

EMPIRE GARDENS ELEMENTARY

Grades K-5

2006-2007 Executive Summary
School Accountability Report Card

San José Unified School District

855 Lenzen Avenue
San José, CA 95126
(408) 535-6000
<http://www.sjUSD.org>

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Rosa Molina

Board of Education

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This executive summary of the School Accountability Report Card (SARC) is intended to provide a quick snapshot of school accountability. The data presented in this report are 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 full-length SARC posted on the District's website: www.sjUSD.org
- Contact the school principal
- Contact the District's SARC coordinator - Sheryl_Stroh@sjUSD.org or call her at (408) 535-6108

Principal

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About this School

Empire Gardens Elementary School is focused on student achievement. Our goal is that in 2010, Empire Gardens will be the first downtown school to become a California Distinguished School. A comprehensive Academic Language Acquisition (ALA) Program is available for Spanish-speaking English language learners. We also have a partnership with Partners in School Innovation, a non-profit organization that works with schools to help them close the achievement gap through teacher collaboration, data analysis, and peer observations.



Shared Vision

Empire Gardens is a community of lifelong learners where everyone has something to teach and something to learn. We believe that the professional judgment of a well-informed staff is more effective than any program. Empire Gardens provides an environment of safety, trust, and respect for all. Through our commitment and collaborative efforts, and by continuously improving, we are creating a village to educate each and every child.

Total enrollment

449 students

The table to the right shows the percentage of this total enrollment by group.

Student Enrollment by group

African American	.22%
American Indian or Alaska Native	.67%
Asian	1.58%
Filipino	2.0%
Hispanic or Latino	89.98%
Pacific Islander	.67%
White (Not Hispanic)	3.12%
Multiple or No Response	1.78%
Socioeconomically disadvantaged	92%
English Learners	73%
Students with disabilities	7%

Teachers

Teachers with full credential	26
Teachers without full credential	1
Teachers teaching outside subject area of competence	0
Misassignments of teachers of English Learners	0
Total teacher misassignments	0

School Facilities

Empire Gardens School was opened over 40 years ago in portable classrooms with more portables being added through the years. Phase I of a new kindergarten playground was installed in January 2000. In fall of 2000, a school task force recommended that the school be rebuilt on the current site. The Site Design Committee met several times during the year to review plans and make recommendations. The rebuilding of Empire Gardens began in June 2003. During the 2003-2004 school years, the school was housed at an interim site. The new school was opened in the fall of 2004. Our new facilities include a multi-purpose room, a computer laboratory, a library, and two resource rooms. A driveway was added to ensure safety when students are picked up or dropped off. The site also includes a spacious parking lot with landscaping. During the 2005-06 school year, we added a new playground, basketball courts, and a volleyball court to our beautiful, clean campus.

Results of most recent site inspection completed on August 7, 2007.

The school met most or all standards of good repair. Deficiencies noted, if any, were not significant and/or impact a very small area of the school. The overall rating of the school was EXEMPLARY.

Curriculum and Instructional Materials

All San José Unified schools have sufficient standards aligned and state adopted textbooks and other instructional materials for each pupil, including English Learners. The adoption in all four content areas is consistent with the content and cycles of the curriculum frameworks adopted by the State Board of Education.

A complete list of textbooks and their date of adoption is available at:

http://www.sjUSD.org/pdf/staff/Instructional_Material/Textbook_listing.pdf

Student Performance

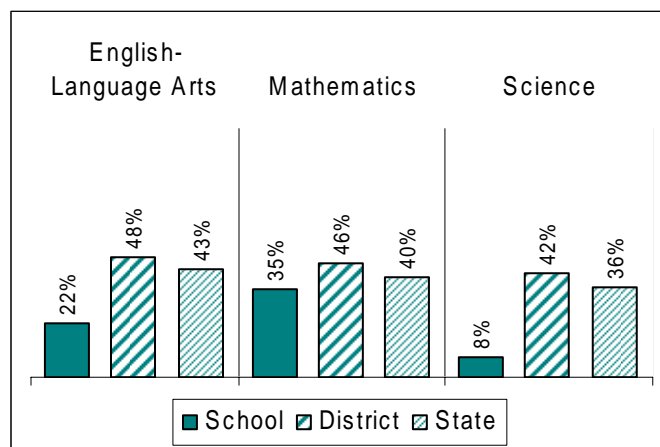
California Standards Test (CST)

The California Standards Test (CST) shows how well students are doing in relation to the State content standards and are reported as performance levels. Students are tested in the following areas:

- English and Language Arts—Grades 2-11
- Mathematics—Grades 2—11
- Science—Grades 5, 8, 9, 10 and 11
- History and Social Science—Grades 8, 10 and 11

Detailed information regarding CST results for each grade and proficiency level, including the percent of students not tested, can be found at the CDE Web site at <http://star.cde.ca.gov/>. *Note: To protect student privacy, scores are not shown when the number of students tested is 10 or less.*

Percent of students scoring proficient and above on California Standards Test



Expenditures Per Pupil (Fiscal Year 2005-06)

This information provides a comparison of the school's per pupil funding from unrestricted sources with other schools in San José Unified and the State.

Unrestricted Expenditures Per Pupil		
School	District	State
		\$4.943

Academic Progress

Academic Performance Index (API)

The Academic Performance Index (API) is an annual measure of the academic performance and progress of schools in California. API scores range from 200 to 1,000, with a statewide target of 800.

2007 Growth API	649
Change from prior year	13
Met growth target	Yes
Statewide Rank	1
Similar School Rank	1
Program Improvement School	Yes

API Ranks

Schools are ranked in two ways based on their API scores. They are ranked as to how they compare to all elementary schools in the state and how they rank compared to 100 statistically matched schools. A rank of 1 means the school has an API score in the lowest 10 percent in the comparison group and a score of 10 means that the school has an API score in the highest 10 percent of the comparison group.

Program Improvement (PI)

The federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001 requires schools and school districts receiving Title I funds to be identified for Program Improvement (PI) if Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) criteria are not met for two consecutive years. Each year schools and districts must meet four sets of requirements to reflect minimum statewide performance levels. These requirements are the same for all schools and districts of the same type.

Detailed information can be found at the CDE website at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ar/index.asp>

San José Unified SARC's are prepared by the
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Questions — call Sheryl Stroh at 535-6108 or
 via e mail to Sheryl_Stroh@sjUSD.org