CONTACT: Larry Hausner
Administrative Director Communications
and Educational Technology
Tel. (714) 628-5577
Cell (949) 244-3881

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TEST RESULTS SHOW SIGNIFICANT GROWTH FOR OUSD SCHOOLS

ORANGE, Calif., September 21, 2009 –The Orange Unified School District is once again celebrating the academic growth schools made on its Academic Performance Index (API). The California Department of Education released API scores Tuesday for all California public schools. The API is a combination of results from California Standards Tests, California High School Exit Exam, and other measures. Scores range from 200 to 1,000. Schools scoring below 800 receive an improvement target. OUSD has 19 schools with API scores of 800 or better.

"I am delighted that Orange Unified Schools continue to make solid gains in academic achievement. This is a credit to our teachers, students, staff and parents," said Renae Dreier, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools for the Orange Unified School District.

OUSD doubled the number of schools scoring into the prestigious 900 API range. Those schools are:

Anaheim Hills Elementary 902
Chapman Hills Elementary 930
Nohl Canyon Elementary 930
Panorama Elementary 927
Serrano Elementary 914
Villa Park Elementary 908

Schools that showed the highest API gains included:

Canyon Hills +83 (777)*
Crescent Elementary +63 (897)
Fairhaven Elementary +56 (721)
Sycamore Elementary +49 (741)
Riverdale Elementary +43 (797)
Crescent Intermediate +35 (895)
Esplanade Elementary +34 (777)
Portola Middle School +32 (727)
Silverado Elementary +31 (836)*
El Modena High School +27 (791)
Handy Elementary +25 (733)

Fairhaven Elementary's API increased 56 points. Bonnie Robinson, Fairhaven Elementary teacher, said, "We are excited and motivated by our success. It is a combination of strong teaching, staff development and connecting with students through test chats and goal setting. Our teachers take ownership in all of our students. We are proud of our students."

Anaheim Hills Elementary exceeded an API score of 900 for the first time in school history. "We are thrilled. Our staff feels that the leveling we do for instruction has been the key," explained teacher Jane Schwartz. AHES teacher Diane Dapello added, "We have such wonderful parent support. This is a team effort."

Nohl Canyon Elementary, along with Chapman Hills, earned the highest district API score of 930. Nohl Canyon teacher Whitney Amsbary said the feeling on her campus is, "Jubilation. We set our goal early last the spring and achieved it. We concentrated on standards and placed an importance on the test."

Also, El Modena High School Biology teacher Susan Hemans said of her school's 27 point gain, "It feels rewarding. Teachers and students worked really hard. Our students know that teachers care about them and believe in them."

Below is a list of all API scores for OUSD schools.

	2009 Growth	2008 Base	2008-09 Growth Target	2008-09 Growth
ORANGE UNIFIED	797	786	D	11
Elementary Schools				
Anaheim Hills Elementary	902	885	A	17
California Elementary	788	786	5	2
Cambridge Elementary	727	727	5	0
Canyon Rim Elementary	870	868	A	2
Chapman Hills Elementary	930	924	A	6
Crescent Elementary	897	834	A	63
Crescent Intermediate	895	860	A	35
Esplanade Elementary	777	743	5	34
Fairhaven Elementary	721	665	7	56
Fletcher Elementary	765	744	5	21
Handy Elementary	733	708	5	25
Imperial Elementary	884	875	A	9
Jordan Elementary	751	757	5	-6
La Veta Elementary	826	822	A	4
Lampson Elementary	694	723	5	-29
Linda Vista Elementary	890	878	A	12
McPherson Magnet	895	881	A	14
Nohl Canyon Elementary	930	924	A	6
Olive Elementary	826	814	A	12
Palmyra Elementary	773	775	5	-2
Panorama Elementary	927	911	A	16
Parkside PreK SDC				
Prospect Elementary	724	732	5	-8
Riverdale Elementary	797	754	5	43
Running Springs Elementary	899	885	A	14
Serrano Elementary	914	897	A	17
Sycamore Elementary	741	692	5	49
Taft Elementary	740	749	5	-9
Villa Park Elementary	908	890	A	18
West Orange Elementary	791	802	A	-11

Middle Schools

Cerro Villa Middle	833	822	A	11
El Rancho Charter	872	861	A	11
Portola Middle	727	695	5	32
Santiago Middle	761	776	5	-15
Yorba Middle	716	728	5	-12

High Schools

Canyon High	821	812	A	9
El Modena High	791	764	5	27
Orange High	686	680	6	6
Villa Park High	776	802	A	-26

Small Schools

Canyon Hills	777*	694*	D	83
Orange Unified School District Home Scho	615*	B	B	B
Silverado Elementary	836*	805*	A	31

ASAM Schools

Richland Continuation High	455	443	D	12

*Small schools

The Orange Unified School District is located at 1401 North Handy Street in Orange, CA

# # #