

# LUCERNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Telephone 707/274-5578 Fax 707/274-9865  
Mike Brown, Principal

September 12, 2011

Dear Parents & Guardians,

I am honored to announce that the students of Lucerne Elementary School have had another year of excellent STAR test results. For the second year in a row Lucerne Elementary School has made over 20 points of growth on our API (Academic Performance Index). The California Department of Education has established a goal for schools to attain an API score of 800 or better. Lucerne Elementary School's score is currently 784 as we are rapidly approaching the state target of 800. Our current score places us equal or greater than 20 other Lake County Schools and only lower than six.

Lucerne Elementary School receives Title One federal funding to assist our students in academic achievement in reading, writing, and math. The *No Child Left Behind* law requires that all Title One schools make adequate yearly progress (AYP) in improving student achievement. Each year, results on the California Standards Test in English Language Arts and Mathematics are analyzed and matched with the achievement targets. When a school fails to meet these achievement targets for two consecutive years, it is identified as a Program Improvement school. A school exits Program Improvement after two consecutive years of reaching the target.

Unfortunately, even though Lucerne Elementary School has made marked improvement on the state targets (API), we have not met the academic targets (AYP) in English-Language Arts required by the *No Child Left Behind* law. Lucerne Elementary School has now entered Year 1 of Program Improvement (PI). The *No Child Left Behind* Law target is 100% of students will test proficient or advanced by the year 2014. To learn how Lucerne compares academically to other schools in our area and state, visit the California Department of Education website <http://www.cde.ca.gov/reports.asp>. Also, the school's 2010 and 2011 Accountability Progress Reports may be obtained on the CDE webpage <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ay/>.

As a Year 1 PI school, we will ensure that students have access to quality educational programs. We are reviewing student programs and will begin to use strategies designed to improve the curriculum and student performance. We will revise our policies and practices to incorporate research-based strategies to strengthen core academic areas that ensure all groups of students meet the achievement standards. Our district is working closely with Lake County Office of Education and the California Department of Education. They are providing resources, support, and training opportunities in areas of high quality professional development. We are analyzing various data reports that are strengthening our core academic instruction that will lead to removing our school from PI status.

State law referred to as the Open Enrollment Act, requires us to inform parents of students who attend the elementary school that you have right to request a transfer for your child to another school. Under this law you may request a transfer to another school that has a higher performance index score (API) than 784. Transportation is not provided. Most school districts in Lake County already support the concept of Open Enrollment, as they believe in the participation of parents in their students' educational choices and have given parents the opportunity to enroll their children in other districts for many years. Within the *No Child Left Behind* law, parents of students attending a Year 1 Title I Program Improvement school may send their child to a non-Program Improvement school in the district and receive transportation to a designated district school at district expense. However, Lucerne Elementary School District has only one elementary school. For more additional information on this law, go to the California Department of Education website at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/eo/op/>.

Lucerne Elementary School strongly encourages and appreciates parent involvement in student education. As a K -8 district there are numerous opportunities for participation. Please contact the school for information on how to become a volunteer, member of the Booster Club or School Site Council. You can also provide support by attending parent conferences, making certain your child attends school on a regular basis and completes all assignments. Also stay current with event schedules so you can provide encouragement at academic, sporting and other school related activities.

Please feel free to contact me at any time for further clarification or if you have any questions, concerns, or comments about your student's educational experience at Lucerne Elementary School. We are looking forward to a year of educational success and continuous improvement for all students at our school. Thank you for your support of our students and our school community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Brown". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mike Brown  
Principal/Superintendent  
Lucerne Elementary School