

Pleasanton Unified School District



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Pleasanton Unified Sees Tremendous API Growth; In Program Improvement

Pleasanton, California— Preliminary Accountability Progress Reports from the California Department of Education became public and Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD) has much to be proud of. The District's Academic Performance Index (API) went up by 9 points. PUSD's API is now 915. As a District, student subgroups made tremendous growth. The District's English Learners gained 28 API points, African American students gained 27 points, and Hispanic students gained 23 points.

PUSD had two schools in PI last year and each made tremendous growth in their subgroups' achievement. Pleasanton Middle School saw an API growth of 20 points and met all AYP criteria. They also saw 57 point growth for students with disabilities, and an amazing 97 point API growth for English learners. Valley View made significant strides in subgroup API scores; Socioeconomically Disadvantaged students at Valley View gained 19 API points, while Hispanic students gained 31 points and English Learners gained 50 points.

As expected, many high performing school districts are in Program Improvement (PI) this year. PUSD made 33 out of 38 AYP criteria, the District API continues to increase, and student subgroups continue to make tremendous growth, however, Pleasanton Unified School District is in PI Year 1 this year. Surrounding school districts, even high-performing districts, are also in PI Year 1, while other great school districts have been in PI for a few years.

Being in PI is a great opportunity for PUSD to focus even more on learning and performance of every subgroup, whether or not they are deemed "significant" by Federal and State standards.

"Having had two schools in PI, we have learned a great deal," said Parvin Ahmadi, PUSD Superintendent. "We have seen the tremendous impact of what they have put in place and how it has resulted in phenomenal growth for their students. We have seen that these practices benefit not only students who were not proficient but also those who are."

As PUSD moves into Program Improvement Year 1, the District will be required to take a closer look at instructional practices, professional development, and adopted materials. This is a great opportunity for staff and for students.

As indicated in our newly adopted Strategic Plan, "All students regardless of race, ethnicity, socio economic status and gender will be proficient/advanced and college/career ready upon graduation."

"Pleasanton Unified School District will continue to thrive and inspire students because of a committed group of professionals who genuinely care about students' academic success and well -being," said Superintendent Ahmadi. "We will reflect on our practices to be sure we continue to focus on meeting the needs of ALL kids. It takes commitment and passion to do such great work. I can't tell you how proud I am of our teachers' incredible diligence and our students' hard work."

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