



PRESS RELEASE

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Academic Performance Index for PUSD Holds Strong at 893 **Once Again, All PUSD Schools Score Above State's API Goal of 800**

Reports for academic progress for schools in the state of California have been released and the Poway Unified School District is pleased to report that the overall Academic Performance Index (API) score for PUSD is 893. All PUSD comprehensive high schools, middle schools, and elementary schools exceeded the designated target score of 800 which the state has set for all schools to reach by the year 2014. Notably, 98% of PUSD 10th graders passed the High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE.)

Poway Unified Superintendent, Dr. John Collins said, "The students of PUSD continue to perform very well on state assessments. This year we saw significant increases in the performance of specific student groups, including Socioeconomically Disadvantaged Students and Students with Disabilities. We believe that these increases are a result of district-wide efforts to close the achievement gap and ensure that all of our students are college and career ready when they leave us. And while we celebrate these gains, we know we still have work to do in order to close the gap."

The academic performance index measures year-to-year academic performance and growth in schools and districts throughout the state. The API is based upon student results on the California Standards Test (CST), given to students in grades 2-11 in the spring of each year. For high schools, the results of the California High School Exit Exam are factored into the student performance scores. The API is also a component of the Federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) requirements.

The California Department of Education and the State Board of Education have announced a plan for California students to be tested on the newly-adopted California Common Core State Standards in spring 2015. The state legislature is still considering the content and extent of the state testing that will take place in spring, 2014.

"Like every other district in the state, we are in a transition period, training our teachers and preparing our students for the California Common Core State Standards. This transition will take commitment and hard work on the part of our teachers, staff, administrators, parents, and our students. We are a district well-prepared to do this work and deeply committed to the on-going success of our students," Superintendent Dr. John Collins stated.

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