



Asetine School
EDUCATE • GROW • EMPOWER
—Since 1968—

2024-2025

ANNUAL REPORT



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Learning beyond the classroom.

Letter From The Executive Director



May Padilla
Executive Director
Aseltine School

“Education
does not
change the
world.
Education
changes
people.
People
change the
world.”
— Paulo Freire

As we reflect on the 2024–2025 school year, we are honored to celebrate Aseltine’s 57-year legacy of serving K–12 students whose needs extend beyond what traditional school environments can provide. For more than five decades, Aseltine has been a place of second chances, steady guidance, and unwavering belief in every child’s potential.

Each year brings new challenges and new opportunities—and through it all, we remain deeply committed to evolving our practices so we can meet students exactly where they are. This year, that commitment translated into meaningful growth across our campus. More than 76% of students met their individualized academic goals, with many making one or more years of progress in reading, writing, and mathematics. At the same time, our focus on conflict resolution and violence-prevention strategies led to 0 suspensions and a 26% decrease in behavioral emergencies.

These outcomes reflect far more than data points—they represent restored confidence, renewed hope, and students discovering their own strength. They also speak to the intentional, compassionate environment we strive to create every day—one rooted in trust, connection, and shared responsibility for success.

Most importantly, these achievements are possible because of you. Our students thrive because they are surrounded by a community of loyal supporters—families, staff, partners, and donors—who believe in them, advocate for them, and invest in their futures. Your generosity ensures that our learners have access to the tools, programs, and opportunities they need to heal, grow, and flourish. Your support reminds our students that they are seen, valued, and capable of greatness.

We are continually inspired by our students’ resilience and perseverance, and we are grateful for the village that walks alongside them. As we look ahead, we do so with hope, gratitude, and excitement for what lies ahead. Thank you for being an essential part of the Aseltine community. Together, we are helping every student move closer to realizing their full potential.

With sincere appreciation,

Florida “May” Padilla
Principal / Executive Director

Board of Directors



Dr. Lisa Spencer - President - 7 years

Robert Fowler - Treasurer - 43 years

Jackie Bailey - Secretary - 3 years

Tim Henning - 8 years

Erik Swenson - 3 years

Ariana Wagner - 2 years

Kelly Hamm - 1 year

In Celebration of Her Life



Speech-Language Pathologist Mary Ann has profoundly impacted the lives of countless students during her 36 years at Asepline School. Her patience, expertise, and genuine care helped students strengthen their communication skills while growing in confidence and self-belief. The time she spent working with each student — guiding their development, encouraging their progress, and truly getting to know each of them — left a lasting impression that will continue well beyond the classroom. Her passing is a tremendous loss to our school community, but her legacy lives on in the voices, spirit, and success of the students she supported so wholeheartedly. We will continue to honor and carry forward her legacy!



OUR DONORS

Alpha Delta Kappa - CA
 ETA Chapter
 American Online
 Giving Foundation
 American Finest
 Delivery- Robert Mahone
 Jr.
 Angels of Aseltine
 Auxiliary
 Anonymous Donor
 Ariana & Zack Wagner
 Barbara Ellis
 Bill Graham Supporting
 Foundation of the Jewish
 Community Federation
 and Endowment Fund
 Bruno & Associates-
 Aline Miranda
 Bob & MaryAnn Blais
 California Coast Credit
 Union
 Charles & Carol Ulrey
 Clair & Pat Cunningham
 Connected 3030
 Learning Solutions
 Day For Change
 Dickinson Foundation
 Ed & Evy Newton
 Edwin W Rubel
 Erik & Tamara Swenson
 Eve Daggett
 Farah Zeeda
 Friends Of Children
 United Society
 (F.O.C.U.S.)
 Frank & Eileen Konicki

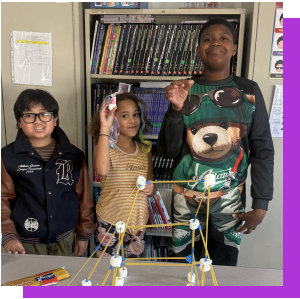
Hanna Gleiberman
 Isabelle Piccini
 Jacqueline Bailey
 Jane Weil
 John R. Mabee
 Judith Stubbs
 Keith & Priscilla Webb
 Kelly & Chris Hamm
 Kroger
 Lisa & Pete Spencer
 Lopez Painting
 Marcia Andrews
 Mark and Annie Ruiz
 Mary Kennedy-Jacob
 Michele Fregoe
 Mike & Marjorie Shaw
 Monica Garcia
 Niamul Khan
 Nicole Ynostroza
 Patrick & Pamela Sullivan
 Randy & Yumi Slinkard
 R.C. Baker Foundation
 Richard & Jean Moomaw
 Rhonda Pohn
 Robert Plunkett
 Robert Forte
 Robert & Jean Fowler

Rudy Myers
 Ryan Family Charitable
 Foundation
 St. John the Evangelist
 Catholic Church and
 Parishioners
 Susan Farrell
 Sound Lounge Studio
 Tim & Noelia Henning
 The Cameron Family
 Foundation
 The Thomas C Ackerman
 Foundation
 The Walter J. & Betty C.
 Zable Foundation
 Tracy B. Shaw
 Ursula "Terry" Koehler
 William "Jerry" Berberet

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.” — Margaret Mead



Educating & Empowering the Future



Mission Statement:

To educate and empower students to become critical thinkers of the world.

Equity is central to our mission—ensuring every student has the access, support, and opportunity needed to thrive.



Vision Statement:

Aseltine School nurtures, challenges and engages K-12 students who do not learn like other children. Recognizing that students are experts of their own world, Aseltine validates students' experiences and opinions, empowering them to transform from angry, discouraged young people into passionate learners, critical thinkers, creative problem-solvers and positive role models prepared to thrive on challenge in school and in the community.



Motto Statement:

"There I Couldn't - Here I Can"

Core Values:



Culture:

- Small class sizes.
- High staff-to-student ratio.
- Rigorous academics.
- Fine arts education.
- Cultural enrichment opportunities.
- Creative problem-solving.
- Competitive sports.
- Critical thinking.
- Individualized instruction.
- Staff who care.

Preparing our students for an independent and prosperous future!



Compassion:

Since 1968, Aseltine School has welcomed, nurtured, and engaged K-12 students in San Diego whose needs are not met in traditional educational settings. Aseltine's innovative program is transformative. We strongly believe in the intelligence, creativity, capability, and resourcefulness of our students. At Aseltine, students learn to embrace challenges and view past failures and current difficulties as opportunities for growth and change. The Aseltine community is exceptionally supportive; we ensure all members are treated with respect and everyone is listened to, valued, and heard. Here, students regain their curiosity, confidence, and competencies as active learners and creative problem-solvers.

Our Highlights

Support Services

Our students receive:

- Specialized Academic Instruction
- Behavior Intervention Services
- Counseling and Guidance
- Speech and Language Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Vocational and Career Development



Student Populations



80%
Autism



71%
Multiple Disabilities



82%
Emotional/
Behavioral
Disabilities



76%
Other Health
Impairment

100%

neurodivergent with boundless opportunities



More Than Just Academics



Sports Elective



Music Elective



Culinary & Visual Arts
Elective



Tech & Gaming Club



STEAM Elective



Problem-Solving Sessions



Outreach/ Field Trips



Parent Letter

Dear Asetline Friends,

Thank you ALL so much for your care, kindness, and community. Thank you for taking such good care of Skye and for creating the conditions that allowed him to thrive. Skye has transitioned into his new school with confidence and his sense of resilience intact. It is a beautiful thing to see. The work you do matters greatly, and I am grateful for all your support through these past few years.

Former Parent-
Martha Clavelle



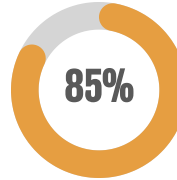
Year in Review



New Classroom Alert!

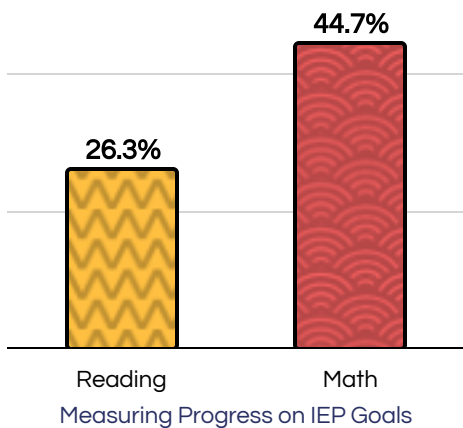
The school year kicked off with new classes, new friends, and new opportunities. We were excited to welcome a new teacher, Gabriel Rodriguez, to our elementary school program, which will accommodate our growing population of younger students and provide greater flexibility as we work toward our goal of serving more students. We have not opened an additional classroom in nearly 20 years, and we are grateful for the opportunity to expand - a time for setting goals and embracing the excitement of learning.

Outreach



of our student benefited from additional services through Saturday School, Outreach, or Alternative days to improve their attendance, work completion, and community connection.

Academic Goals



Measurement of IEP goal progress indicates that most students met or exceeded grade-level expectations in core academic subjects.



39

Highest Enrollment for 24-25 School Year!

More than 30% of students transitioned back to public school during the year with the confidence and skills to succeed!

Behavior Goals



Attendance:

- Above 75%: 84% students
- Above 90%: 73% students



Work Completion:

- Above 75%: 84% students



Suspensions:



So proud of our students! This reflection highlights the incredible commitment of our students and staff.



Health & Safety:

- 75% or higher: 100% students

Financial Highlights

Income

vs

Expenses

\$2.5M

93%

TUITION

1.8%

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

3.8%

GRANTS

1.4%

OTHER INCOME

DONATIONS RAISED

\$125K

\$2.3M

85.4%

STUDENT PROGRAMS

11.7%

TEACHER DEVELOPMENT

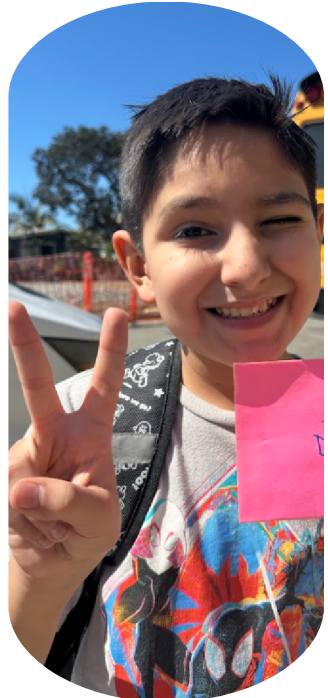
2.9%

FUNDRAISING

The following is a summary of our income and expenses. Please contact our Development Director at gweil@aseltine.org to request a copy of our most recent 990. We are committed to transparency and ensuring that every dollar contributed is maximized for impact in the classroom.

200 

Community Partners and Donors



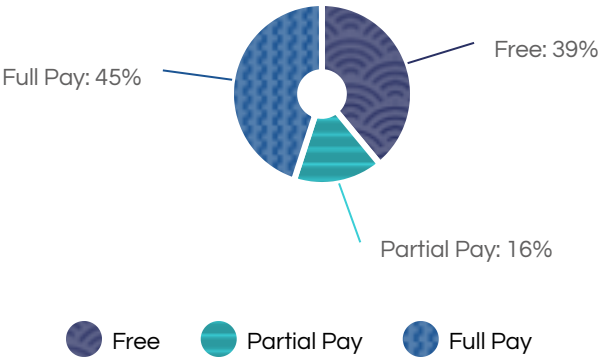
30% 

of students participated in outreach excursions, exploring community destinations such as the San Diego Zoo, music studios, nurseries, and more.



Asepline Community

Lunch Status



31% of students are supported with Intensive Individualized Services

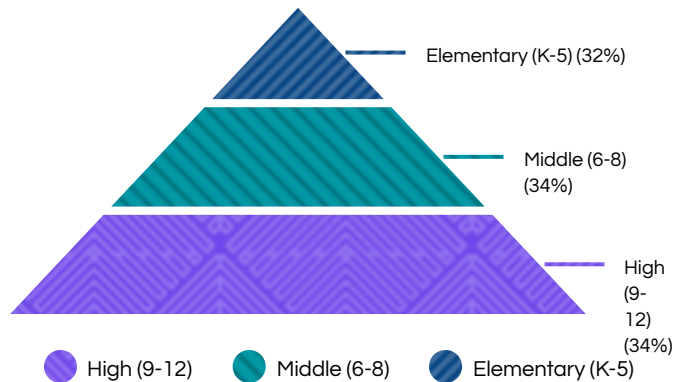
More than half of our students benefit from nutrition assistance programs, underscoring the role these services play in student wellness and academic readiness.



13% of students received food bags to support household food security.



Received over 1,500 items for this year's Food Drive! Thank you, Supporters!



Grade Levels Served

Districts We Serve

East County SELPA

Cajon Valley School District
Grossmont Union High School
Dehesa Union School District
La Mesa/Spring Valley District
Lakeside Union School District
Mountain Empire Unified School District
Santee School District

North Coastal SELPA

Oceanside Unified School District
San Dieguito Union High School District
San Marcos Unified School District
Vista Unified School District



El Dorado SELPA

Hawking STEAM Charter High Tech High

South County SELPA

Chula Vista Elementary School District
National School District
South Bay School District
Sweetwater Union High School District

North Inland SELPA

Ramona Unified School District

Poway Unified SELPA

San Diego Unified SELPA



Contact

MAILING ADDRESS:

4027 Normal Street
San Diego, CA 92103

MAIN OFFICE:

Email: info@aseltine.org
Phone: 619-296-2135

WAYS TO SUPPORT:

<https://aseltine.org/donate-now/>



SOCIAL MEDIA:

Facebook:
facebook.com/Asepline.School

LinkedIn:
linkedin.com/asepline-school

Instagram:
instagram.com/asepline.school

With the support of our community, Asepline School continues to provide meaningful opportunities that help every student thrive!

