



## More Than Just Books...Our Elementary Libraries

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Elementary school libraries and experienced librarians are part of every student's week – if they go to Moraga's Public Elementary schools. Across the US, research has shown that students in schools with good school libraries, learn more, get better grades and score higher on standardized test scores than their peers in schools without libraries.

While inspiring literacy in learners of all ages is central to their role, the benefits of our library program goes beyond the books:

- All of our librarians collaborate with classroom teachers to support the new Writing Program identifying special selections and giving students guidance during weekly class library time.
- Our librarians work together to maintain a collection of valuable resources at each school and arrange author visits for students.
- School libraries are open during morning recess, lunch recess, and sometimes after school, providing students a safe, quiet place to hang out.
- LPs "Read to Dogs", an after school program at Los Perales, increases student fluency and confidence in reading by allowing kids to read to dogs from ARF.
- At Rheem, the librarian leads bi-monthly art and crafts projects in the library at lunchtime recess, sparking the creative minds of students.
- The addition of beanbags, live plants and librarians who sometimes dress in costume, creates a space where students can relax with a good book in a supportive, fun and nurturing environment.

This combination of supportive programs, experienced librarians and safe, comfortable spaces each school has created, impact student achievement.

As the education process moves from content-driven learning to student inquiry-driven learning with the implementation of Common Core Standards, students need to understand information and defend their position, rather than simply know the information. Our School libraries and more importantly, our librarians, are playing a critical role in this transition as they support classroom teachers, parents and students in the process.

Moraga Elementary School libraries are funded 100% by donations to the Moraga Education Foundation. Keep our libraries open and support every student, every day!