



Sacramento City Unified School District
5735 47th Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95824
916.643.9040
916.643.9049 FAX

News Release

For Release
Sept. 15, 2009

Contact: Maria L. Lopez
(916) 643-9043

Tuesday, Sept. 15 at 10 a.m.

Sac City Unified students increase academic growth among all groups, but not sufficient to meet higher federal targets at all schools

Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD) Jonathan P. Raymond said Tuesday students progress in both state and federal accountability measures for every student group but progress was not sufficient to meet higher new national performance bars in English Language Arts and Mathematics. Raymond released district results on Sept. 15 at 10 a.m. at Ethel Phillips Elementary School, 2930 21st Ave.

“We moved forward, but not enough for too many students,” Raymond said. He added, “Today’s news conference is about informing our community about how well we are serving our students,” Raymond said. “It is important that we be transparent and takes ownership for our results and that we showcase our principals and schools who are increasing student achievement on their campuses.”

Among the state API highlights Raymond released:

- Under the state Academic Performance Index (API) accountability system, SCUSD gained 11-points to reach 746 on the API which matched the county and was under the overall state API of 755.
- Twenty-four schools, 2 more than last year, met or exceeded California’s API target of 800
- All student groups, such as African American, Hispanic, Asian, Pacific Islanders, English Learners and low-income students saw API growth ranging from 2 to 26 percentile points.

Students also made progress in English Language Arts and Mathematics under the federal accountability measure even as targets increase by approximately 11 points each year. However, growth was not sufficient to meet Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) targets. District wide, 37 of 46 AYP targets were met. Last year, SCUSD met 44 of 46 targets. 40 schools of 86 reporting AYP results met 100 percent of their targets. (The district has three more schools, but they do not report AYP results because of their small numbers.) SCUSD also saw a significant increase in the number of Program Improvement (PI) Schools—sites failing to meet AYP targets for two consecutive years. Schools in Year 1 of PI status jumped from three in 2008-09 to 15 in 2009-10.

“We performed in the middle of the pack compared to similar districts and to the state,” Raymond said. “We do have great things happening at many schools for children, but not at every school—and that is and must be our goal.”

###