

West Portal Elementary School

5 Lenox Way, San Francisco, CA 94127 (415) 759-2846
Ms Jeanne Villafuerte, Principal

S.F.U.S.D.

2000-2001 School Accountability Report Card

Fall 2000

School Description

West Portal School's learning community fosters a safe, cooperative, nurturing environment. We have model classrooms in developmentally appropriate practices and language learning through the Chinese Two-way Immersion Program. As a model school for inclusive education, we were recognized by the *Exceptional Parent Magazine* as a "Model of Excellence in Education for 2000." Our teachers are proactive and highly involved in the implementation of a rich, meaning-centered, thinking curriculum. Staff works collaboratively through peer coaching, resource sharing, and program support. Curriculum offerings are extended through technology, art, music, physical fitness, perceptual motor, library, and visual and performing arts. Curriculum committees, including Gifted and Talented Education, share learned strategies to enrich the school's curriculum. School wide activities include the Spring Musical, Academic Fair, Folk Art, Poets in the School, Buddy Program, Visual Artist in Residence, and assemblies with a multicultural focus. Our students participate in the symphony program (AIM), student government, environmental study trips, and community outreach programs. Our language program enables students to become bilingual/biliterate in English and Chinese. An exemplary non-profit childcare is available through West Portal CARE. Literacy, Parent Involvement, and Academic Progress and Excellence are priorities for West Portal School. Our vision for students is that they will strive to reach their full potential, create their own visions and welcome responsibilities and challenges.

School Priorities

For each district goal (listed below), there are measurable objectives. Every school has developed a school site plan to achieve each objective and has identified its individual school priorities:

- A To improve reading achievement of all students with special attention to ELL, quartile 1, 2, 4 students and special education students.
- B To improve mathematics achievement for all students, with special attention to quartile one students. To maintain achievement growth for L, ELL, Special Education, and quartile 1,2,3, and 4.
- C To engage the school community in setting high standards and expectations for all students, and in supporting the students to achieve them.

District Mission and Goals

The mission of the San Francisco Unified School District is to provide each student with an equal opportunity to succeed by promoting intellectual growth, creativity, self discipline, cultural and linguistic sensitivity, democratic responsibility, economic competence and physical and mental health so that each student can achieve to his or her maximum ability.

To achieve this mission, the Board of Education has adopted the following goals: 1) To improve teaching and learning to enhance the academic achievement of all students; 2) To improve staff, parent and community participation in the educational process; 3) To maintain school environments that are safe, secure and attractive; 4) To build a school environment that is fully integrated in all its programs and activities and provides equal opportunity for all students; 5) To improve and expand the Early Childhood Education Program and integrate it into the K-12 Program; and 6) To increase and expand inter-agency collaboration to better serve our students.

Philosophical Tenets

In order to achieve these objectives, the Board has adopted the following set of philosophical tenets:

- * All individuals should learn to live and work in a world that is characterized by interdependence and cultural diversity.
- * All individuals want to learn and to be recognized for their achievements.
- * Learning is an interactive process that occurs when students understand and are able to communicate new concepts through carefully crafted and guided challenging experiences defined by clear learning goals and rigorous performance standards.
- * All individuals are entitled to be treated with respect and dignity.
- * All individuals can learn.
- * All individuals learn in many different ways and at varying rates.
- * Each individual learns best in a particular way.
- * All individuals are both potential learners and potential teachers.
- * Learning has both cognitive and affective dimensions.
- * Teachers, administrators and staff are partners with students in the learning process. If students fail, all partners should accept full responsibility for this failure and take action to ensure success.
- * Parents want their children to attain their fullest potential as learners and to succeed academically.

Grade Span:	K-5	Student Enrollment:	558	LEP/NEP (ELL) ¹ :	30.6%
Building (sq.ft.):	44,700	Average Daily Attendance:	97.40%	EDY ² :	23.8%
Year of Construction:	1927	Optional Enrollment Requests:	55.4%	% of Points Met ³ :	95%
Children Center/Childcare:	No	Title I/State Pre-K Program:	No	Student Uniforms:	No

¹ LEP/NEP(ELL): Limited English Proficient or Non English Proficient (English Language Learner)

² EDY: Educationally Disadvantaged Youth

³ % Met: Refers to the objectives to achieve SFUSD goals

Counseling and Student Support Services

District general funds are not available for counseling services at the elementary school level. However, some schools have added support staff funded through special programs, projects, or grant awards. At West Portal we use a collaborative model to support students with special needs. Parents/guardians and staff, including support staff, the resource specialist, inclusion support teacher, speech therapist, elementary advisor, and classroom aides, are guided by the belief that collaboration is essential to support our children. The Student Success Team develops strategies for student success. Our discipline policy supports our belief that children can become effective decision makers when we help them to become contributing members to our school community and to society. Stated in our Discipline Policy is the belief that all people have equal claims to dignity and respect. Parents and guardians play a vital role in the school and sponsor programs to build a caring community for children.

Student Attendance and Dropout Rate

Dropout rate 1997-98 = 0% 1998-99 = .3% 1999-00 = 0%

The District's K-5 average attendance for 1999-2000 was 95.1% and the dropout rate was 1.3%. At West Portal ES, attendance for the year was 97.4%, excused absences were 2.2%, unexcused absences were .4%, and the dropout rate was 0%. An important District objective is to further reduce dropout rates. Dropouts are defined as students who are absent without reason for 45 days or more. We stress that regular and punctual school attendance is essential for students to gain maximum benefit from the educational program. Parents/guardians are requested to notify us to report absences. We make daily attendance checks. Absenteeism is monitored by teachers, the secretary, clerk, principal, and elementary advisor. Conferences are requested for excessive absences. Students are asked to complete an Independent Study if they are absent for other than illness. Teachers provide opportunities for children to make up class work missed while absent.

Student Achievement

SAT9 (Spring 1998, 1999 & 2000)

	1998	1999	2000
Reading	43	44	48
Math	52	54	59

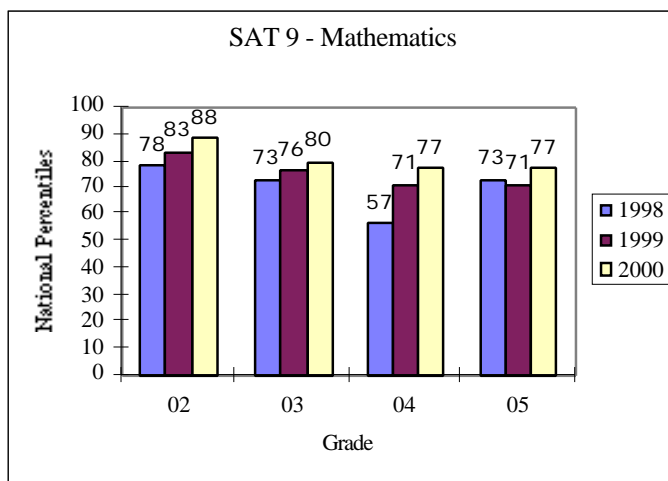
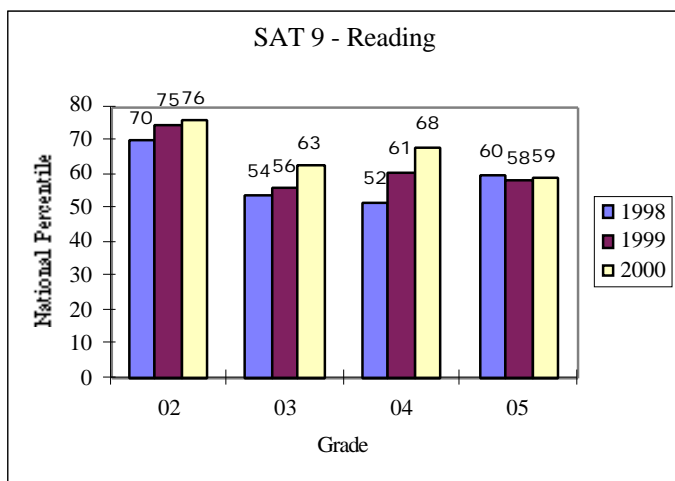
*Unmatched performance data

Portions of the Stanford Achievement Test 9 (SAT9) are used by this District to measure individual student progress and proficiency standards.

Academic Performance Index

	Statewide	Similar Schools
2000 Rank	9	7

Details about the API program including an explanation of the nature and purpose of the various components can be found on the web at "www.cde.ca.gov/psaa/api"



Ethnic/Gender Diversity

Ethnic/Gender Representation (Percents)

	Total	AA%	AI%	C%	F%	J%	K%	L%	ONW%	OW%	Male%	Female%
Students	558	4.3	0.0	45.2	2.3	1.3	1.1	6.1	20.4	17.6	55.7	44.3
Certificated	29	0.0	0.0	27.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.9	65.5	6.9	93.1
Classified	6	0.0	0.0	33.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.7	0.0	50.0	50.0	50.0
Paraprofessional	16	12.5	0.0	18.8	6.3	0.0	0.0	25.0	6.3	31.3	12.5	87.5

When filling staff vacancies, we give attention to the goal of making the ethnic diversity of the staff reflective of the ethnic make-up of the student population. We were able to improve the ethnic diversity of our staff through the recent hiring process. Diversity is welcomed as an enrichment to our lives.

Textbooks and Instructional Materials

The review, selection, and purchase of textbooks and instructional materials are carried out in conjunction with the California eight-year curriculum improvement cycle and District priorities. In 1997-98, there were district-wide adoptions of K-8 English Language Arts, K-5 Spanish Language Arts, 9-12 Spanish, economics, biology, biotechnology and physics instructional materials and in 1999-2000 there was an adoption for K-8 History/Social Science. Content and performance standards for English Language Arts, mathematics, and science are being implemented.

At West Portal supplemental materials meet the special needs of our students and programs. The West Portal Parent Club funds field trips, multiple copies, computer hardware and software, math and spelling textbooks, art supplies, maps, library books, fees for museums/plays, assembly programs, workbooks, Chinese materials, and instructional aids. We supplement our district adopted reading program with a well defined phonics program. We purchase classroom library books for the emergent readers. We use Houghton Mifflin's Math Steps to supplement the district adopted Mathlands so that we can address the new state math standards.

School Facilities and Safety

Current Conditions

Prop A monies rehabilitated bathrooms, enlarged classroom space, replaced & painted benches, upgraded fire & technology systems, improved handicap access, and improved hallway and classroom lighting. Three new bungalows were added to accommodate reduced class sizes, and two old bungalows were replaced. Yard two was resurfaced.

Planned Improvements

Students plant gardens and operate litter patrols. The Parent Club is remodeling the library, painting, refurbishing and making it a more welcoming environment. Facility issues are a regular agenda item at monthly parent club meetings and plans are discussed and implemented. Requests are made to Building and Grounds for regular maintenance items.

Needed Improvements

The clock/bell system needs repair or replacing. Irrigation system needs repair. Auditorium needs painting. Modular classrooms need water. Yards need resurfacing and yard fountains need upgrading. Office space needs restructuring. The outside of the building needs painting and security lights need to be installed.

Parent/Community Involvement

Parents and guardians play a vital role in the school. They volunteer in the classroom and on field trips, work in the library, plan class festivities, share in decision making, support the instructional program, and serve as curriculum resources. They started our noontime Game Room, Family Night at the Jungle, Science with the Exploratorium, Homework Help, annual participation in the Chinese New Year's Parade, and other student support programs. Their fund raising program provides for enrichment activities and instructional materials. Monthly Parent Club meetings keep parents informed on school offerings. Parents /guardians are our most valuable resource.

For further information about our school or if you have questions about this document, please feel free to call us.

Si necesita información sobre nuestra escuela o si tiene alguna pregunta sobre este prospecto, llámenos.

Nếu muốn biết thêm chi tiết về trường học hoặc về tập tài liệu này, xin quý vị gọi điện thoại cho chúng tôi.

Kung kailangan ang karagdagang impormasyon tungkol sa ating paaralan O gustong magtanong tungkol sa mga kailangang dokumento, maaari kayon tumawag sa amin.

Если у Вас есть вопросы, или нужна дополнительная информация, пожалуйста позвоните по телефон.

如果你們需要任何有關學校的資料或有任何關於此文件的問題，請打電話與我們聯絡。

San Francisco Unified School District

555 Franklin Street

San Francisco, CA 94102

Attn: West Portal Elementary School