

Foussat Elementary: Building One Connected System of Care

How a California elementary school is connecting universal screening, classroom instruction, and clinical services to ensure students receive the support they need before challenges become crises.

Seeing Students Sooner. Supporting Them Faster.

At Foussat Elementary in Oceanside Unified School District (CA), educators wanted more than another behavioral and mental health program, they wanted a coordinated system that could identify student needs early, build skills in every classroom, and connect students with clinical support when needed. Today, DESSA x Move This World and The Stepping Stones Group work together to make that possible.



The Challenge

Before implementing this approach, school leaders recognized several important gaps:

- Students needing additional support were difficult to identify consistently
- Some students simply had “no other option” for receiving behavioral or mental health services
- Teachers needed social, emotional, and behavioral instruction that fit naturally into busy classroom schedules
- The school wanted a clearer pathway from identifying needs to delivering meaningful support

One Connected System



“There was a student we had no other option for, and now he gets clinician support weekly.”

-Foussat Elementary Educator

What's Changed?

Universal Screening

- Approximately 640 students (89%) were screened during the pilot
- Students needing additional support identified proactively
- Appropriate supports matched to targeted needs

Classroom Skill-Building

- 85% of teachers use Move This World weekly
- Teachers average 2+ lessons each week
- Lessons fit naturally into existing classroom routines

Teachers repeatedly described the program as

- Easy to use
- Requiring minimal preparation
- Sustainable
- Not “one more thing” to add to their day

Clinical Support

- 180+ clinical services delivered
- Students connected to care more quickly
- School-based therapy reduced barriers for families seeking support



“Everybody has six minutes.”

One teacher summed up why implementation has been successful in a single sentence. Move This World’s short, plug-and-play lessons require little preparation and fit naturally into classroom routines, making consistent implementation realistic, even during busy school days.

Beyond the Numbers - What Educators Are Seeing:

Teachers report students are:	Students themselves reported:
• Using calming strategies independently • Referring to techniques like “Balloon Breath” • Demonstrating stronger emotional regulation • Participating more during instruction • Using more expressive language • Building stronger classroom community	• Feeling calmer • Better able to control emotions • Having better days at school

A Model for Whole-Child Support

Foussat Elementary demonstrates what's possible when behavioral and mental health support is connected rather than fragmented. Universal screening identifies student needs, classroom instruction strengthens foundational skills, and school-based clinical services ensure students with greater needs receive timely support. Together, these components create a coordinated system that helps students thrive academically, socially, and emotionally

