving.
Red Ribbon Week	Viewmont Red Ribbon Week is hosted by our Parent Teacher Association. and focuses on a combination school and family engagement activities as a protective factor against youth substance abuse. This year our Red Ribbon Week will be “kicked off” with a STEM Family Engagement Night.
White Ribbon Week	White Ribbon Week is led by the school principal, instruction is facilitated by teachers and staff, and supported by the School Community Council as part of our ongoing digital citizenship programming. White Ribbon Week addresses online safety, cyberbullying, inappropriate media screen time and emotional wellness. Students participate in class throughout the week and receive a prize for at-home follow-through. Parents receive communication throughout the week regarding this program in order to continue this important dialogue with their children.
Internet Safety	<p>We invite Net Positive to host a developmentally appropriate assembly each year, and teachers continue to teach and reinforce principles of internet safety and digital citizenship throughout the year.</p> <p>This year, Net Positive visited for school assemblies (younger grades then older grades) in December of 2023.</p> <p>This year, internet safety is also being reinforced in our STEM specialist classes. We also refer families to the FBI Safe Online Searching (FBI SOS) program for more tools and resources.</p> <p>Additionally, Murray School District has moved to a new filter called Content Keeper - CK Express to help provide greater levels of internet safety, and teachers utilize Net Ref to help protect students and teach safe and appropriate online activity.</p>
Prevent Child Abuse Utah	With parent/guardian consent, we use materials from Prevent Child Abuse Utah to instruct children on personal safety. These lessons will be presented by trained facilitators from Prevent Child Abuse Utah. Adverse childhood events can have implications on future

	<p>behavior, but evidence suggests that school-based interventions can successfully address trauma and build youth resilience (Dudovitz & Chung, 2019).</p>
<p>SafeUT / SafeFam</p>	<p>Safe UT and 1-800-SAFE-FAM are free, 24/7 crisis response teams that are offered by the community, particularly to help students and families through behavioral health challenges. Viewmont 5th and 6th graders are instructed on the use of Safe UT by the SaveUT Outreach Program during the month of September, and their curriculum is offered to parents to preview during drop-in time frames.</p>
<p>Family Teacher Conferences</p>	<p>Family Teacher Conferences are held twice a year, in the Fall and Spring, for two evenings each season. Research suggests that, regardless of family income or background, students whose parents are involved in their school are more likely to have higher grades and test scores, attend school regularly, have better social skills, show improved behavior, and adapt well to school (Henderson & Mapp, 2002). Families have the opportunity to participate in these either face to face or via Zoom.</p>
<p>Parent Teacher Association</p>	<p>Viewmont's Parent Teacher Association is an integral part of our PBIS program.</p> <p>Our PTA funds, organizes and provides prizes for Eagle Tickets and other student recognition; they plan and facilitate the Eagle Experiences, and they independently plan and arrange many other engaging opportunities for students to participate in school activities and earn recognition. These activities include the school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Welcome Back to School Photo Opportunities ● Fun Run ● Reflections (Art and Writing) Contest ● Spelling Bee ● Science Fair ● Red Ribbon Week (Fall) ● Teacher Appreciation Week ● District Health and Wellness Fair (Spring) ● Family Night (Spring) ● 6th Grade Fun Day and Promotion <p>PTA involvement is positively correlated to student performance in school, and Viewmont Elementary has a fabulous PTA (Cheung, 2009).</p>

<p>Family Engagement Night</p>	<p>Viemont partners with our extraordinary PTA to host evening family engagement nights, such as our "Family Game Night," or school carnival, which will be held on May 31, 2024. Family Game Night offers additional opportunities for students to redeem Eagle Tickets to dunk their teacher in the dunk tank!</p>
<p>School-Sponsored After-School Programs</p>	<p>Viewmont sponsors several after-school programs throughout the school year, which are prosocial activities that students may participate in with parental consent. This year, our programs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School Choir ● School Musical ● Peer Leadership Team (New 2023-2024!) ● Math Olympiad ● Debate ● After-School Art Class (New 2023-2024!) ● Girls on the Run <p>Opportunities for and rewards for involvement with prosocial peers and prosocial adults are correlated with a decrease in risky behaviors, indicated by youth protection surveys. Additionally, participation in the school choir and school musical can improve family relationships, where families are involved or attend.</p> <p>This year, we offered a new after-school activity to students in 5th and 6th grades, a ten-week art class. With three sessions, we were able to serve 63 students, 55% of our 5th and 6th grade population! Students shared great feedback about the class.</p>
<p>Community Opportunities</p>	<p>Viewmont students have many opportunities to be part of our local community. Community involvement is a protective factor that is correlated with fewer risk factors, including suicide ideation (Armstrong & Manion, 2015). Students may find opportunities for community involvement through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Murray Community Parks and Recreation ● Murray City Library ● Murray Boys and Girls Club ● Murray High School (Camps, Clinics, etc.) ● Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts

	<p>Additionally, Murray has various and diverse churches that welcome Viewmont families and provide additional support. “Religiosity” has been identified in prevention science as a youth protective factor which is associated with fewer risk factors.</p>
--	---

Tier 2	
Botvin Life Skills 5th Grade	<p>The Botvin Life Skills Training Program is deliberate prevention education, which we implement in our fifth grade classes. Our Botvin Life Skills lessons are taught by a police officer from our local police department. Botvin Life Skills has been researched for over 40 years and has demonstrated lasting results on substance abuse prevention among youth (https://www.lifeskillstraining.com/fact-sheet/). Botvin Life Skills is taught in the Fall at Viewmont Elementary.</p>
VOA Living Skills 6th Grade	<p>Viewmont Elementary has implemented "Living Skills" lessons in our 6th grade. Our Living Skills program is instructed by a trained facilitator from Volunteers of America's Prevention Education program (formerly Cornerstone Counseling). Living Skills covers topics such as self-concept, cooperation, and expressing feelings in healthy ways. Living Skills is taught in the Fall at Viewmont.</p>
Kidney Table Model of Intervention & Reading Groups	<p>Teachers use a kidney table model of intervention in class to re-teach academic concepts and help students achieve learning targets. School engagement and achievement is a protective factor that can mitigate many risk factors.</p> <p>Additionally, we have a multi-tiered reading and math intervention program where students receive small-group instruction from highly skilled interventionists. Ongoing assessments inform group decisions, and adjustments are made frequently to help children meet learning targets.</p>
English Language Arts (ELA) and Math Support	<p>Viewmont students receive additional reading, ELA, and math support, assigned according to student assessment data. Supportive instruction is given in small groups facilitated by highly skilled paraprofessionals. Viewmont Elementary has some of the most highly qualified</p>

	paraprofessionals in the school district.
Classroom Behavior Supports	Many Viewmont teachers implement classroom mindfulness activities and classroom "Calm Corners." Calm Corner supports/supplies were funded in both 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 with funding from the Murray Education Foundation. Additionally, students may be offered flexible seating, wiggle bands, and sensory or fidget items to support learning behavior.

Tier 3	
Check-In / Check-Out	Viewmont Elementary has a check-in / check-out mentor (our Student Advocate) who carries a caseload of students referred for behavior needs. These students have a daily tracker which allows them to earn points toward prizes. Behavior collected through the check-in / check-out program has been helpful to families seeking assistance through outside medical or behavioral health providers. This data has also allowed the school to determine if the modifications we have in place are working or if we need to try other supports. During the 2023-2024 school year, Viewmont added a second student advocate to deliver this service.
District Attendance Mentors	New in the 2023-2024 school year, Murray City School District added two attendance mentors, who mentored several students at our school. Parents of students with chronic absenteeism are alerted by a letter sent through the school secretary and logged in the student information system, Aspire. Students may be referred to district attendance classes and indicated students may receive individual mentoring and incentives by classroom teachers, the school counselor or advocate or, in special circumstances, one of the two phenomenal district attendance mentors.
Special Education	Special education delivers the services of individualized education plans (IEPs), which meet the unique needs of students with disabilities. In addition to providing specialized instruction targeting academic needs, it <i>may</i> include the following services:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Speech and Language ● Educational Psychology ● Occupational Therapy ● Behavior Support ● Nursing
504 Accommodation Plan	504 plans (stem from Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973) are written accommodations to support students with disabilities who don't require the specialized instruction offered for students with IEPs. Viewmont Elementary engages in equitable practices to help all students develop academic and practical skills.
English Learner Support (EL)	EL support is offered for students who are learning in their second or sometimes third language. Students need to have access to learning English in 4 Domains: Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing. Support for this may include pull-out services (based upon their WIDA level) as well as personalized instruction in their classroom using ELLevations identified and SIOP based strategies. It also involves ongoing progress monitoring using Flashlight 360.
Youth in Care (YIC) Mentor/ Check and Connect	Our school has a YIC mentor (who we share with other schools) who mentors students using the Check and Connect model, which has been shown to increase youth protection and decrease risk (Check and Connect, 2022). She offers consistency, a "brain break," and another opportunity for the student to build a relationship with a pro-social adult. Additionally, the State's YIC program follows to their next school to help with transitions that are often frequent for Youth in Care.
Interpretation Service	Murray City School District uses the Propio interpretation services, when a family has a need for interpretation that we can't support with our school and district staff. This program is used frequently at Viewmont to ensure strong communication with families and continue to build home-school relationships that are supportive to our students. Additionally, for quick and most immediate translation services, we also have access to a Langogo device.
School-Based Therapist (Odyssey House)	In partnership with Odyssey House, Viewmont Elementary provides office space for a full-time licensed therapist to meet with students at school during the school

	<p>day. Additionally, Murray City School District has allocated grant funding for students whose families are not able to fund this service through private or government-sponsored insurance. Evidence suggests that when youth are provided appropriate treatment for trauma and mental health challenges, they are less likely to experience mental health disorders and substance abuse (<i>Adverse Childhood Experiences</i>, 2021).</p>
<p>VOA Living Skills (Small Groups)</p>	<p>Four Living Skills groups will be facilitated this year to indicated students in 2nd through 6th grade. Living Skills is instructed by a trained and experienced facilitator from Volunteers of America (formerly Cornerstone Counseling). Parent consent is required for participation in this program. These groups focus on the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cooperation ● Feelings ● Valuing Differences ● Problem Solving ● Healthy Friendships ● Managing Stress <p>Living Skills groups run on Thursdays throughout the school year and last for ten weeks each. All effort is taken to avoid interrupting Tier 2 reading groups and math instruction.</p> <p>Living Skills groups for 3rd and 4th graders were facilitated from October 4, 2023 through November 30, 2023. Living Skills groups for 2nd and 6th graders began December 1, 2023 and continued through February 22nd. Five groups were facilitated, in total.</p> <p>Twenty-seven students participated in Living Skills groups this year, and student data indicated that Viewmont students who participated learned something in living skills, and some students appeared to improve their friendships and emotional regulation following the program.</p>
<p>Kimochi's and Peekapak</p>	<p>Kimochi's and Peekapak were utilized as small group curricula for younger students. Kimochi's was used on an on-going basis by our student advocates, and Peekapak was piloted as a small group for students in first and second grades. Parent and teacher feedback was positive</p>

	about the group curricula.
Bully Prevention	In addition to Second Step, which includes universal bully prevention, Viewmont uses two tools to further instruct students on bully prevention, when needed. The Tough Kids Bully Blocker and Bullyology may be implemented as Tier I, II or III interventions, and parts of the curricula were used in restorative conversations with students in teh 2023-2024 year.
Restorative Justice Model	The school responds to student behavior violations in accordance with MSCD Board Policy as well as using a restorative model. Behavior interventions are logged in Aspire, our student information system.
School Resource Officer	Viewmont has access to a School Resource Officer (SRO) (in partnership with Murray City Police). Evidence suggests that students are more likely to feel safe in school, when there are visible safety measures, and feeling safe in school is correlated with school engagement. Viewmont has previously measured student feelings of safety as part of the CAYCI survey and SHARP survey. On October 25, 2023, a police officer from Murray Police department visited our students in a school-wide assembly to promote healthy (drug-free) lifestyles and to build relationships with the students. Students love seeing him perform with his police dog!
KidsEat and Deseret Industries	KidsEat is our community partner who provides weekend food bags to students-in-need, and Deseret Industries is our partner who provides clothing and household items to families, free of charge (based on limited grant funding). A "whole child" approach to education can improve school climate and student learning (Darling-Hammond & Cook-Harvey, 2018). In the 2023-2024 school year, we distributed 3 KidsEat bags per week. In several occasions, the bags were delivered directly to students' doorsteps by the school social worker, teachers and student advocates.
Operation School Bell	Operation School Bell is a long-standing program in the community, which is supported by the Assistance League of Salt Lake. Viewmont Elementary receives school clothing and coats for individual students through Operation School Bell each year. This donation is

	coordinated by the school social worker and student advocate.
Community Cereal Drive	This Spring a family from our Viewmont community partnered with Miss Murray to host a community "Cereal Drive." With this generous donation, we were able to distribute cereal to Viewmont families to support students over Spring Break.
Smart Smiles and EyeCare for Kids	Smart Smilies is a school based oral health program that is now offered to MCSD students on school campuses. EyeCare for Kids offers affordable vision services for students-in-need. Serving the basic needs of students can help them engage in school and experience positive feelings toward the community.
Sight Fest	Murray School District sponsors "Sight Fest" where qualifying students receive vision exams and glasses with transportation from the school (a school bus). Sight Fest applications were messaged, mailed and sent with students throughout the fall and winter. In the 2023-2024 school year, several students were served by Sight Fest, riding in a school bus to the district office for the doctor's visit and glasses selection.
Holiday Donations	Holiday gifts were given to Viewmont families in December and included gift cards to popular clothing retailers, snow pants and boots and some toy items. Community resources offered at schools improve school/family relationships and may positively affect school attendance.
211	211 is a human resources helpline and website, which is supported by United Way of Utah. 211 can give students, families and faculty members information on health and human resources that can build youth protection or address youth risk factors.
Community Help Lines	Information about community help lines was shared in the 2023-2024 school year. This includes information about 988, the suicide and crisis lifeline, and Safe Fam. Safe Fam visited Viewmont Elementary once this school to help a family with a critical situation.
MeTime and/or Stress Busters (Salt Lake County Youth Services)	MeTime is an evidence-based, small group program instructed by a trained facilitator from Salt Lake County Youth Services. MeTime has shown lasting positive

	effects in regards to lowering youth feelings of depression following the six-week curriculum. Viewmont has access to MeTime for 6th grade students, if enough need presents itself.
Additional Youth Services Programs	Additional Youth Services programs include the juvenile receiving center (JRC), free crisis counseling and free family workshops to promote healthy family interactions. These may be offered on a Murray district campus if enough need presents itself or, always, at the nearby Youth Services campus.
Collaboration with the Division of Child and Family Resources	Occasionally, outreach is needed to the Division of Child and Family Services to further support students with safety and wellness. They provide support for children and families who are experiencing abuse and/or neglect.