

# Executive Summary School Accountability Report Card 2006-2007



**Canyon Springs  
Community Elementary**  
19059 Vicci St.  
Canyon Country, CA 91351  
661-252-4322

**Principal:** Lynn David  
**Grade Span:** K - 6

**Sulphur Springs Union Elementary  
District**  
17866 Sierra Hwy.  
Canyon Country, CA 91351-1671  
661-252-5131

This executive summary of the School Accountability Report Card (SARC) is intended to provide parents and community members with a quick snapshot of school accountability. The data presented in this report is reported for the 2006-07 school year, except the School Finances and School Completion data that are reported for the 2005-06 school year. For additional information about the school, parents, and community members should review the entire SARC or contact the school principal or the district office.

## About This School

Canyon Springs Community School is located in a suburban area in the Santa Clarita Valley approximately 40 miles northeast of Los Angeles. The campus sits in the middle of an older housing tract about one quarter mile from the local junior high school and one mile from the local high school. The school gets its name from the numerous canyons and springs that dominated the area prior to a relative population explosion during the last 30 years. A visit to Canyon Springs reveals an environment where high expectations, positive morale, dedication to the highest quality education, and a sense of camaraderie are prevalent. Our outstanding staff has always been on the cutting edge in providing standards-based instruction for students. Their efforts have been rewarded by a growth in student achievement over the past five years.

Canyon Springs is a schoolwide Title One school currently educating 801 students in twenty-nine regular education classes, one Learning Disabled Special Day Class, two Deaf and Hard of Hearing classes, and two District ACE Special Day Classes. The support staff includes Speech and Language Specialists, itinerant teachers, an Audiologist, a Resource Teacher, a School Psychologist, a School Psychologist Intern, Adaptive P.E. Teachers, a School Counselor, and Occupational and Physical Therapists. Canyon Springs also houses one of the District's two State Preschools. Approximately 84 Canyon Springs students benefit from the after school SAIL Program, which provides academic support and enrichment until 6 p.m. five afternoons per week. The school also provides an after school Homework Club that offers students a quiet place to do their homework and receive assistance from Instructional Assistants for one hour after school Monday – Thursday.

The State Preschool Program at Canyon Springs is offered at no cost to families and helps approximately 100 children per year prepare for a successful educational career. Preschool students participate in lessons that help them develop the academic, social and language skills necessary for success in Canyon Springs' K-6 program. Preschool staff collaborate with kindergarten teachers, special service providers and administrators to articulate instructional goals, assess and provide for special needs, develop transitional learning plans, develop and practice emergency procedures to ensure student safety, and provide parent involvement opportunities.

The school attendance boundaries include several mobile home parks, some lower priced single-family homes, and several large and small apartment complexes. Canyon Springs is an ethnically diverse school with 69.9 percent Hispanic students, 22.8 percent White students, 3.6 percent African American students, and 3.7 percent students from other ethnic backgrounds. The school is linguistically diverse as well with 38.0 percent of students identified as English Learners. Although Spanish is the dominant non-English home language, there are seven other home languages used by students in the school. Approximately 56 percent of students participate in Free/Reduced Lunch Program administered by the Santa Clarita Valley Food Service. Information from the demographic data gathered during the 2007 STAR assessment, indicate that 47 percent of Canyon Springs Parents graduated from High School or College while 53 percent of parents did not graduate from High School or declined to state their educational level.

Each year Canyon Springs staff works with parents and District support personnel to evaluate various sources of data related to student achievement and school climate. Following a thorough analysis of standardized test scores, district benchmark data, survey results and input provided by teachers, parents, and school committees, the School Site Council updates the School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) to identify goals for school improvement to ensure that each child will achieve his/her full potential.

Overarching goals for 2007-2008 include Increasing Language Arts Proficiency, Increasing Math Proficiency, Increasing English Language Proficiency, Increasing Science and Health Proficiency, and Improving Student Discipline.

Additional goals that support the overarching goals include:

- Providing a challenging and interesting course of student instruction that is in accordance with California State Standards and Sulphur Springs School District guidelines.

# Executive Summary School Accountability Report Card 2006-2007

- Using a variety of teaching strategies, techniques and technology to meet the needs of diverse learners.
- Promoting continued educational growth for students, parents, and staff that creates a community of lifelong learners.
- Promoting a safe and orderly learning environment.
- Creating and maintaining positive, effective communication between home, school and the community.
- Providing regular, monitored homework that allows children to practice what they have learned in the classroom.

Progress toward school goals is monitored on an ongoing basis using formative and summative assessments. Individual teachers and grade level teams meet at least once a month to review individual and group achievement data. Grade levels report progress to the site administrators, which is shared with the school Leadership Team and the SSC. SPSA monitoring comments will be added throughout the year based on input from staff and the SSC. Revisions to our SPSA, and subsequent Board approval, will occur if there are substantial material and/or budget changes during the school year.

Assessment results are made available to parents and stakeholders in the following ways:

- STAR scores are mailed home
- CELDT scores and Title III Annual Parent Notifications are mailed home
- Test scores are discussed during conferences
- Parent information sessions and committee meetings are available to discuss information

At each SSC meeting planned activities and policies are reviewed to ensure student success. Leadership Team meetings are focused on implementation of effective key strategies and programs. A minimum of one staff meeting per month is dedicated to collaborative grade level planning to evaluate assessment results and discuss best practices for student achievement.

The ExCEL (Excellence, A Commitment to Every Learner) Program will be implemented schoolwide for 2007-2008. ExCEL ensures that all children receive instruction targeted to their identified level of achievement to improve and maximize reading skills. Grades 1-6 provide one hour of ExCEL instruction daily and Kindergarten provides a half hour of ExCEL instruction daily. Students will be assessed regularly using multiple measures, and will be regrouped as they master standards and make academic progress. ExCEL grouping will address students' needs at all levels from Far Below Basic to higher achieving Proficient, Advanced/Gifted. Teachers will collaborate to create lessons and assessments. Students with IEPs participate in ExCEL to the extent it is feasible in meeting their individualized needs.

The Accelerated Math Program will be used as a supplemental program for students in grades 2-6 to provide standards-based math practice targeted to students' identified areas of need in math achievement. All students in grades 4-6 will use Accelerated Math. Teachers in grades 2 and 3 will identify students who scored at the Far Below Basic or Below Basic level on the STAR test as well as students who are identified as "at risk for retention" for participation in the Accelerated Math Program. Progress will be monitored using the assessment module of Accelerated Math.

All English Learners will receive 30 minutes of English Language Development instruction on a daily basis as part of Canyon Springs' Program for English Learners. Instruction targeted to students' identified English proficiency level will be provided by the homeroom teacher or the ELD block teacher. Direct instruction lessons may be supplemented by English in a Flash, a web-based ELD program that provides systematic practice opportunities. Students in grades 4-6 will receive additional support to gain English skills and improve achievement in Language Arts through the English Language Acquisition Program (ELAP). Language development progress will be monitored using the SSSD ELD Matrix, progress in English in a Flash, and annual CELDT results.

Gifted and high-achieving students in grades 3-6 will participate in lesson extensions that add depth and complexity to lessons across the curriculum that are delivered within the regular classroom during the school day. GATE student progress will be monitored through benchmark assessments, STAR, and completion of a project for the District GATE Night.

Canyon Springs' Parent Involvement Policy, based on the District Parent Involvement Policy and used in combination with the Home/School Compact, is intended to clarify the partnership that exists between Canyon Springs' staff and parents. Canyon Springs' staff recognizes that parents/guardians are their children's first and most influential teachers, and that continued parental involvement contributes greatly to student achievement and a positive school environment. In order to engage parents/guardians positively in their children's education, Canyon Springs' staff will:

- Inform parents/guardians that their involvement is important to their children's success in school
- Initiate regular, effective communication between the school and home so that parents/guardians know when and how to help their children with learning activities
- Will help parents/guardians develop strategies to help their children with learning at home to improve their academic success
- Help parents/guardians to develop parenting skills and provide home environments that support success in school and society
- Encourage parents/guardians to volunteer in the school, attend student performances and school meetings, participate in and become members of advisory committees and other leadership/advocacy groups
- Participate in training that fosters effective and culturally sensitive communication with the home, including training on how to communicate with non-English speakers and how to help parents become partners in the instructional process at school and at home.

Canyon Springs offers many activities that support the school's Parent Involvement Policy. Parents are encouraged to attend meetings at the Parent Resource Center. The meetings focus on strategies to support student learning at home, parenting skills, understanding the American educational system and content standards, and practical application of parent involvement in the

# Executive Summary School Accountability Report Card 2006-2007

school. Community Based English Tutoring, adult ESL, is being offered for one hour each morning. Childcare is provided to encourage parent enrollment in the classes. Kindergarten classes offer Tuesday Reading, inviting parents to come to class and read with/to their child. Student Affairs Organization sponsors Walk In Their Shoes days where parents are invited to spend a day or a few hours with their child in the classroom, on the playground, and in the cafeteria. Parents have first hand opportunity to work with their child in class and learn about the academic opportunities offered to students during the day.

Evening activities will include Family Math Night, PRICE Parenting classes, and Parent Information Nights offered throughout the year. These evening events will provide opportunities for parents to learn about the academic expectations and proficiency requirements for their child, and are offered in both English and Spanish.

A number of dedicated parents make up the School PTA. PTA provides fun-filled family events and support to the school's programs such as P.E., school assemblies, Red Ribbon Week, and field trips.

Canyon Springs continues to focus on technology-based instruction to help with student learning. Classroom computers have been upgraded to support new programs and provide access to AR quizzes and STAR reading tests. Second and fourth grade pods have been equipped with ten computers each. Students have easier access to technology to work on projects and conduct research. The school's Computer Lab is equipped with 40 computers in addition to a teacher station. Primary and Upper grade students make weekly visits to the lab to work on projects. There is also a wireless mobile lab that can be checked out to classrooms for whole-class technology-based projects. All classrooms in 4th-6th grade have been upgraded with a Smart Board, Elmo document camera, and projector so that teachers can provide additional technology-based learning support to students using these tools. Teachers in Kindergarten-3rd grade can utilize Smart Board technology in the Science Lab, Computer Lab and in the classroom by checking out the two mobile Smart Board systems.

School pride is evident throughout the campus. At monthly assemblies students are recognized for their accomplishments. Students Affairs Organization works to provide fun filled school activities throughout the year.

Dedicated staff, students and parents make Canyon Springs a special school with high expectations and a caring school community spirit.

## Student Enrollment

Group	Enrollment
Number of Students	801
African-American	4.0%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.3%
Asian	1.3%
Filipino	2.0%
Hispanic or Latino	70.0%
Pacific Islander	0.1%
White (Not Hispanic)	22.9%
Economically Disadvantaged	56.0%
English Learners	38.0%
Students With Disabilities	13.0%

## Teachers

Indicator	Teachers
Misassignments of Teachers of English Learners	0
Total Teacher Misassignments	0
Teachers With Full Credential	41
Teachers Without Full Credential	1
Teachers Teaching Outside Subject Area of Competence	0

## School Facilities

### Summary of Most Recent Site Inspection

Monthly walkthrough reports indicate that our school facility and grounds are well kept and clean. Our staff and students view school as their home away from home and respect it as such. Students are encouraged to keep the school clean by their participation in the school's Character Counts program. The school's three custodians clean the classrooms, cafeteria and bathrooms daily and perform general maintenance and repair tasks. The school grounds are well maintained by our district grounds crew who service the school site on a weekly basis. During the past 12 months the following maintenance projects were completed at the school: installation of 14 SmartBoard technology systems; ten classrooms were recarpeted; the Multipurpose Room, student bathrooms, Office and various classrooms were repainted; the fire alarm system was upgraded; video surveillance cameras were added throughout the campus; and student bathrooms were repiped.

# Executive Summary School Accountability Report Card 2006-2007

## Repairs Needed

Item Inspected	Repair Status			Repair Needed and Action Taken or Planned
	Good	Fair	Poor	
Gas Leaks	X			None
Mechanical Systems	X			None
Windows/Doors/Gates (interior and exterior)	X			None
Interior Surfaces (walls, floors, and ceilings)	X			MPR, office, restrooms repainted.
Hazardous Materials (interior and exterior)	X			None
Structural Damage	X			None
Fire Safety	X			Fire system upgraded during 10/07
Electrical (interior and exterior)	X			Wiring for 14 SmartBoards installed
Pest/Vermin Infestation	X			None
Drinking Fountains (inside and outside)	X			None
Restrooms	X			2 buildings repainted 12/08; 1 repiped 12/08.
Sewer	X			None
Playground/School Grounds	X			None
Roofs	X			None
Overall Cleanliness	X			None

## Curriculum and Instruction Materials

Core Curriculum Areas	Pupils Who Lack Textbooks and Instructional Materials
Reading/Language Arts	0%
Mathematics	0%
Science	0%
History-Social Science	0%
Foreign Language	
Health	0%
Science Laboratory Equipment (grades 9-12)	

## School Finances

Level	Expenditures Per Pupil (Unrestricted Sources Only)
State	\$4,943.00

## Student Performance

Subject	Students Proficient and Above on California Standards Tests
English-Language Arts	37.0%
Mathematics	50.0%
Science	32.0%

## Academic Progress

Indicator	Result
API Score	731

## School Completion

Indicator	Result
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## Postsecondary Preparation

Measures	Percent
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