

BOULDER CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

A California Distinguished School

School Accountability Report Card 2001-2002

Lynn Chappell, Principal
Phone 831/338-6413

www.bce.slv.k12.ca.us
FAX 831/338-6118

The following information has been prepared so that the community can better understand the performance of its local schools. Questions regarding information contained in this report should be addressed to the principal. It is the policy of the San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District that the community have as full an understanding of its schools as possible.

District Mission

The mission of the San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District is to educate and graduate successful, compassionate individuals with the ability and desire to contribute proactively to the improvement of self and society through active involvement in an innovative educational system which respects, challenges, and engages their minds.

Number of Minimum Days

Boulder Creek Elementary has six minimum days per year for parent conferences and the last day of school. There are 180 teaching days for the 2001/02 school year.

Number of Instructional Minutes

State Law requires that students are offered a minimum number of instructional minutes per year by grade level.

- Kindergarten = 36,000 minutes per year
- 1st - 3rd Grades = 50,400 minutes per year
- 4th - 6th Grades = 57,726 minutes per year

All SLVUSD classes meet or exceed these amounts.

- Kindergarten = 200 minutes/day or 36,000/year
- 1st - 3rd Grades = 298 minutes/day or 53,634/year
- 4th - 6th Grades = 331 minutes/day or 59,640/year

Student Attendance

There were 443 students enrolled at Boulder Creek Elementary School as of October 2001. There was an Average Daily Attendance of 437 reported for 2000/01. Boulder Creek Elementary has a zero drop-out rate.

Teacher Assignments

Boulder Creek Elementary School has 26 credentialed teachers with no teachers assigned outside their credential authorizations.

Substitute Teachers

The district draws from a pool of qualified teachers in the county.

Class Size by Grade Level

K	1	2	3	4	5	6	Other
8	6	5	19	28	28	19	SDC (K-6) 15
10	8	17	19	31	27	31	
18	16	18	18		9	32	Home School 28
16	17	8	8				

Shaded = Combination Classes

Expenditures and Services Offered

According to the 2000/01 unaudited financial statements, the total cost of operating the San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District was \$29,044,665 or \$7,268 per pupil in average daily attendance. This included funds spent for general education and state and federal programs including Special Education, School Improvement, Gifted and Talented, and library books and materials.

Teacher Evaluation and Professional Improvement

School principals evaluate all probationary and temporary teachers every year. Once a teacher receives tenure, after two years of satisfactory service, he/she is evaluated every

other year. All administrators who evaluate teachers receive training in observation and evaluation procedures.

The District supports first and second year teachers by enrolling them in the Santa Cruz County New Teacher Project. The program gives new teachers assistance in teaching methods and professional development.

Teachers are encouraged to continue their professional development by taking college courses and other workshops related to their area of teaching. Teachers who take extra classes receive an increase in pay after approval by the superintendent.

Learning Environment

Attitudes and behaviors conducive to optimal learning are fostered in all classrooms. A supportive and safe school environment is our goal with lifeskills such as responsibility, cooperation, perseverance and integrity being learned and recognized schoolwide. A schoolwide discipline plan provides guidelines and boundaries for appropriate school conduct. Boulder Creek Elementary's suspension rate for the last three years is as follows: 2000/001, 21 suspensions; 1999/2000, 7 suspensions; and 1998/1999, 19 suspensions. There have been zero expulsions within the last three years.

Training and Curriculum Improvement

Teachers receive training through attendance in conferences, workshops, and participation in activities on three Buy Out days during the year. Training activities are related to the school's site plan and are designed to improve instruction.

Curriculum improvement occurs through a review of district curriculum guides in each subject area and establishment of committees to review them every three years. The committee review process results in an updating of the curriculum guides to meet state standards and current practices.


Quality of Instruction and Leadership

The district has always endeavored to employ and retain a professional staff of the highest quality. All administrators are evaluated annually and are expected to prepare annual goals and objectives for themselves and their schools. The superintendent holds administrative staff accountable for the fulfillment of these goals.

The school instructional program uses the standards and curriculum frameworks established by the State of California. The district's core curriculum includes language arts, mathematics, science, social sciences, physical education and the fine and performing arts. Materials and methods used in each setting are appropriate to the students' needs, abilities, and language proficiencies. A broad-based staff and parent commitment supports and enriches the instructional process and the school's programs.

Students continue to use a variety of technology to enhance their learning. Technology efforts include the purchase of additional software and classroom computers. All classrooms, labs and offices in the school have access to the Local and Wide Area Network. Upper grade students are instructed in a lab setting and complete multi-media projects. The school has two Macintosh Labs and has more than 80 computers available for student use.

District Salary Information

	1999-2000 Averages*			
	Annual Salary		Daily Rate	
	SLV	State	SLV	State
Beginning Teacher Salary	\$26,913	\$31,014	\$147	\$169
Mid-range Teacher Salary	\$44,956	\$45,570	\$246	\$249
Highest Teacher Salary	\$52,442	\$57,704	\$287	\$315
Average Principal's Salary	\$74,464	\$75,654	\$346	\$382
Superintendent's Salary	\$103,951	\$106,363	\$400	\$409
% of Budget for Teacher Salaries	District = 41.9% State = 42.0%			
% of Budget for Adm. Salaries	District = 5.6% State = 5.7%			

* State salaries are only available for the 1999-00 school year, thus comparison is made with 1999-00 SLVUSD salaries.

Student Assessment

In 1998, the California Department of Education selected the Stanford Achievement Test (SAT 9) to be administered to all students in grades 2 - 11. Scores on the SAT 9 were reported as a percentile ranking, which means that on a scale of 1 through 100, a 50 is exactly average. The SAT 9 results are only one narrow measure of a student's ability and the district's programs, but they give our teachers and administrators valuable information for developing strategies to modify curriculum, instruction and assessment to improve student learning in the coming year. Based on SAT 9 scores the California Department of Education annually calculates an Academic Performance Index (API) for each California Public School:

Boulder Creek API Growth	1999 API - 751	2000 API - 773	2001 API - 789
--------------------------	----------------	----------------	----------------

Grade	Language						Mathematics						Reading					
	School			District			School			District			School			District		
	99	00	01	99	00	01	99	00	01	99	00	01	99	00	01	99	00	01
2	55	72	81	56	66	70	71	77	84	64	72	76	57	56	69	56	61	69
3	72	58	66	61	59	67	84	67	73	70	66	75	74	59	71	65	59	71
4	57	70	61	58	68	63	51	69	63	58	72	71	57	65	71	63	71	71
5	68	61	63	66	64	67	64	73	65	69	68	74	65	65	69	67	64	69
6	68	68	69	69	70	70	77	82	76	76	81	82	67	67	69	65	71	69

Quality and Currency of Textbooks

Textbooks and instructional materials adopted for use in the San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District are first approved by the California State Department of Education, reviewed by District content area committees, piloted in the classroom, reviewed by school staff, recommended and approved by the District Curriculum Committee and then adopted by the District Governing Board. Each year a public hearing is held to assure that all students have current and high quality textbooks which have been adopted for use in the District.

School Facilities and Safety

All buildings meet Field Act standards. The facilities are annually inspected by the fire department and the District Safety Committee. A school safety plan is annually updated and kept in the school office.

Student Support Services

Special Education: Specialists and assistants provide services for students with learning disabilities in reading, language, speech and math.

Conflict Resolution: Students trained in conflict resolution techniques help fellow students solve conflicts cooperatively in a supportive setting.

School Psychologist: A school psychologist is on campus 2 days a week to provide support for students experiencing difficulties, to assess and monitor students in Special Education, to provide support for teachers, and to consult with families.

Healthy Start: A family advocate is on site to address physical, social and emotional needs of families.

Reading Recovery: Three teachers are trained in Reading Recovery and give one to one instruction to our lowest performing first grade students.

Tutoring and Homework Clubs: After-School tutoring programs as well as several homework clubs support students needing additional help in reading, math, and language.

Counseling: An MFCC counselor is on campus three days a week to provide additional support for those students experiencing emotional and/or behavioral difficulties.

Family Involvement: Parents and other school volunteers log an estimated 2000 hours a year providing support to students and staff. The Boulder Creek Elementary School's Parent Club sponsors activities, parents education classes, and fundraisers throughout the school year. The Site Council meets monthly to review categorical programs.

Accomplishments

Boulder Creek Elementary was awarded California Distinguished School status in 2000. The school also received this honor in 1989.

As part of the Distinguished School recognition, BCE received the California Arts Education Honorable Mention Award. The Packard Music and Arts Program provides instrumental music, recorder instruction, music theory and art instruction to all 4-6 students. Artists in residence provide art instruction to grades 1-3 through the Spectra Arts Program. Art Masterpiece instruction is offered in art and music by trained parent volunteers.

Great Books, Future Scientist and Engineers of America, Math Contest, and Advanced Band are a few of the activities available to students enrolled in the Gifted and Talented Program. Additionally, teachers provide engaging enrichment and open-ended activities in their daily curriculum to challenge all students.

Students participate in community service activities in areas such as recycling, canned food drive, cleaning and repairing campsites at nearby Big Basin State Park, and community beautification projects.

BCE qualified for the Governor's Performance Award Program.