

BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Russ Hanley  
William J. Henderson Jr.  
Kevin J. Martinez  
James R. Prescott  
Jennifer Blanco



ADMINISTRATION  
David E. Hutt, Ed.D.  
Superintendent  
Pam Robertson  
Assistant Superintendent  
Karen Schenck  
Assistant Superintendent  
Lynn Orong  
Chief Business Officer

ALLEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
875 West Angus Ave.  
SAN BRUNO, CA 94066

Kathleen Obar Cosgriff  
Principal

April 6, 2009

To the Parents/Guardians of students at Allen Elementary School:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with the latest information about student performance and academic achievement in your school.

Allen School receives Title 1 funds through the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001. The NCLB program requires schools to be assessed each year to determine if they are making adequate yearly progress (AYP) toward meeting the state's student academic achievement standards. A school is identified as a Program Improvement (PI) school after two consecutive years of not making AYP and advances in PI status until it makes AYP for two consecutive years.

California determines AYP by considering the following three measures:

1. The percentage of students scoring at the "proficient" or "advanced" level on the California Standards Tests (CST) for English language arts and mathematics;
2. The percentage of students participating in those tests; and
3. California's own accountability measurement of progress, the Academic Performance Index (API).

For the past two years Allen has met 20 out of 21 AYP criteria. Mathematics continues to be a particular strength with all groups meeting their AYP goals. English/Language Arts is more challenging for our students, many of whom (about 40%) are not fluent English speakers.

In 06-07 our English Learners missed their goal by approximately one percentage point. In 07-08 the EL's met the target, but our socio-economically disadvantaged students did not. A Title I school is identified for Program Improvement (PI) when, for two consecutive years, *any* subgroup fails to make AYP in the *same* content area (English-language arts or mathematics). For this reason Allen has been identified as a Program Improvement school.

Your principal, teachers, staff and parent leadership are working hard to make the necessary improvements to increase student achievement this year and to guarantee all students participate in the upcoming CST. We believe that Allen is a good school with an excellent future and we are committed to offering your child the best education possible.

You are also invited to help make our school one of the most successful schools in San Bruno. Research shows that strong parental involvement leads to student success at school. We need all parents to be involved with Allen's activities and events.

Finally, you have the option to request a transfer for your child(ren) to a non-PI district school with the cost of transporting your child to the new school being reimbursed by the District, subject to available funding. If the demand for choice and transportation exceeds funding or space available, priority will be given to the lowest achieving low-income students. Please be aware that transportation will be discontinued once our school is no longer a PI school.

The following schools are not in PI and are available to accept transfers:

Crestmoor: 850 API

El Crystal: 852 API

John Muir: 838 API

Portola: 864 API

Rollingwood: 792 API

The schools' Accountability Progress Reports may be obtained from the school or on the California Department of Education (CDE) web site at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ay>.

If you decide you want to transfer your child, please submit your top choices of schools on the enclosed form by Tuesday April 21, 2009 to the district office. It cannot be guaranteed that your first choice will be available, therefore list the maximum number of choices from the schools above on your application.

If you decide to continue to attend Allen, please be assured that the school's focus is to improve the academic achievement of all students. Classrooms utilize standards based core curriculum in all academic areas. All school staff participate in professional development to ensure the alignment of content standards with the core curriculum and instructional materials. Student progress is closely monitored and language arts and math interventions are used to enhance students' performance.

If you have any questions, need additional information on how you can get involved in our school improvement efforts, or would like to discuss the school's instructional program and PI status, please call (624-3140) or visit our school.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Cosgriff  
Principal