



186th Street Elementary School

A Hoot of News

October 2011



Owl Pride: "On the Hunt for Wisdom through Education"

Marcia Sidney-Reed, Principal ❖ Traci Kanemitsu, Assistant Principal, EIS

Dear Parents,

We are off to a great start for our new school year. The students and teachers are happily engaged in the learning process. While visiting classrooms, I have observed the magical moments of teaching and learning. Our students are eager to learn new concepts, and our staff is enthusiastic about bringing learning to life. We are shaping America's future by upholding high standards of discipline, clear expectations, and a rigorous curriculum that challenges our students to think, solve, and reflect.

The preliminary results for our test scores are in, and we are celebrating our successes and making plans for the areas needed for improvement. This year our schoolwide English Language Arts (ELA) proficiency rate is 63 percent which granted us Safe Harbor in achieving the Annual Measurable Achievement Objective (AMAO) for 2011. Our proficiency rate for Math is 77 percent which is well above the required AMO of 68.5%. Our academic performance index (API), the achievement gauge for California public schools based on standardized tests, increased by 33 points to keep us in the 800 Club. Our new API is 852. We met 21 of the 21 academic yearly progress (AYP) criteria, required by the federal No Child Left Behind Act which requires schools to make gradual improvements over the decade until the 2013-2014 school year, when all students must be proficient in English and Math. We are celebrating the satisfaction of making progress in all of our sub groups, and we are strategically planning how to increase our achievement above and beyond our present score to reach the 900 Club. With an intentional and deliberate focus on teaching the standards, we will reach the AMAO goals for next year of 78.4 percent of our students scoring proficient in ELA and 79 percent of our students scoring proficient in Math. It's climb, but we can do it!!!

As I look at the areas of concern and need for our school, I must ask you to please refrain from stopping your cars in the middle of the street to drop off and pick up your children, and please do not use the teacher's parking lot for drop off and pick up. These are both very dangerous practices, and we are very concerned with some parents putting their children in harm's way. Have your children cross the street at the crosswalks and please pull your cars over to the curb to pick up your children. Parents who continue these unsafe practices will receive expensive tickets from the Harbor Police Department. Let's work to do a better job so that our school year will proceed with great success and continuous safety. **Also, please tell your child what they are to do afterschool, before you send them to school. The numerous calls to our office to give messages to the children are hindering our instructional program. Please call the school to deliver messages to your child on an emergency basis.** We will be more than happy to assist you. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me or your classroom teacher at (310) 324-1153. Here's to a happy, hootin' successful school year. Hoot! Hoot! Hooray!!!

Soaring to success,

Marcia Sidney-Reed

Marcia Sidney-Reed
Principal

P.S. Please support our academic plays for the remainder of the school year:

1. Encourage your wise owl to speak in complete sentences
2. Help your wise owl read 15 to 20 minutes every night
3. Remind your wise owl to be respectful at all times.

