



Orange Unified School District
Special Programs Department
1401 N. Handy Street
Orange, CA 92867

September 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians of Students at Orange High School:

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 - 3 school.

What is PI? NCLB requires the State and district to annually review 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 three measures for high schools:

- California's own accountability measurement of progress, the Academic Performance Index (API)
- 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
- For high schools, the graduation rate

Why was Orange High identified as PI? This year the State's targets for all students becoming proficient by the year 2014 have significantly increased by 11.1 % in English-Language Arts and by 11.3% in mathematics. The school made 14 of its 18 Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) criteria targets. Even though the school did not all make their Adequate Yearly Progress targets, a significant growth was made in English-Language Arts proficiency increased by 12.2%. The school's Accountability Progress Report may be obtained from the California Department of Education at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ar> or the Orange Unified School District's web site at <http://www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/ayp/>

Parental right to request a transfer to a non-PI school. As a requirement of Program Improvement, the Orange Unified School District offered the parents the choice to apply for a transfer to another non-Program Improvement School last spring. If you would like more information about transfers, please contact the school office.

The availability of Supplemental Educational Services (SES) for your child. Students who attend Orange High, and are low-income, are eligible for free SES. These services are classes or tutoring, which occur outside of the regular school day, with educational providers approved by the State Board of Education. If the number of eligible students who apply for SES exceeds the financial resources available, the lowest achieving students from low-income families will receive SES first. Please contact the school or visit the OUSD Website, at www.orangeusd.org, or for more information regarding how to apply for free tutoring services offered through the SES program.

How will Orange High address the problem of low achievement? All teachers will actively participate in on-going professional development in standards-based lesson design and assessment. We will use extensive assessment data to identify student needs. We will also continue to expand our parent involvement activities to increase their effectiveness in being our partners in the education of their children.

District and the State support for schools in PI Year 3, School Improvement. The Orange Unified School District is working with the California Department of Education and others to help Orange High School to improve student performance. Orange High is working closely with district staff to implement the school plan. The plan includes the use of scientific research-based strategies, which support all groups of students meeting the State's achievement targets, provides high quality staff development to school staff, and promotes effective parental involvement.

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 compacts, parent/community meetings, parent advisory committees and parent volunteer opportunities.

If you have any questions or need further information about Program Improvement, please call Orange High at 714-997-6211.

Sincerely,

Ernie Gonzalez
Principal, Orange High School
Orange Unified School District