



SAN LORENZO VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
A California Distinguished School
School Accountability Report Card
2001/2002

Ray Shurson, Principal

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The following information has been prepared so that the community can better understand the performance of 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

San Lorenzo High School has seven minimum days per year. This includes three days of finals at the end of each semester and Homecoming. We have nine "late start" days per year. The students come at 9:20 AM, and the teachers meet in the morning to plan curriculum.

Number of Instructional Minutes

State Law requires 64,800 instructional minutes per year. Students at SLV High School attend class 77,790 instructional minutes per year.

Student Attendance and Dropout Rates

There were 1228 students enrolled at S L V High School as of October 2001. In 2000/2001, there were 12 dropouts, or 0.97% of our student body.

Teacher Assignments

All of the 63 SLV High School credentialed teacher are assigned within their credential authorizations. We have 4 teachers with emergency credentials.

Substitute Teachers

The district draws from a pool of qualified teachers in the county. Only on rare occasions, when a large number of teachers are absent, has the district been unable to provide substitutes. On these occasions, the site administrator or another teacher will act as a substitute teacher for the class.

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 (ADA). 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.

Class Size

Class size varies with an average of 24.2 students in academic classes. P.E. classes average 31.2 students. Special Day classes average 15 students. With the implementation of Class Size Reduction, SLVSH averages 20 or fewer students in 9th grade English and math.

Classroom Discipline and Climate for Learning

The goal of our discipline program is to assure a safe and orderly learning environment for students and staff. Rules and consequences are clearly defined in our adopted Attendance/Discipline Policy Handbook. When students violate the rules, they receive consequences enforced in a fair and consistent manner. We also encourage appropriate behavior and recognize achievement in citizenship, academics, athletics, community service and other areas through awards programs.

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.

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 conforms to the standards and guidelines established by California in the curricular frameworks. Additionally, standards established by the University of California, the California State University System, and the College Board are incorporated in our school curriculum. The school district's core curriculum includes language arts, mathematics, science, social sciences, physical education and the fine and performing arts.

At San Lorenzo Valley High School, we are committed to providing our students with academic excellence. Many students achieve honors and high honors on the Golden State Exams. The school's staff consistently pursues new challenges and innovations in teaching. Teachers use interdisciplinary portfolios in the 10th and 12th grades to assess student performance. Students receive career information, hear career speakers at Power Brunches, and have the opportunity to job shadow and intern. Members of our staff serve on statewide committees for the development of performance-based assessment. Administrators, staff and parents share the responsibilities of educating our students. We have a strong Site Council, Booster's Club, Drama Booster's Club, Grad Night Committee and Cougar Club. The Leadership Council works with the administration to make decisions.

SAT Scores

# of Students taking the SAT	1998/99		1999/00		2000/01	
	98		127		127	
	SLV	State	SLV	State	SLV	State
Verbal	534	497	526	497	523	498
Math	537	514	507	518	519	517

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 \$352
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 1999-2000 school year, thus comparison is made with 1999-2000 SLVUSD salaries

Student Assessment

In 1998, the California State 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:

High School API Growth	1999 API - 733	2000 API - 743	2001 API - 720
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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
9	62	61	66	62	61	65	64	61	68	64	59	66	52	52	56	52	52	56
10	55	58	53	58	56	52	58	58	47	58	56	46	54	52	45	54	50	46
11	54	62	64	54	60	62	53	64	59	53	62	57	51	57	53	51	56	51

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: Teachers and aides 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 4 days a week to provide support for students experiencing difficulties, to assess and monitor students in Special Education, and to provide classroom support for teachers.

Student Support: In addition to 3 full time counselors, students who may need extra counseling receive TRIAD counseling on campus funding through state and federal grants.

San Lorenzo Valley High School

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