



PRESS RELEASE – ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

For immediate release

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**Orange Unified School District  
2007 Base API Report**

ORANGE, Calif., May 23, 2008 – On May 21, 2008, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O’Connell released the 2007 Base Academic Performance Index (API) Report. The API reflects a school’s combined academic achievement from several statewide assessments, including student test results from the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program and the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE). New assessments or other changes to the accountability system are taken into account every year in an effort to calibrate the state’s accountability system. This calibration is reflected in the Base API.

One major factor that was taken into account this year is the introduction of the California Modified Assessment (CMA). This test is given to some students with disabilities in grades three through five. The purpose of the CMA is to allow students with disabilities who meet a set of criteria to demonstrate their knowledge of the content standards in English-language arts, math, and science. Base APIs were adjusted for schools and districts that have third through fifth grade students in order to account for this new assessment. After the adjustment, the Orange Unified School District received a 2007 Base API of 783. This is a total of 55 points above the California state average of 728. The district is now 17 points away from meeting the California statewide performance target of 800.

Another aspect of the 2007 Base API Report is the school rankings. This lets the public know how schools compare to other schools in the state (statewide rank) and to schools with similar demographic characteristics (similar schools rank). This ranking shows where a school's 2007 Base API falls on a scale of 1 to 10, 10 being the highest. In terms of statewide rank, six schools in the Orange Unified School District received a ranking of 1, 2, or 3. A total of five schools received the highest statewide rank of 10:

Chapman Hills ES  
Nohl Canyon ES  
Panorama ES  
Serrano ES  
El Rancho Charter MS

Regarding similar schools rank, eleven schools received a rank of 1, 2, or 3, and six schools received the maximum rank of 10:

California ES  
Jordan ES  
Panorama ES  
Serrano ES  
West Orange ES  
El Modena HS

Two schools received the highest possible ranking of 10 in both the statewide and similar schools rank:

Panorama ES  
Serrano ES

Rank information is not applicable to the district as a whole. More detailed information will be made available to the Board, staff, and public in the near future.

*The Orange Unified School District is located at 1401 North Handy Street in Orange, California.*

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