



VERDUGO WOODLANDS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

A California Distinguished School

1751 North Verdugo Road, Glendale, CA 91208-2999 • (818) 241-2433 • Kindergarten through Sixth Grade

Janet Buhl, Principal • Angela Schultz, Assistant Principal

www.gusd.net

2003-2004 School Accountability Report Card

Principal's Message

I'd like to welcome you to the Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School annual School Accountability Report Card and thank you for taking time to explore it. As principal, I could not be more proud of the school over which I preside, and am honored to have the opportunity to share the basis for such pride with you. The opportunity to do so has presented itself in the form of compliance with state law, more specifically Proposition 98, which identifies the School Accountability Report Card as a required component that every school in California must issue. The purpose of this report card is to afford you further insight into the quality educational program we offer.

It is the belief of Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School that students can and will excel in an environment that is tailored to their evolving needs and conducive to all facets of the learning process. It is due to this belief that we have been able to successfully develop a comprehensive educational system that celebrates and promotes ethnic and cultural diversity, individuality, and emotional, intellectual, and social eminence. We strive to provide students with not only the stimulation and encouragement to accomplish such feats, but the means to do so as well.

In our long-standing tradition of excellence, we maintain our commitment to students, parents, community members, and staff to provide the best educational experience possible. We renew this commitment yearly in hopes that together we will continue to improve our effectiveness in edifying students of today, preparing them to become productive citizens of tomorrow. It is in light of this fact that we welcome any suggestions, ideas, or comments you may have.

Thank you for assisting Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School in making our students' experiences here not only memorable, but also successful. Should you wish a tour of Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School, please contact the school office.

-- Janet Buhl
Principal

Community & School Profile

The city of Glendale, the third largest city in Los Angeles County, is situated on the eastern border of the San Fernando Valley at the base of the Verdugo Mountains - only eight miles north of the city of Los Angeles. Embracing cultural diversity, 50 percent of the city's 200,000 residents were born outside the United States, challenging local educational agencies to offer and support over 60 foreign languages. National studies, residents, and realtors agree that Glendale's reputation for picturesque neighborhoods, excellent schools, commercial industries, shopping facilities, strong municipal agencies, and its many local attractions are motivating factors for families moving to the valley. Community pride and involvement are strong forces responding to educational issues, nonprofit causes, and city developments.

The Glendale Unified School District is proud of its excellent quality of education and award winning schools. Its commitment to providing safe and effective learning environments for students is unmatched. The district serves approximately 29,433 students in its 20 elementary schools, four middle schools, five high schools, and two specialized schools. Year-round and traditional calendar systems, complemented by a variety of creative programs, provide Glendale parents and students many choices for individual needs and achievements.

Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School, which opened in 1926, is located in the northern section of the city of Glendale and serves students in kindergarten through sixth grade. Students from Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School will move on to Wilson Middle School and Glendale High School. Verdugo Woodlands is known for the strong, active relationship between parents and the school community. Parents work hand in hand with staff members to provide a rich learning environment for students. Operating on a traditional calendar system, the educational programs at Verdugo Woodlands are tailored to meet the needs of a changing school population. Verdugo Woodlands Elementary is the proud recipient of the California Distinguished School Award for 2003-2004.

Mission Statement

We, the Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School community, make it our goal to:

- Ensure high academic achievement and social responsibility,
- Provide a safe and nurturing environment in which to learn,
- Foster mutual respect and understanding among all members of our community,
- Promote life-long learning.

Student Enrollment by Ethnic Group	
2003-04	
	Percentage
African American	0.8
American Indian	0.0
Asian	19.2
Caucasian	60.5
Filipino	3.4
Hispanic	14.8
Pacific Islander	0.3
Other	1.1

Discipline & Climate for Learning

The District believes in preparing students to become responsible, productive citizens. Students at Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School are guided by specific rules and classroom expectations that promote respect, cooperation, courtesy, and acceptance of others. The goal of Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School's discipline program is to provide students with opportunities to learn self-discipline through a system of consistent rewards and consequences for their behavior. Students who develop a sense of personal responsibility will mature both academically and emotionally. Parents and students are informed of discipline policies at the beginning of each school year through classroom orientation and individual parent/student handbooks.

Suspensions & Expulsions						
	Verdugo Woodlands			GUSD		
	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003
Suspension (#)	5	6	9	3425	5489	4903
Suspension (%)	0.75%	0.90%	1.37%	11.59%	18.45%	16.66%
Expulsion (#)	0	0	0	40	46	65
Expulsion (%)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.14%	0.15%	0.22%

Building a positive self-image, as well as respect for others, is important to a student's success. The District supports the philosophy that students who have high self-esteem are more likely to become productive citizens and resist temptations such as abusing alcohol and dangerous drugs. In addition to sponsoring programs to eliminate bullying, resolve conflicts, and promote peace on its campuses, the district participates in the Glendale Character and Ethics Project. This character education program provides a strong link between the schools and the community. The project highlights one "guiding word" per month, such as respect, honesty, self-discipline, citizenship, and responsibility. The Glendale Character and Ethics Project teaches children to consider the consequences of their actions and encourages them to choose behaviors that benefit themselves and others.

Students are encouraged to participate in the school's additional academic and extracurricular activities that promote positive attitudes, encourage achievement, and aid in the prevention of behavioral problems. Extracurricular and enrichment activities include:

- Orchestra
- Before and After School Programs
- Chorus
- GATE Program
- Student Council
- Governor's Reading Program
- Family Fall Festival
- Family Reading Night

To build self-esteem and recognize student achievement, certificates, ribbons, prizes, and various other awards are given to students at assemblies and special presentations throughout the school year. Activities, honors, and programs include:

- School Community Service Awards
- Student of the Month
- Presidential Fitness Awards
- Music Awards

- Good Citizenship Award
- Perfect Attendance
- Presidential Academic Achievement
- Academic Achievement Awards

Academic Support

Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School offers assistance and specialized instruction to students with special needs. Teachers receive assistance in developing research-based intervention strategies for at-risk students so that all students have the opportunity to meet rigorous standards. After school intervention programs enhance students' understanding and mastery of core subject matter. Students in grades four through six may participate in the Summer Academy, a districtwide program that provides additional learning opportunities for students having difficulty achieving grade level performance.

School Enrollment & Attendance

The District recognizes that regular attendance and punctuality are not only necessary parts of the learning process, but are critical to academic success. School districts receive financial support from the state for the education of students they serve based on how many students attend school each day. Attendance, tardiness, and truancy policies are clearly stated, consistently enforced, and consequences fairly administered. Parents are advised of their responsibilities, including proper notification of why and when students are absent. Independent study is available for students who require extended leaves from school.

Absence reports are reviewed regularly by the principal. Parents are advised of absences through phone calls and written communication. Those students who continue to exhibit excessive absences are directed to the appropriate authorities including the School Attendance Review Board (SARB). During the 2003-04 school year, the actual attendance rate for all grade levels for Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School was 97.15%.

Class Size

Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School maintained a schoolwide average class size of 23 students and a pupil-to-teacher ratio of 22:1 for the 2003-04 school year. The pupil-to-teacher ratio varies by grade level and subject area.

In 1996, the state legislature approved implementation of the Class Size Reduction (CSR) program that provides funding to hire additional teachers to assist schools in reducing K-3 class sizes. Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School has implemented CSR in 100% of all K-3 classrooms for the past three years.

Class Size Distribution												
	Average			Classrooms Containing:								
	Class Size			1-20			21-32			33+		
	02	03	04	02	03	04	02	03	04	02	03	04
K	18	19	20	4	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
1st	19	19	20	4	4	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
2nd	20	19	20	4	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
3rd	18	18	19	6	4	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
4th	32	32	32	0	0	0	2	2	2	1	1	0
5th	32	33	32	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	2	2
6th	33	34	30	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	2	0
K-3	19	19	20	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
3rd-4th	0	20	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4th-8th	0	32	31	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	0

School Facilities

Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School provides a safe, clean environment for students, staff, and volunteers. School facilities, first built in 1926, sit on 5.6 acres and include 33 classrooms, a library, computer lab, lunch shelter, administrative offices, grassy fields, and blacktop playground. The Measure K project made it possible to completely modernize Verdugo Woodlands in 2001. At the time of publication in April 2005, 100% of the restrooms were fully functional.

The district's scheduled maintenance program, which included upgrades such as an ADA compliant ramp for wheelchairs, refinishing of hardwood floors in all classrooms, and modernization of the computer lab, multi-purpose room and library, ensures that all classroom and facilities are well-maintained and provide a suitable learning environment. On a daily basis, Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School has three custodians on duty to ensure school facilities remain clean and safe.

While data presented in this report is reflective of the 2003-04 school year, beginning in January of 2005, California schools must report the most recent occurrence of any of the eight emergency facility needs as specified in Education Code Section 17592.72(c)(1). This includes 1) Gas Leaks; 2) Non-functioning heating, ventilation, fire sprinklers, or air-conditioning systems; 3) Electrical Power Failure; 4) Major sewer line stoppage; 5) Major pest or vermin infestation; 6) Broken windows or exterior doors/gates that will not lock or pose a security threat; 7) Abatement of hazardous materials previously undiscovered that pose an immediate threat to pupil or staff; and 8) Structural damage creating a hazardous or uninhabitable condition. At the time of this publication, the school has not experienced any emergency facility needs.

Cleaning Process and Schedule

Currently all schools are on a daily cleaning schedule. Each classroom is swept or vacuumed and the trash emptied. The cafeteria, gym, and all restrooms are cleaned daily. Grounds are groomed on a rotating basis, with trash, lawn, and plumbing issues addressed daily.

Maintenance and Repair

District maintenance staff ensures that the repairs necessary to keep the school in good repair and working order are completed in a timely manner. A work order process is used to ensure efficient service that emergency repairs are given the highest priority.

Deferred Maintenance Budget

The district participates in the State School Deferred Maintenance Program, which provides state matching funds on a dollar-for-dollar basis, to assist school districts with expenditures for major repair or replacement of existing school building components. Typically, this includes roofing, plumbing, heating, air conditioning, electrical systems, paving, and floor systems.

Instructional Time (includes Minimum days)

During the 2003-04 school year, all instructional minutes and days offered at Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School exceeded state requirements as specified in the California Education Code. For the 2003-2004 school year, Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School offered 180 days of instruction comprised of 175 regular days and 5 minimum days. Minimum days are used for Back to School Night, Open House, the last day of school, parent conferences, and report card preparation. Each Monday is a “Banking Day.” Students arrive at school an hour later in the morning. Each month “Banking Days” allow teachers additional time faculty meetings, staff development, curriculum planning, and monitoring student progress.

Instructional Minutes By Grade Level		
	Minutes Required	Actual Minutes
K	36,000	36,240
1st	50,400	50,630
2nd	50,400	50,630
3rd	50,400	50,630
4th	54,000	54,180
5th	54,000	54,180
6th	54,000	54,180

Instructional Materials

All textbooks and instructional materials used within the Glendale Unified School District are aligned with the California Academic Content Standards and Frameworks and have been selected from the state’s most recent list of standards-based materials. The district follows the State Board of Education’s eight-year adoption cycle for

District-Adopted Textbooks			
Grade Levels	Subject	Publisher	Adoption Year
6	Language Arts	McDougal Littell	2002
6	Science	Holt, Rinehart & Winston: Earth Science	2000
K-5	Language Arts	Houghton Mifflin	2002
K-5	Science	Harcourt Brace: Harcourt Science	2001
K-6	History/Social Studies	McGraw Hills: Adventues in Time and Place	2000
K-6	Mathematics	Everyday Learning Corp: Everyday Mathematics, Revi	2001

core content materials. The district held a Public Hearing on January 11, 2005, and determined that each school within the district has sufficient and good quality textbooks or instructional materials, pursuant to the settlement of Williams vs. the State of California. All students, including English language learner students, are provided their own individual textbooks in core subjects for use in the classroom and to take home to complete required homework assignments.

Library & Computer Resources

The school's library, staffed by a part-time library assistant, is stocked with thousands of books that are available for students to check out, including books in Spanish, Armenian, and Korean in addition to English. The library is automated using the Spectrum tracking software system. Computers in the library are connected to the Internet so students are able to access resources and information online. Students visit the library on a weekly basis and receive instruction on research techniques and library usage. The teacher resource room contains a collection of videos and audiotapes for classroom use that tie into curricular areas of study.

Computer Resources			
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Computers	123	146	112
Students per computer	5.5	4.6	5.8
Classrooms connected to Internet	30	30	30

Each classroom at Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School contains a minimum of three computers. Computer skills and concepts prepare students for technological growth and opportunities. Students receive computer-assisted instruction on a regular schedule in the classroom and in the school's 35-workstation computer lab to enhance instruction in reading comprehension skills and mathematical proficiency.

Curriculum Development

Throughout Glendale schools, curricula in all of the core content areas have been aligned with the California State Content Standards. The district's emphasis is on analyzing student work, using data effectively, and working collaboratively to plan and improve instruction. District and school representatives conduct a formal review of each school's program by looking at how well students perform on district benchmark assessments and state standardized tests, identifying areas of strength and areas where improvements are needed.

When districtwide curriculum changes are planned, committees form with district and school representatives to oversee planning and implementation. These steering committees establish the long-range plan and objectives and create a timeline for implementation. Each committee reviews curriculum content to verify that new programs are consistent with Board policy. Curriculum committees make certain that curriculum is well-articulated among grade levels, with content specialists identifying and correcting gaps to ensure continuity. The committees recommend textbooks for adoption and develop the districtwide curriculum guides used in each classroom.

School administrators and teachers use the curriculum guides and data analysis to set goals and modify instruction in order to address students' needs. At grade level and faculty meetings, and meetings of the school's Leadership Team and School Site Council, members of the school community continually evaluate the school's success in meeting curricular objectives.

Local Measures

Various measures of student achievement are used as an ongoing part of the quality instructional program at Verdugo Woodlands Elementary. These assessments provide a measurement of students' actual progress and evaluate the effectiveness of the instructional program. In addition to the academic measurements required by the State of California, the school and the district administer other assessments to determine the progress of each student. These include:

- Kindergarten - District-developed Kindergarten inventory, report card grades
- 1st-6th Grade - District Math and Writing Benchmarks, report card grades

Annually, the district evaluates the results of these assessments, and state testing, to determine whether each student is meeting the district's grade level standards.

CAT/6

The CAT/6 chart reflects the percentages of students scoring at or above the 50th percentile, or those students performing at average/above average level, in Reading and Math. CAT/6 results are available at the end of this report.

California Standards Test

California Standards Tests assess student performance on the California Academic Content Standards adopted by the State Board of Education. Performance standards identify the level of student mastery of the content standards tested and include Advanced (exceeding standards), Proficient (meeting standards), Basic (approaching standards), Below Basic (below standards), and Far Below Basic (well below standards) levels. The state target for every student is to score at the Advanced or Proficient level. In this report card, the percentage of students achieving Advanced and Proficient levels is reported. CST results are available at the end of this report.

Academic Performance Index

The Academic Performance Index (API) is one of three components of the Public Schools Accountability Act (PSAA) passed in 1999. The API measures school performance, sets academic growth targets, and monitors growth over time based on CAT/6 and California Standards Tests results. The Immediate Intervention/Underperforming Schools Program (II/USP) and Governor’s Performance Award Program are the two remaining components of the PSAA. API and STAR results determine a school’s eligibility for each program. II/USP-eligible schools may apply for funding to provide the necessary resources to improve student performance. The Governor’s Performance Award acknowledges those schools that demonstrate significant improvement based on several specific measures. API results are available at the end of this report.

Adequate Yearly Progress

The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act requires all students to perform at or above the proficient level on the State’s standards-based assessment by 2014. To reach that goal, districts and schools must achieve Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). This means annually increasing the percentage of students achieving academic proficiency. AYP requires evaluating and reporting all students’ academic progress, including students in subgroups, such as English language learners, socioeconomically disadvantaged students, students with disabilities, migrant students, and students in numerically significant ethnic subgroups. Beginning with the 2003 AYP reporting cycle, schools receiving Title I revenue that fail to make AYP for two consecutive years will be identified for Program Improvement.

In California, AYP is determined by: California Standards Tests (CST) for grades 2-8, California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) for tenth grade students, Academic Performance Index scores, percentages of students participating in standardized testing, and high school graduation rates. Beginning with the 2003-04 school year, elementary and middle schools must achieve a 13.6% at-or-above proficiency rate in English Language Arts and 16.0% for Mathematics on CST, a participation rate of 95% or greater on CST, and an API of 560 or one point of API growth. These standards of achievement increase until 2014 when all students will be required to meet or exceed state standards. AYP results are available at the end of this report.

Physical Fitness

In the spring of each year, Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School is required by the state to administer a physical fitness test to all students in fifth grade. The physical fitness test measures each student’s ability to perform fitness tasks in six major areas; students are provided several options to perform tasks in each area. Students that either meet or exceed the standards in all six fitness areas are considered to be physically fit or in the ‘healthy fitness zone’ (HFZ).

Percentage of Students in Healthy Fitness Zone	
Spring 2003-04 Test Results	
5th Grade	
Verdugo Woodlands	
School Overall	34.7%
School (Boys)	32.8%
School (Girls)	36.7%
GUSD	
GUSD Overall	50.7%
GUSD (Boys)	40.9%
GUSD (Girls)	60.3%
California	
State Overall	24.8%
State (Boys)	22.9%
State (Girls)	26.7%

Teacher Assignment

The district recruits and employs the most qualified credentialed teachers. For the 2003-04 school year, Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School had 30 fully credentialed teachers.

Teacher Credential Status			
	02	03	04
Fully Credentialed	28	30	30
Emergency Credentials	3	1	0
Interns	1	0	0
Waivers	0	0	0
Total Teachers	32	31	30
Average Years Teaching	10.0	10.2	12.1
Average Years in District	8.5	8.6	10.3
Working Outside Subject	0	0	0
Vacant Teacher Positions	-	-	0
Misassignments of Teachers	-	-	0

Teacher credential data may not have been submitted or a teacher may hold one or more types of credentials. As a result, total number of teachers may not equal addition of individual categories.

Teacher Evaluation

A constructive evaluation process promotes quality instruction and is a fundamental element in a sound educational program. Evaluations and formal observations are designed to encourage common goals and to comply with the state's evaluation criteria and district policies. Temporary, probationary, and non-credentialed teachers are evaluated annually. Permanent teachers are evaluated every other year. Provisions exist for qualified tenured teachers who meet specific criteria to be evaluated every third year. Evaluations are conducted by the principal and assistant principal. These administrators have been trained and certified for competency to perform teacher evaluations.

Evaluation criteria in the Glendale Unified School District Standards for Educators include:

- Engaging All Students In The Learning Process
- Understanding and Organizing Content Knowledge for Student Learning
- Assessing Student Learning To Determine Instruction
- Creating and Maintaining an Effective Environment for Student Learning
- Planning Instruction and Designing Effective Learning Experiences for All Students
- Developing as a Professional Educator
- Fulfilling Professional Responsibilities

Substitute Teachers

The District has not experienced any difficulties retaining qualified substitute teachers. On rare occasions when a substitute is not available for an absent teacher, credentialed staff or administrators take the role of the substitute. Substitute teachers must hold a bachelor's degree and have successfully passed the California Basic Educational Skills Test. Prior to a substitute's first assignment in the district, he/she attends a three-hour training session on district policies and expectations. A pool of over 300 qualified substitutes is available to Glendale's schools.

Counseling & Support Staff

It is the goal of Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School to assist students in their social, personal, and academic development. The district makes available professional guidance and counseling personnel to work with students who experience achievement problems, classroom behavior concerns, difficulty coping with personal and family problems, trouble with decision-making and peer pressure. The principal coordinates counseling and support services.

The district offers a variety of programs, training, activities, and services to provide for students' emotional, physical, and academic needs. In addition to counseling services provided by the district or through community-based organizations, the district participates in the state's Healthy Start, Healthy Families, and Healthy Kids programs. These programs, based at the district office and Toll Middle School, serve qualifying students and their families throughout the district, providing medical and nutrition services along with a variety of other assistance and referrals.

A recently developed program at Glendale Unified School District assists homeless families to enroll their children in school, to overcome obstacles that might keep their child from attending school, and to allow their child to stay in one school while the family is transitioning into a more stable environment. Another new program is a federally funded grant project to combat alcohol abuse in high school students. Four of the five district high schools will be participating in the three-year program.

Counseling & Support Services Staff		
Title	Number of Staff	Full Time Equivalent
Counselor	1	0.2
Health Aide	1	1
Nurse	1	0.2
Psychologist	1	0.3
Resource Specialist	1	1
Speech/Language Specialist	1	0.4

School Leadership

Leadership at Verdugo Woodlands is a responsibility shared between district administration, the principal, the assistant principal, all instructional staff, students, and parents. The school's Leadership Team, comprised of teachers, classified staff, parents, and administrators, meets monthly to share decision-making on instructional programs, school policy, budget recommendations, and to advise the School Site Council.

Staff members and parents participate on various committees that make decisions regarding the priorities and direction of the educational plan to ensure instructional programs are consistent with students' needs and comply with district goals. These committees include:

- School Site Council
- Leadership Team
- WAVE Education Foundation
- Math Team
- Parent Teachers Association
- Student Council
- Individual Education (IEP) Teams
- Library Committee
- Learning Communities/Literacy Team
- Safety Committee
- Student Success Teams
- Technology Committee

Community Involvement

Parents and the community are very supportive of the educational program at Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School. Numerous programs and activities are enriched by the generous contributions made by the following organizations:

- Parent Teacher Association
- WAVE Education Foundation
- Pizza Hut Book-It Program
- Mimi's Restaurants
- Other local businesses and private donors
- Washington Mutual
- Glendale Community College

Contact Information

Parents who wish to participate in Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School's leadership teams, school committees, school activities, or become volunteers may contact the school office at (818) 241-2433.

Salary & Budget Comparison

State law requires comparative salary and budget information to be reported to the general public. At the time this report was published, the most recent salary data available for comparison was for the 2002-03 school year. For comparison purposes, the State Department of Education has provided average salary data from unified school districts having greater than 20,000 average daily attendance throughout the state.

Average Salary Information		
Teachers - Principal - Superintendent		
2002-03		
	GUSD	State Average
Beginning Teachers	\$37,236	\$36,856
Mid-Range Teachers	\$57,164	\$58,263
Highest Teachers	\$73,765	\$72,665
Average Salary	\$54,935	\$55,740
Elementary Principals	\$93,336	\$100,189
Middle School Principals	\$99,311	\$100,189
High School Principals	\$103,733	\$100,189
Shared Principal / Superintendent	\$186,402	\$177,295
Salaries as a Percentage of Total Budget		
Teacher Salaries	44.56%	41.55%
Administrative Salaries	5.55%	5.12%

Federal Awards & Interventions

Since it does not receive Title I federal funding, Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School is not affected by the accountability program established by No Child Left Behind. Title I schools that do not achieve Adequate Yearly Progress for two consecutive years may be identified for federal Program Improvement. Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School has not been identified for Program Improvement. More information about Title I and NCLB requirements can be found on the following Internet websites: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/nclb/> and <http://www.nclb.gov>.

Federal Awards & Intervention Programs			
	2002	2003	2004
Recognition for Achievement (Title I)	NO	NO	NO
Identified for Program Improvement	NO	NO	NO
Exited Title I Program Improvement	n/a	n/a	n/a
Number of Years in Program Improvement	n/a	n/a	n/a
Schools in the District Identified for Program Improvement			
Number of Schools	1	0	0
Percent of Schools	3%	0%	0%

NCLB-Compliant Teachers

The Federal No Child Left Behind Act requires that all teachers in core subject areas meet certain requirements in order to be considered as “Highly Qualified” no later than the end of the 2005-06 school year. Minimum qualifications include: possession of a Bachelor’s Degree, possession of an appropriate California teaching credential, and demonstrated competence in core academic subjects. At the start of the 2003-04 school year, 42.9% of core academic classes at Verdugo Woodlands School were taught by NCLB-compliant teachers. Glendale Unified School District had 53.2% of core academic classes at all schools taught by NCLB-compliant teachers. In the high poverty schools, 49.5% of core classes were taught by NCLB-compliant teachers and 51.6% of core classes were taught by NCLB-compliant teachers in low poverty schools throughout the district.

As more teachers completed the process to show subject area competence, these numbers increased districtwide. At the start of the 2004-05 school year, 96.4% of core academic classes at Verdugo Woodlands School were taught by NCLB-compliant teachers. Glendale Unified School District had 89.1% of core academic classes at all schools taught by NCLB-compliant teachers.

Teacher Education Levels		
2003-04		
	Verdugo Woodlands GUSD	
Doctorate	0.0%	1.1%
Master's Degree +30*	33.3%	49.8%
Master's Degree	0.0%	0.3%
Bachelor's Degree +30*	66.7%	41.5%
Bachelor's Degree	0.0%	10.3%
Less Than Bachelor's	0.0%	0.2%
None Reported	0.0%	0.0%

*Indicates additional hours above and beyond degree.

Individualized Instruction

Glendale Unified School District’s emphasis is on a well-balanced and rigorous core curriculum at all grade levels. The district’s goal is to ensure that all students are provided the support they need in order to experience success in their academic career. The district structures its educational program so that all students receive instruction appropriate to their learning level. Through teacher training, monitoring of student achievement, and modification of instruction, Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School is able to offer programs to meet the individual needs of its students.

No Child Left Behind

Title I funding plays a critical role in the landmark education act more popularly known as No Child Left Behind (NCLB). Title I is federal money used to support additional staffing and programs to meet the needs of low-income, low-achieving, and other designated students with special needs. Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School meets specific criteria for federal Title I schoolwide eligibility. As a schoolwide Title I school, Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School uses Title I funds to increase the achievement of all students. Information regarding Title I designation assists our parents and school community members to understand the impact NCLB will have on the school. NCLB requires evaluation of student performance both schoolwide and by specific subgroups participating in Title I programs.

English Language Learners

Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School offers assistance to students learning English as a second language. English learners receive differentiated instruction based on their level of English acquisition and have been offered summer programs as needed.

GATE

The District recognizes that students with special gifts and talents need more challenging curriculum and instruction. The district’s Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) program is offered to students in grades four through six who have been recognized as capable of attaining high levels of achievement by their teachers and identified through state testing programs. Students in the GATE program receive differentiated instruction in their classrooms and may participate in district-sponsored GATE activities. Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School provides additional monthly weekend activities.

Special Education

The district's Special Education Program addresses the needs of those students with special needs through appropriate assessment, identification of problems areas, placement, and program implementation. The director of special education administers the program and assigns a teacher specialist and a special coordinator to support the school principal and teachers. The director is also available to answer any questions and provide support to the principal and teachers. A team consisting of the parent, school administrator, general education teacher, psychologist, and special education teacher, develops an Individual Education Plan (IEP). The IEP defines the individualized instruction a child will receive which may include working with the school's resource specialist. All work together to ensure that the needs of special students are being met. All students receive instruction in the least restrictive environment and all students are mainstreamed as often as possible, based upon the guidelines set forth in each student's IEP.

Professional Development

The District provides high-quality professional development to promote powerful teaching and learning. Professional development in the district focuses on standards-based instruction and strategies to promote literacy and critical thinking skills in all subject areas. The district schedules three staff development days annually.

Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School prepares a staff development plan that is aligned with district strategic targets and which uses a variety of resources to assist teachers in refining instructional practice. During the 2003-04 school year, staff development focused on "Write... From the Beginning," "Strategies That Work," ongoing Accelerated Reader training, technology and using the Internet as an instructional planning and teacher resource tool. "Write...from the Beginning" is a developmental writing program that is implemented schoolwide to focus on training students for successful writing beyond the elementary grades. "Strategies That Work" is a reading comprehension program that uses research-supported methodology to help students construct meaning and build understanding.

Verdugo Woodlands Elementary Schools staff participates in district and school inservices that are based on research and established learning theories. Staff members build teaching skills and content knowledge by participating in many conferences and workshops throughout the year and then sharing their experiences and knowledge with district colleagues. Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School further supports teachers and paraprofessionals by participating in several district programs.

The Peer Assistance and Review (PAR) program utilizes Consulting Teachers to help veteran teachers refine subject matter knowledge and instructional strategies. The Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment (BTSA) program is a two-year program that provides ongoing support from Consulting Teachers, with an emphasis on formative assessment and reflection. All activities are based on the California Standards for the Teaching Profession. The Paraprofessional Teacher Training Program (PTTP) offers assistance to educational assistants interested in pursuing a teaching career. This program sponsors enrollment in required university courses and provides peer support and training to prepare participants to enter an intern program.

Safe School Plan

Safety of students and staff is a primary concern of Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School. The school's disaster preparedness plan includes steps for ensuring student and staff safety during a disaster. Fire and earthquake drills are conducted on a regular basis throughout the school year. Teachers, administrators, and noon aides monitor school grounds before, during, and after school. All visitors must report to the front office, sign in, and obtain a visitor's pass before entering the campus.

The Comprehensive School Safety Plan was developed by the school staff in consultation with local law enforcement to comply with Senate Bill 187 of 1997. The plan provides students and staff a means to ensure a safe and orderly learning environment. Components of the Comprehensive School Safety Plan include child abuse reporting procedures, teacher notification of dangerous pupils procedures, disaster response procedures, procedures for safe ingress and egress from school, sexual harassment policy, and dress code policy. Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School reviews the plan annually; the plan was last updated and shared with school staff in March 2004. An updated copy of the plan is available to the public at the school and at the district office.

Expenditures & Services Funded

For the 2003-04 school year (the most recent year for which state comparison data is available), the District spent an average of \$6,639 to educate each student (based on 2003-04 audited financial statements). The figures shown in the table below reflect the direct cost of educational services, per ADA, excluding food services, facilities acquisition and construction, and certain other expenditures. This calculation is required by law annually and compared with other districts statewide.

In addition to general fund state funding, the District receives state and federal categorical funding for special programs. For the 2003-04 school year, the district received approximately \$2,166 per student in federal and state aid for the following categorical, special education, and support programs:

Current Expense of Education Per Student*		
2003-04		
Statewide Average		
GUSD	All Unified School Districts	All Districts
\$6,639	\$6,987	\$6,919
Note: The California Department of Education does not release audited financial results until the spring of the following fiscal year. In order to provide valid, comparative data, all districts throughout the State use only audited J-200 financial information to comply with SARC reporting requirements.		
*Ed-Data and California Department of Education, School Fiscal Services Division - J-200 Reports.		

- Title I
- Special Education
- Drug/Alcohol/Tobacco Education
- Vocational & Applied Technology
- Gifted & Talented Pupils
- Home-to-School Transportation
- School Improvement Program
- Economic Impact Aid
- Instructional Materials
- Tenth Grade Counseling
- Educational Technology Assistance Grants
- Year-Round School Incentive
- Class Size Reduction
- Peer Assistance and Review

CAT/6 Norm Referenced Test

2004-05

% At or Above 50th Percentile

Subject Area	Reading								Math											
	2 03	2 04	2 05	3 03	3 04	3 05	4 03	4 04	4 05	4 03	5 04	5 05	5 03	6 04	6 05	6 03	6 04	6 05		
All Students																				
Verdugo Woodlands	58	67	65	58	60	65	55	65	75	76	76	74	81	78	67	82	72	79	89	87
GUSD	52	54	39	40	44	45	45	50	57	59	62	66	64	63	62	59	62	67	72	72
California	46	47	34	35	35	36	40	41	45	46	57	59	52	54	48	49	49	50	51	53
Subgroups																				
Gender																				
Females	58	69	76	57	63	72	62	58	78	70	70	79	76	71	56	78	74	77	89	88
Males	58	64	55	59	57	59	49	72	72	80	82	69	85	85	78	85	71	82	89	87
Socioeconomic Status																				
Non SED	62	69	70	63	61	68	53	69	80	74	79	76	86	79	68	86	71	82	95	86
SED^	41	53	44	29	53	46	67	36	53	86	59	65	56	71	60	62	78	64	65	93
Language Fluency																				
English Learners	49	56	38	42	36	18	13	29	41	*	72	68	63	69	57	41	44	50	76	*
Non English Learners	69	76	81	77	67	82	63	73	82	77	81	80	91	88	70	97	78	86	92	87
Special Programs																				
ESEA Title 1 Targeted																				
Indian Education																				
Migrant Education																				
Special Education Title 1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Ethnicity																				
African American	*																			
American Indian																				
Asian	74	84	70	67	81	73	71	87	76	86	74	92	87	94	92	93	88	100	92	100
Caucasian	59	63	67	62	60	64	54	63	80	79	74	74	85	73	64	86	77	81	93	92
Filipino	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hispanic or Latino	38	50	*	36	21	*	53	38	56	53	77	43	*	79	43	*	53	38	72	53
Pacific Islander	*	*																		
† R-FEP - Redesignated – Fluent English Proficient																				
^SED - Socioeconomically Disadvantaged																				
Scores are not disclosed when fewer than 10 students are tested in a grade level and/or subgroup.																				

California Standards Test (CST)

2002, 2003, 2004

Combined % of Students Scoring at Proficient and Advanced Levels

Verdugo Woodlands

Subject Year	Language Arts			Math Standards			Science (5th)		
	02	03	04	02	03	04	02	03	04
Second Grade									
All Students	55	54	40	69	74	68			
Females	60	54	36	76	64	67			
Males	50	53	43	62	84	69			
English Learners	36	42	28	58	62	61			
Non English Learners	63	69	49	74	88	73			
R-FEP†	**			**					
SED^	42	41	24	67	65	65			
Non SED	57	56	44	68	76	68			
Special Education		*	*		*	*			
African American			*			*			
Asian	68	70	67	74	83	92			
Caucasian	55	52	33	72	69	63			
Filipino	**	*	*	**	*	*			
Hispanic or Latino	36	46	14	55	77	36			
Pacific Islander		*			*				
Third Grade									
All Students	57	64	53	68	75	74			
Females	58	71	53	62	69	65			
Males	56	56	54	74	79	85			
English Learners	47	41	40	63	63	69			
Non English Learners	61	76	70	71	81	81			
R-FEP†	**	*	*	**	*	*			
SED^	36	50	21	57	63	64			
Non SED	60	66	59	70	77	77			
Special Education		*	*		*	*			
American Indian	**			**					
Asian	91	70	72	100	83	89			
Caucasian	51	67	53	65	78	71			
Filipino	**	*	*	**	*	*			
Hispanic or Latino	38	*	43	46	*	71			
Pacific Islander			*			*			
Fourth Grade									
All Students	61	69	80	66	76	88			
Females	64	64	78	63	66	89			
Males	58	73	80	68	85	87			
English Learners	26	46	45	50	64	68			
Non English Learners	70	76	92	69	79	95			
R-FEP†	85	79	86	85	100	100			
SED^	56	67	54	61	73	85			
Non SED	62	69	84	67	76	88			
Special Education		*	*		*	*			
African American	**			**					
Asian	86	88	93	95	96	100			
Caucasian	58	65	84	67	75	89			
Filipino	**	*	*	**	*	*			
Hispanic or Latino	41	57	*	33	43	*			
Pacific Islander	**			**					

Fifth Grade							
All Students	55	62	74	56	72	76	58
Females	50	66	72	45	72	70	52
Males	59	60	76	66	71	83	66
English Learners	53	19	29	34	38	48	24
Non English Learners	55	71	84	60	78	82	66
R-FEP†	39	78	95	61	96	100	60
SED^	21	61	50	28	72	64	43
Non SED	60	63	77	61	71	78	61
Special Education		*	*		*	*	*
African American		*			*		
Asian	65	76	91	75	88	96	78
Caucasian	61	63	75	59	73	76	58
Filipino	**	*	*	**	*	*	*
Hispanic or Latino	17	47	38	17	53	46	31
Pacific Islander		*			*		

Sixth Grade							
All Students	62	71	75	84	75	73	
Females	73	71	78	82	71	65	
Males	49	70	72	87	78	80	
English Learners	15	41	*	62	53	*	
Non English Learners	76	77	77	91	80	72	
R-FEP†	73	77	67	100	85	74	
SED^	64	35	79	79	29	79	
Non SED	61	78	74	85	85	72	
Special Education		*	*		*	*	
African American			*			*	
American Indian	**			**			
Asian	48	88	79	84	88	93	
Caucasian	70	73	79	86	77	75	
Filipino	**	*	*	**	*	*	
Hispanic or Latino	64	33	60	71	44	47	

† R-FEP - Redesignated – Fluent English Proficient

^SED - Socioeconomically Disadvantaged

Scores are not disclosed when fewer than 10 students are tested in a grade level and/or subgroup.

No students tested at grade level.

**2002 data for Migrant Education, Title I, R-FEP, and ethnic subgroups unavailable from the California Department of Education.

API School Results								
Base				Growth				
All Students	2001	2002	2003		2002	2003	2004	
Percent Tested	100	99	100	Percent Tested	100	100	100	
API Score	823	843	864	API Growth Score	843	857	869	
Growth Target	A	A	A	Actual Growth	20	14	5	
Statewide Rank	9	9	9	Eligible for Awards	Yes	Yes	No	
Similar Schools Rank	5	9	7	Eligible for II/USP	No	No	No	
Subgroups								
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged								
Base API Score	750	786	796	API Growth Score	776	795	782	
Growth Target	1	1	1	Actual Growth	26	9	-14	
African American								
Base API Score				API Growth Score				
Growth Target				Actual Growth				
American Indian								
Base API Score				API Growth Score				
Growth Target				Actual Growth				
Asian								
Base API Score	878	899	923	API Growth Score	908	911	951	
Growth Target	A	A	A	Actual Growth	30	12	28	
Caucasian								
Base API Score	819	850	870	API Growth Score	847	864	874	
Growth Target	A	A	A	Actual Growth	28	14	4	
Filipino								
Base API Score				API Growth Score				
Growth Target				Actual Growth				
Hispanic								
Base API Score		754		API Growth Score				
Growth Target		1		Actual Growth				
Pacific Islander								
Base API Score				API Growth Score				
Growth Target				Actual Growth				
*Schools and subgroups with scores 800 and above have met the statewide target and are expected to maintain that level of achievement.								
Only numerically significant subgroups for each reporting period are required to be presented in this report card. Numerically significant subgroups are comprised of (1) at least 100 students with valid test scores or (2) at least 15% of the school population tested and contains at least 30 students with valid scores.								

Adequate Yearly Progress																
California Standards Test (CST)																
English/Language Arts																
Year Ending Target	Verdugo Woodlands								GUSD							
	Participation Rate				% Proficient & Advanced				Participation Rate				% Proficient & Advanced			
	03		04		03		04		03		04		03		04	
	Met	%	Met	%	Met	%	Met	%	Met	%	Met	%	Met	%	Met	%
Subgroups																
All Students	Yes	100	Yes	100	Yes	64.9	Yes	64.9	Yes	99	Yes	99	Yes	49.5	Yes	51.1
English Learners	Yes	100	Yes	100	Yes	54.8	Yes	45.4	Yes	98	Yes	99	Yes	38.2	Yes	33.5
SED^	Yes	100	Yes	100	Yes	48.3	Yes	41.5	Yes	98	Yes	99	Yes	33.0	Yes	34.4
Migrant Education			Yes	100			Yes	82.2			Yes	99			Yes	72.3
Special Education	*	100	*	100	*	14.2	*	22.2	Yes	98	Yes	99	Yes	23.6	Yes	21.0
African American	*	100	*	100	*	*	*	*	Yes	99	Yes	99	Yes	47.4	Yes	39.8
American Indian	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	97	*	100	*	34.6	*	31.2
Asian	Yes	100	Yes	100	Yes	81.9	Yes	82.2	Yes	99	Yes	99	Yes	69.2	Yes	72.3
Filipino	*	100	*	100	*	47.0	*	47.3	Yes	99	Yes	99	Yes	61.0	Yes	60.8
Caucasian	Yes	100	Yes	100	Yes	64.8	Yes	66.4	Yes	99	Yes	99	Yes	51.0	Yes	53.1
Hispanic or Latino	*	100	*	100	Yes	44.4	*	39.3	Yes	99	Yes	99	Yes	31.2	Yes	31.7
Pacific Islander	*	100	*	100	*	*	*	*	*	94	*	100	*	53.3	*	64.0
Math																
Year Ending Target	Verdugo Woodlands								GUSD							
	Participation Rate				% Proficient & Advanced				Participation Rate				% Proficient & Advanced			
	03		04		03		04		03		04		03		04	
	Met	%	Met	%	Met	%	Met	%	Met	%	Met	%	Met	%	Met	%
Subgroups																
All Students	Yes	100	Yes	100	Yes	74.5	Yes	76.6	Yes	99	Yes	99	Yes	59.5	Yes	60.1
English Learners	Yes	100	Yes	100	Yes	71.1	Yes	70.4	Yes	99	Yes	99	Yes	52.5	Yes	49.1
SED^	Yes	100	Yes	100	Yes	61.7	Yes	68.8	Yes	99	Yes	99	Yes	46.0	Yes	46.3
Migrant Education			Yes	100			Yes	95.5			Yes	99			Yes	86.3
Special Education	*	100	*	100	*	23.8	*	22.2	Yes	98	Yes	99	Yes	27.2	Yes	25.2
African American	*	100	*	100	*	*	*	*	Yes	100	Yes	99	Yes	48.8	Yes	43.0
American Indian	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	94	*	100	*	32.0	*	31.2
Asian	Yes	100	Yes	100	Yes	89.5	Yes	95.5	Yes	100	Yes	99	Yes	85.3	Yes	86.3
Filipino	*	100	*	100	*	64.7	*	73.6	Yes	99	Yes	99	Yes	67.4	Yes	66.7
Caucasian	Yes	100	Yes	100	Yes	74.8	Yes	76.0	Yes	99	Yes	99	Yes	61.3	Yes	62.1
Hispanic or Latino	*	100	*	100	Yes	52.7	*	52.4	Yes	99	Yes	99	Yes	37.8	Yes	38.8
Pacific Islander	*	100	*	100	*	*	*	*	*	97	*	100	*	74.1	*	60.0
Academic Performance Index (API)																
Target	Verdugo Woodlands								GUSD							
	03				04				03				04			
	Minimum score of 560 or 1 point increase															
	Met	Score	Met	Score	Met	Score	Met	Score	Met	Score	Met	Score	Met	Score	Met	Score
Scores	Yes	857	Yes	870	Yes	767	Yes	779								
^SED = Socioeconomically Disadvantaged																
*Only numerically significant subgroups are required to be reported																