



PINON MESA MIDDLE SCHOOL

A CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL

Bob Tait - 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.

Pinon Mesa Middle School is one of two middle schools in the Snowline School District. The school, which was built in 1987, serves 902 sixth, seventh and eighth grade students from the surrounding communities of Wrightwood, West Cajon Valley, Phelan, and Pinon Hills.

The ethnic mix of the student body consists of 77% white, 18% Hispanic, 1% African American, American Indian and Asian and 2% other races. There are 461 female students and 441 male students.

Pinon Mesa offers a strong core curriculum in language arts, math, science, social studies, and physical education. With the school being networked and every classroom connected to the Internet, a high emphasis is placed on an elective program, which provides for every student to become skilled in the use of technology. Students also have the opportunity to participate in music and art as part of their elective wheel.

The actual attendance rates at Pinon Mesa, which hover in the 90's, reflects the positive, upbeat environment where students feel safe and where they are encouraged and supported in meeting their learning goals. An exceptionally strong student leadership program organizes student activities, which support academic effort, attendance and a positive school culture.

Numerous clubs, academic teams, interscholastic and intramural sports provide opportunities for students to participate and interact with each other outside of the school day.

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 9th through 11th 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. Pinon Mesa has developed grade level assessments to determine whether students are meeting grade level standards in math and language arts. Intervention programs and strategies are utilized for students not meeting grade level standards.



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Dr. Arthur J. Golden, Ed. D.

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
6	50	55	51	56	55	54	52	54	62
7	48	54	50	45	48	42	51	55	56
8	57	55	48	55	49	48	59	56	61

Academic Performance Index (API)

The API is a California State assessment tool that 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 Pinon Mesa API	682	667
Hispanic or Latino	595	605
White not Hispanic	699	681
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	598	602

Pinon Mesa was not eligible for Governor Performance Awards for meeting growth targets for 1999-2000.

Instructional Minutes

The attendance rate at Pinon Mesa Middle School during the 1999-00 school year was 93%. Our school was open 180 days, as the state requires. Pinon Mesa students meet 355 minutes per day which is above the state requirement. Over the course of the year, Pinon Mesa students attended 63,270 minutes.

Enrollment		Attendance Rate
97-98	801	98%
98-99	824	93%
99-00	895	93%

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

Student Support Services

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

- Resource and special day classes for special education
- Hearing and speech specialists
- Computer learning specialist
- Library clerk
- Two counselors
- One Health Aide
- ASSIST After School Tutoring
- Four Title I Aides
- Two Bilingual Aides



Average Class Size

The average class size at Pinon Mesa was 29 students last year. Snowline Joint Unified School District hires staff at the ratio of 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.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Average Class Size</u>
1997-98	28
1998-99	29
1999-00	29

School Discipline and Climate

The Pinon Mesa 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. Discipline, respect, responsibility and pride are the key components.

Staff members work to develop a supportive learning climate utilizing positive rewards to motivate good behavior and academic success. The Renaissance program rewards students for perfect attendance and academic achievement. The Dean’s List rewards students with good behavior.

Learning is enhanced by participation in student government, California Junior Scholastic Federation,

journalism and yearbook, Marine Society, Young Astronauts, cheerleading, sports and music programs. Tutoring programs are also offered: ASSIST, an after school program; Saturday Math Program; and after-school math tutoring.

Conflict management, Study Skills, Language!, and a sheltered program for English learners are also available.

Positive messages are presented regarding drug education and ongoing exposure to career choices through assemblies and guest speakers.

Number of Suspensions		
1997-98	1998-99	1999-00
320	254	233

Number of Expulsions		
1997-98	1998-99	1999-00
8	13	9

Instructional Leadership

At Pinon Mesa, 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 School Site Council, parent organizations, and other committees
- 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

Staff Development

Staff members participate in a variety of activities and staff development that promote professional growth focusing on standards-based instruction. Recently we have been focusing on implementation

of the California Content Standards and aligning those standards with effective instruction and assessment.

In addition, staff members are encouraged to participate in trainings for GATE (Gifted and Talented Education), English Language Learners, Language! and other programs which will benefit the school or individual teacher.

Teacher Qualifications

Pinon Mesa has a staff of 53 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 35 teachers fully credentialed and 20 have advanced degrees.

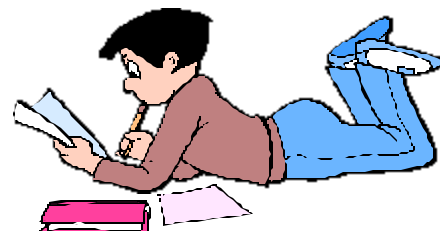
	97-98	98-99	99-00
Credentialed	40	35	35
Waivers	1	0	0
Emergency	3	6	8
Out-of-Area	9	10	10

Average Salaries

The following table compares the average salaries between the district and the state. The table shows the most recent schedule for state salaries at the time of publication. (98-99).

	District	State
Beginning Teacher	\$29,115	\$29,747
Midrange Teacher	\$46,337	\$47,483
Highest Teacher	\$62,283	\$58,106
Principal	\$72,435	\$73,974
Superintendent	\$103,099	\$107,417
Budget % Teacher Salary	40.00%	43.50%
Budget % Administrative	4.40%	5.90%

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



Expenditures per Student

During the 1999-00 school year, a total of \$4,172 per student was expended at Pinon Mesa Middle School. Approximately \$3,963 or 95% was spent in the classroom for teachers, teacher aides, books, supplies and equipment. The remaining \$209 per student or 5% 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:

- ✓ Limited English Proficient
- ✓ School Improvement
- ✓ Special Education
- ✓ Reading Intervention



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.

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. Teachers are provided with and required to use district-adopted materials so that a continuity of instruction is in place.

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 1999-00 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 are below grade level standards. Pinon Mesa School utilizes the Language! program for reading intervention and the Riverdeep program for math intervention.

School Safety and Cleanliness

Pinon Mesa Middle School 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 Site Council 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 breaks and during lunch. First aid and disaster supplies are updated every year.

Contact Information for Parent Involvement

PTT (Parent Teacher Team)

President Kari LaFever 868-3126

School Site Council

President Debbie McEwen 868-3126

English Language Advisory Committee

Niki Smith 868-3126

Snowline School District Website

www.snowline.k12.ca.us