

Cypress School Staff

- Cypress School Director has a Masters in Special Education, a Special Education and Regular Education Credential, and is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst with over 40 years experience.
- Cypress School Teachers are fully qualified, with special education credentials and years of experience individualizing curriculum, as well as expertise in developing educational and vocational training opportunities in the community, for each student.
- Cypress School Instructional Aides are highly trained with years of specialized experience in meeting the behavioral and educational needs of every student we support.
- Occupational Therapists, Speech and Language Pathologists, and a Licensed Clinical Social Worker provide additional therapy for students on a weekly basis.

Cypress School Hours of Operation & Community Services

- School hours are 9:00 a.m. to 2:18 p.m. weekdays except one Wednesday per month when students are dismissed at noon to accommodate Teacher and Instructional Assistant Training.
- Cypress School is an important resource for family members and the community, offering disability awareness, education, and training.



United Cerebral Palsy of the North Bay™

United Cerebral Palsy of the North Bay is a locally run, 501(c)(3) organization founded in 1981 after the merger of United Cerebral Palsy of Marin (1954) and United Cerebral Palsy of Sonoma (1969). We provide services for people with disabilities and their families living in Sonoma, Napa, and Solano Counties and students throughout the greater Bay Area. Our main office is located at Cypress School in Petaluma, with employment programs located at WineBev Services in Napa and Gone For Good, Secure Document Destruction in Fairfield.

Mission Statement

“To enhance the quality of life of people with cerebral palsy and other disabilities, their families, and their communities.”



Laura Briggin,
Cypress School Director

For More Information:

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Rev. April 2011



Cypress School

Learning without limits



Cypress School
Autism and Behavioral Services
Learning without limits for people with disabilities

Cypress School Overview

Cypress School specializes in serving children and young adults ages 5-22 with autism and other developmental disabilities. Students enrolled in our program are provided with positive behavior supports, adapted curriculum, and a variety of therapeutic activities to become more independent at school, at home and in the community. We believe that students with even the most challenging disabilities have the right to quality education and transition services.

Our students learn academic, social, and life skills in a positive, nurturing environment. Cypress School is conveniently located in southern Sonoma County and is open to students from throughout the greater San Francisco Bay Area. Cypress School is fully accessible for students with physical disabilities. Students participate in community education and recreation activities with staff support on a daily basis.



Old Adobe/Diablo Valley Vegetable Garden

“The garden program provides vegetables for the Petaluma Kitchen and gives our students the opportunity to be on the giving end of the equation.”

- Mike Carbahal, Sr.
Cypress School Parent and
State Park District Maintenance Chief III

Cypress School Facilities

➤ Cypress School has five classrooms that provide structured teaching environments for functional academics. Teachers use an assortment of materials for academic and pre-vocational activities. A variety of resources are utilized for transition-age academics, employment, and continuing education.

➤ Two Sensory-Motor Rooms provide special motor activity centers and play areas. Students receive training from our occupational therapists to help with stimulation as well as specific physical challenges.

➤ A Computer Lab has computers, laptops and ipads for individual and group instruction. With adaptive hardware and software programs, our students achieve academic and communication skills.

➤ A Speech & Language Room is equipped for individual and group activities provided by speech & language therapists.

➤ A Counseling Room provides space for 1:1 counseling and play therapy with a licensed clinical social worker. Parent support is also available.



Cypress School Curriculum

Cypress School uses California Content Standard Curriculum and instructional materials designed for students with special needs. Our curriculum promotes developmental learning and the acquisition of social and communication skills.

Individual Education Plans are written for each student that help them progress.

➤ Students develop basic attending, inter-personal interaction, reading, mathematics, social studies, and science skills.

➤ Students access the community on a daily basis, enjoying the natural beauty of nearby Schollenberger Park. Students grow organic fruits and vegetables at our community garden.

➤ Students participate in classroom and vocational and service learning activities including clerical, landscaping, janitorial, assembly, and packaging.

➤ Students develop positive behavior skills through a variety of communication, social, and sensory regulating classroom and community activities.

➤ Students educational and therapeutic activities are adapted and shared with families.

