

WOODROW SCHOOL
Victoria Briscoe, Principal



Parental Notification Letter about Implementation of Restructuring in Year 5 of Program Improvement

November 5, 2012

To the Parents/Guardians of students at Woodrow Elementary:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that our school continues to be identified as a Program Improvement (PI) school under the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001. It is now a PI Year 5 school.

What is PI?

NCLB requires the state and district to review annually the academic progress of federally funded Title I schools and to identify schools in need of improvement. These schools are identified as PI schools after two consecutive years of not making adequate yearly progress (AYP). California determines AYP by considering the following four measures:

- The percentage of students scoring at the "proficient" or "advanced" level on the California Standards Tests for English-language arts and mathematics
- The percentage of students participating in those tests
- The graduation rate for high schools
- California's own accountability measurement of progress, the Academic Performance Index (API)

Why is our school identified as PI?

The reason our school continues in PI is because it did not achieve AYP in 2007-2008. The AYP area(s) that caused the identification are:

- English-language arts
- Mathematics

The school's 2011-2012 Accountability Progress Report may be obtained from the school or on the California Department of Education (CDE) AYP Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ay/>.

Public school choice: What right does a parent have to request a transfer to a school that is not in PI?

All parents/guardians of students attending a PI school have the right to request a transfer of their child(ren) to a non-PI district school with district-paid transportation.

For parents who select this option, the district will provide transportation to the non-PI school for as long as the home school continues to be identified as a PI school. If the home school exits PI by making AYP for two consecutive years, the student can remain at the school; however, transportation will no longer be district-paid. If the demand for choice exceeds funds available, priority will be given to lowest achieving, low-income students.

If you are interested in transferring your child(ren) to a non-PI school in the district for the 2012-2013 school year, please select from the following schools. This list of schools is also available on our Web site at www.sylvan.k12.ca.us/woodrow. Your preference of a non-PI school will be taken into consideration.

2011-2012 AYP DATA			
Name of School	API	English-language arts - Percent Proficient or above - (Elementary target = 78.4%)	Mathematics - Percent Proficient or above - (Elementary target= 79.0%)
Woodrow Elementary 800 Woodrow Ave., Modesto	778	Overall Percentage 47.6	Overall Percentage 59.6
C. F. Brown Elementary 2024 Vera Cruz Dr., Modesto	856	Overall Percentage 62.9	Overall Percentage 76.9
Orchard Elementary 1800 Wisdom Way, Modesto	851	Overall Percentage 64.0	Overall Percentage 72.9
Stockard Coffee Elementary 3900 Northview Dr., Modesto	828	Overall Percentage 67.2	Overall Percentage 67.6
Sanders Elementary 3101 Fine Ave., Modesto	874	Overall Percentage 71.2	Overall Percentage 74.6
Crossroads Elementary 5800 Saxon Way, Riverbank	8852	Overall Percentage 61.1	Overall Percentage 65.2
Freedom Elementary 2101 Fine Ave., Modesto	844	Overall Percentage 62.3	Overall Percentage 75.3

For more information about any of these schools, please contact the district at 574-5000. You may also go to the district's Web site at www.sylvan.k12.ca.us/woodrow to obtain information on the number of students who are eligible for and the number of students who participated in public school choice and supplemental educational services (SES) beginning with data from 2007-08.

To apply for a public school choice transfer from a PI school, please complete an application form and return it by December 7, 2012 to the school office. Applications are available in the school office or at the Sylvan District Office Curriculum Department at 605 Sylvan Avenue, Modesto. If you need assistance or have questions, please contact Vickie Briscoe at 574-5700.

SES: How does a parent obtain a provider for their child?

Student from low-income families at continuing PI, whose parents did not select a public school choice option, are eligible for free tutoring (SES). A letter was mailed home to all eligible families on October 24, 2012. These services are classes or tutoring which occur outside the regular school day with educational providers approved by the State Board of Education. If the number of eligible students who apply for the SES program exceeds the financial resources available, the lowest achieving students from low-income families will receive SES first.

There are many benefits to your child(ren) receiving free tutoring.

- He/she receives specific help in English-language arts, mathematic, and or science.
- The tutoring is provided beyond the regular school day.
- The tutoring is delivered in a one-to-one setting or in small groups.
- A student learning plan will address his/her specific academic needs.
- You, as the parent/guardian, will be consulted in developing your child's learning plan.

What will the school do to address the problem of low achievement?

We are working closely with the district staff to revise our school plan to include:

- Strategies, policies, and practices that utilize scientifically-based research and have the greatest likelihood of ensuring that all groups of students will meet the state's achievement targets
- High quality professional development for school staff that will lead to removing the school from PI status
- Strategies to promote effective parental involvement in the school

What are the district and state doing to support schools in PI Year 5 (Restructuring Implementation)?

Our district is working closely with the CDE to improve curriculum, instruction, and student performance. Schools in PI Year 5 must implement the restructuring plan for alternative governance written during the previous year. The implementation of the restructuring plan will be monitored by the local district.

How can parents become involved?

Research shows that strong parental involvement leads to student success at school. Parents interested in partnering with the school are encouraged to contact the school for additional information regarding:

- Parental involvement policies
- School-parent compact
- Ongoing parent/community meetings
- Advisory committee/school site council meetings
- Parent volunteer opportunities

We will keep you updated and informed about opportunities to discuss plans for our school. If you have questions, need additional information on how you can get involved in our school improvement efforts, or would like to discuss the school's instructional program and PI status, please feel free to call me and/or visit the school.

Sincerely,



Victoria Briscoe
Principal, Woodrow Elementary School