



# HERITAGE SCHOOL

Dennis Zimmerman, Principal

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## SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT CARD 1999-2000

Proposition 98, an initiative passed by California voters in 1988, requires school districts to develop "report cards" for each school in their jurisdiction. The School Accountability Report Card provides information about the school; its resources, successes and areas that need to improve.

Heritage is a kindergarten through eighth grade school. It is a School of Choice in the Snowline Joint Unified School District, emphasizing curriculum which focuses on traditional skills in reading, writing and arithmetic, through traditional teacher-directed lessons. Parents/guardians are expected to closely monitor their child's progress at home and school to best achieve academic success. Parents/guardians are required to sign an annual contract, which states that students and parents/guardians will abide by the school policies stated in the Parent-Student Handbook, or the student will be excluded from The Heritage School.

All student transportation is privately provided. Parents are afforded the opportunity to be involved in the decision and policymaking process through the Very Important Parents Association (VIPA) and the Advisory Board. Parents are invited to participate in the selection of curriculum and staff. They are involved in dress code, bell schedule, and school rules policymaking. Families are required to give a minimum of one hour per month of adult involvement to their school. Families are able to serve their one hour in a variety of before school, during school, after school, evening, and occasional weekend activities.

The primary goal of the Heritage School is to develop, provide and teach a kindergarten through eighth grade academic program, which thoroughly prepares each Heritage student for academic success.

It is a School of Choice *where:*

- ❖ Teachers adhere to academic standards, focusing on basic skills in language arts, math, science, and history.
- ❖ Parents are required to participate and are counted upon to closely monitor the progress of their child.
- ❖ Students are expected to take school seriously, and are encouraged to work harder to become the best they can be.
- ❖ A sense of teamwork is built through the dedication of teachers, parents, and students.

Our philosophy is to emphasize the teaching and learning of basic skills and information. It is characterized by self-contained classrooms for kindergarten through fifth grade and departmentalized classes for grades six through eight, teacher-centered textbook-based instruction, grade level academic standards, strict discipline and dress code, a phonics based method to reading, closely monitored student progress, and a high degree of parental involvement in the educational decision making process.

Currently housed next door to Pinon Mesa Middle School, Heritage will be moving to our own site on Wilson Ranch Road for the 2001-02 school year.



### Board of Trustees

President	Cathy Pace
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### Superintendent

Dr. Arthur J. Golden, Ed. D.

## Student Achievement

Each spring, the Snowline School District takes part in the state's Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) program. This program uses the Stanford 9 Achievement Test. Reading, language skills, and math are tested in grades 2-11. Additionally, science and history/social sciences are tested in 9<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup> grades. Individual student scores are mailed to parents in June and group results are posted on the Internet. Results from the Stanford 9 provide valuable information to teachers as they strive to provide the best education possible to meet our students' individual needs.

The Stanford 9, however, is only one of the multiple measures used as indicators of student achievement. At the elementary level, district-wide assessments are used in language arts and math to determine whether students are meeting grade level standards. Intervention programs and strategies are utilized for students not meeting grade level standards.

The following table gives the average National Percentile Rank (NPR) for each grade level. The NPR reports the percent of students in a national sample that made various raw scores on the test. For example, a NPR score of 50 indicates a raw score that was as high or higher than 50% of the students in the national sample that took the test.

### Stanford 9 Results

Grade	Reading			Math			Language		
	97-98	98-99	99-00	97-98	98-99	99-00	97-98	98-99	99-00
2	68	77	73	71	79	81	84	85	82
3	63	65	71	73	79	84	66	71	77
4	62	70	70	57	74	75	57	72	69
5	57	65	70	66	64	78	54	60	74
6	73	58	72	82	79	85	68	62	75
7	65	62	64	64	74	75	75	63	64
8	58	60	69	71	69	71	70	61	74



## Academic Performance Index (API)

The API measures a school's performance. It is calculated as a composite score ranging from 200 to 1000. For the year 2000 results, the Stanford 9 constitutes the entire API. The target set by the state for all schools is 800. The state requires that schools demonstrate growth for the total population, as well as for each significant subgroup.

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>
Total Heritage API	804	833
White not Hispanic	800	839
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	746	792

Heritage is eligible for Governor Performance Awards for meeting growth targets for 1999-2000.

## Instructional Minutes

The attendance rate at Heritage Elementary during the 1999-00 school year was 96%. Our school was open 180 days, as the state requires. Heritage students meet 320 minutes per day, which is above the state requirement of 240 minutes. Over the course of the year, Heritage students attended 57,936 minutes.

Enrollment		Attendance Rate	
97-98	503	99	%
98-99	516	95	%
99-00	501	96	%

Heritage School had a total of five minimum days for the 1999-00 school year.

## School Discipline and Climate

The Heritage Staff strives to provide a school environment that supports academic achievement and the growth and development of positive self-esteem. A student handbook, available to parents each year, details school rules and standards of conduct

Staff members work to develop a supportive learning climate through monthly and year-end attendance awards, trimester honor roll assemblies, Middle School trimester Straight A dinners, and the Book-It Pizza Hut Program. Everyone Reads tutoring and math tutoring are offered.

Learning is enhanced by after-school band and chorus classes; Middle School ASB; elementary music,

drama, and science assemblies; and Middle School Science Fair. Two students in the past have earned state science fair honors.

**Number of Suspensions**

1999-00  
9

**Number of Expulsions**

1999-00  
0

**Average Class Size**

The average class size at Heritage was 24 last year. Snowline Joint Unified School District hires staff at the ratio of one teacher for every twenty-eight elementary students and one teacher for every twenty-nine middle school students. Class size varies depending on student enrollment per grade level and on specialty classes that require a lower enrollment. Class size is lower (no more than 20) at Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> grades levels.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Average Class Size</u>
1997-98	28
1998-99	26
1999-00	24

**Student Support Services**

Students receive the following part-time or full-time services:

- Resource Specialist serving special education students through an inclusive program
- Speech and Hearing Specialist serving students through a pullout program
- School Psychologist for testing potential special education students and crisis intervention
- Music Instructor for after-school classes
- Full time Library Clerk
- Computer Learning Specialist
- Counselor
- Five Vista tutors



**Instructional Leadership**

At Heritage, staff members and parents work together to ensure effective curriculum and high

standards of instruction. The instructional program and curriculum are aligned with district and state frameworks and standards.

The principal provides leadership through:

- Supervising all teachers and classified personnel
- Working with parents on the Very Important Parents (VIPA), and Advisory Board
- Communicating with parents on a regular basis
- Meeting with other principals and district personnel to develop and address district and school goals
- Providing for the safety of students

**Average Salaries**

The following table compares the average salaries between the school district and the state. The table shows the most recent data available for comparison (1998-99).

<b>Average Teacher &amp; Administrative Salaries</b>		
	<b>District</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>Beginning Teacher</b>	\$29,115	\$29,747
<b>Midrange Teacher</b>	\$46,337	\$47,483
<b>Highest Teacher</b>	\$62,283	\$58,106
<b>Principal</b>	\$72,435	\$73,974
<b>Superintendent</b>	\$103,099	\$107,417
<b>Budget % Teacher Salary</b>	40%	43.50%
<b>Budget % Administrative</b>	4.40%	5.90%

**Teacher Qualifications**

Heritage has a staff of 22 teachers. All teachers are credentialed or are in the process of obtaining their full credential from the State of California Department of Education. There are 20 teachers fully credentialed and 7 have advanced degrees.

	97-98	98-99	99-00
<b>Credentialed</b>	21	19	20
<b>Waivers</b>	0	0	0
<b>Emergency</b>	2	3	2
<b>Out-of-Area</b>	0	0	0

Substitute teachers hired by the district meet state and district requirements. If substitutes are not available, administrators or other qualified personnel cover classes.

## Teacher Support and Evaluation

The evaluation of teachers is designed to improve performance. Formal and informal classroom observations are ongoing. Each new teacher to the district is assigned a mentor teacher or coach who provides valuable assistance. Teachers with a preliminary credential participate in the statewide Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment program (BTSA) for two years receiving support and training from a mentor teacher. Evaluation of teachers in Snowline School District is based on the California Teaching Standards.

Teachers are encouraged to participate in professional development and training on site, through the district, or at workshops offered through outside resources.

## Staff Development

Staff members participate in a variety of activities and staff developments that promote professional growth such as Writing Road to Reading Courses 1 and 2 (45 hours each), site standardized assessment workshops, and site technology training.

In addition, staff members participate in district-wide staff development and curriculum committees.

## Expenditures Per Student

During the 1999-00 school year, a total of \$3,504 per student was expended at Heritage Elementary School. Approximately \$3,293 or 94% was spent in the classroom for teachers, teacher aides, books, supplies and equipment. The remaining \$211 per student or 6% was spent for utilities and other operating expenses.

Funding is received from the state, including the California lottery, and federal and state categorical programs. Last year, categorical funds added support to students involved in the following programs:

- ✓ School Improvement
- ✓ Special Education
- ✓ Reading Intervention



## Quality of Textbooks and Other Instructional Materials

All schools in the Snowline School District align their instructional programs with the California Content Standards and district curriculum standards. Textbooks and other materials at Heritage are selected to meet those standards.

The state provides funds for the adoption of new materials. A committee of teachers selects materials from the state-adopted list for Snowline School District. During the 99-00 school year committees worked on the selection of social studies and math materials.

Additional materials are provided for specific purposes such as reading and math intervention for students who do not meet grade level standards

## School Safety and Cleanliness Key Elements of Safety Plan

Heritage Elementary provides a safe, clean environment for learning. The custodial staff and district maintenance personnel work together to keep our buildings and grounds clean and safe for our students and community.

The school has developed a Safety Plan that is reviewed annually. This plan includes the physical setting and condition of the school, as well as plans for various emergencies such as an earthquake, fire, toxic leak, or intruder. Emergency drills are scheduled throughout the year. In addition, the district provides training and information on work hazards, fire and emergency procedures, and health concerns.

Campus safety is a priority. School policies and classroom rules are continuously enforced. Students are supervised at recess, breaks and during lunch. First aid and disaster supplies are updated every year.

## Contact Information for Parent Involvement

**Very Important Parents Association (VIPA)**  
6:30 p.m. on the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Monday evening  
of each school month

President, Gary Desatoff

**Snowline School District Website**

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