

Glendale Unified School District

"Excellence is Worth the Effort"

Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School

2004-2005 School Accountability Report Card

1751 North Verdugo Road, Glendale, CA 91208-2999

(818) 241-2433

Kindergarten through Sixth Grade

www.gusd.net



School Administration

Janet Buhl
Principal

Angela Schultz
Assistant Principal



2004-05 Board of Education

Mary Boger, President
Chakib Sambar, Vice President
Pam Ellis, Clerk
Greg Krikorian, Member
Joylene Wagner, Member

District Administration

Dr. Michael F. Escalante
Superintendent

Alice Petrossian
Assistant Superintendent
Educational Services, Elementary Education

Dr. Gregory Franklin
Assistant Superintendent
Educational Services, Secondary Education



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.

School 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.

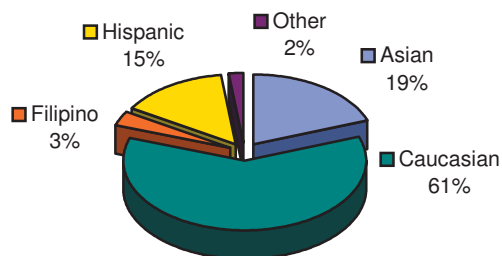
Community & School Profile

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 nearly 29,000 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 opened in 1926. The school 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 School is the proud recipient of the California Distinguished School Award for 2003-2004.

% of Student Enrollment by Ethnicity



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.

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.

The "Suspensions and Expulsions" table displays the total number and percentage of incidents at the school and in the District. Suspension numbers may be inflated because some students may have been suspended multiple times. Expulsions occur only when required by law or when all other alternatives have been exhausted.

	Verdugo Woodlands ES			GUSD		
	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005
Suspension (#)	6	9	9	5489	4903	4882
Suspension (%)	0.90	1.37	1.35	18.65	17.01	16.94
Expulsion (#)	0	0	0	46	65	56
Expulsion (%)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.16	0.23	0.19

Extracurricular and Enrichment Activities

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:

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

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:

- Academic Achievement Awards
- Good Citizenship Award
- Music Awards
- Perfect Attendance
- Presidential Academic Achievement
- Presidential Fitness Awards
- School Community Service Awards
- Student of the Month

School Leadership

Leadership at Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School is a responsibility shared among district administration, the principal, the assistant principal, school administration, instructional staff, students, and parents. Principal Janet Buhl has led the school for two years. She has spent her entire 15-year educational career in the Glendale Unified School District. 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, Parent Teacher Association, Student Council, Individual Education Plan (IEP) Teams, Library Committee, Learning Communities/Literacy Team, Safety Committee, Student Success Teams, CASTE Committee, Technology Committee, and Math Team.

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 (PTA), WAVE Educational Foundation, Mimi's Restaurants, Glendale Community Foundation, Glendale Community College, Union Oil Foundation, Washington Mutual, and other local businesses and private donors.

School Enrollment & Attendance

School-wide enrollment at the beginning of the 2004-05 school year was 666 students. 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. Parents are advised of their responsibilities, including proper notification of why and when students are absent. Attendance, tardiness, and truancy policies are clearly stated, consistently enforced, and consequences fairly administered. Independent study is available for students who require extended leaves from school.

Instructional Time

During the 2004-05 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 2004-05 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 for faculty meetings, staff development, curriculum planning, and monitoring student progress.

	Instructional Minutes By Grade Level	
	Minutes Required	Actual Minutes
K	36,000	36,150
1st-3rd	50,400	50,590
4th-6th	54,000	54,265

Class Size

Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School maintained a schoolwide average class size of 24 students in the 2004-05 school year. The "Class Size Distribution" table shows the average class size by grade. The corresponding numbers show how many classes were taught with a certain number of students in each class, based on three different class sizes.

	Class Size Distribution													
	Average Class Size			Classrooms Containing:										
	03	04	05	1-20			21-32			33+				
K	19	20	20	4	4	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1st	19	20	19	4	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2nd	19	20	19	4	4	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3rd	18	19	19	4	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4th	32	32	36	0	0	0	2	2	0	1	0	2		
5th	33	32	35	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	2		
6th	34	30	35	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	3		
K-3	19	20	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
3rd-4th	20	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
4th-6th	32	31	36	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	1		

The California Class Size Reduction (CSR) program provides funding to reduce kindergarten through third grade classes to 20 students or less. For the past three years, 100% of all K-3 classrooms at Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School participated in CSR.

School Facilities & Safety

Built in 1926, Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School is situated on 5.6 acres. The school facilities consist of 33 classrooms, a library, computer lab, administrative offices, lunch shelter, grassy fields, and a blacktop playground. The modernization projects funded by Measure K renovated the school classrooms and upgraded all the phone and electrical systems. The projects were completed in 2005. The facility strongly supports teaching and learning through its ample classroom and playground space. Facility information was current as of October 24, 2005.

Safety

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. During lunch, recesses, and before and after school, teachers, administrators, and noon aides supervise students and school grounds, including the cafeteria and playgrounds, to ensure a safe and orderly environment. 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 reviewed with school staff in November 2005. An updated copy of the plan is available to the public at the school and at the district office.

Maintenance and Repair

Safety concerns are the number one priority of Maintenance and Operations. District maintenance supervisors are proactive and conduct inspections at school sites on a continual basis. 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 and that emergency repairs are given the highest priority. The District maintenance staff has indicated that 100% of all toilets on school grounds are in working order. As of October 24, 2005, none of the eight emergency conditions cited in Education Code 17592.72 exist at this school.

Cleaning Process and Schedule

The District has adopted cleaning standards for all schools in the District. A summary of these standards is available at the school office or at the District office. Currently all schools are on a daily cleaning schedule. Each classroom is swept or vacuumed and the trash emptied. The cafeteria and all restrooms are cleaned daily. Grounds are groomed on a rotating basis, with trash, lawn, and plumbing issues addressed daily. The site administration team works daily with the custodial staff to develop cleaning schedules to ensure a clean and safe school.

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, interior or exterior painting, and floor systems. For the 2004-05 school year, the District budgeted \$1,050,000 for the deferred maintenance program. This represents 0.5% of the District's general fund budget.

Deferred Maintenance Projects

For the 2005-06 school year, the District's governing board approved deferred maintenance projects for this school that will result in new carpeting or tile flooring, replacement of underground plumbing, and interior or exterior painting of school buildings. The District's complete deferred maintenance plan is available at the District office.

School Facility Conditions			
Facilities information current as of: October 24, 2005			
Interim Evaluation Instrument Guidelines	Facility in Good Repair		Deficiency & Remedial Actions Taken or Planned
	Yes	No	
Gas Leaks	X		
Mechanical Systems	X		
Windows/Doors/Gates (interior/exterior)	X		
Interior Surfaces (walls, floors, & ceilings)	X		
Hazardous Materials (interior/exterior)	X		
Structural Damage	X		
Fire Safety	X		
Electrical (interior/exterior)	X		
Pest/Vermin Infestation	X		
Drinking Fountains (inside/outside)	X		
Restrooms	X		
Sewer	X		
Playground/School Grounds	X		

Student Achievement & Testing

Various measures of student achievement are used as an ongoing part of the quality instructional program at Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School. 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.

No Child Left Behind

The Federal No Child Left Behind Act requires all students, including socioeconomically disadvantaged students, students with disabilities, migrant students, and students in numerically significant ethnic subgroups, to meet State academic achievement standards in English/language arts and math by 2014. To achieve that goal, districts and schools must demonstrate "Adequate Yearly Progress" (AYP). Schools achieve AYP if they meet certain requirements each year:

- Each school and subgroup must perform to a proficiency level; 24.4% of elementary and middle school students must be proficient in English and 26.5% must be proficient in Math.
- At least 95% of students must take State standards tests.
- Schools must show improvement in the Academic Performance Index (API).

Schools receiving Title I funds that do not meet the AYP standards face several consequences. Students may receive additional tutoring or school staff may be replaced. Students would also be allowed to transfer to other schools within their district that meet AYP and the former school would be required to provide transportation to the new site. After two consecutive years of failing to meet AYP in a particular subgroup, the school may be identified for Title I Program Improvement (PI). Schools can be categorized as a PI school for a maximum of five years before the State takes drastic measures to improve the performance of the school. However, a school may exit from this status after two consecutive years of success in the affected subgroup(s). Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School met all of the 2005 AYP criteria.

More information about Title I and NCLB requirements can be found on the State Department of Education's website <http://www.cde.ca.gov/nclb> and the U.S. Department of Education's website <http://www.nclb.gov>. District-level information for comparison may be found in the *Glendale Unified School District Report Card*.

Academic Performance Index

The Academic Performance Index (API) is a score on a scale of 200 to 1000 that annually measures the academic performance and progress of individual schools in California. On an interim basis, the State has set 800 as the API score that schools should strive to meet. 2005 API growth scores were unavailable at the time of publication.

Growth Targets: The annual growth target for a school is 5 percent of the distance between its API Base and 800. The growth target for a school at or above 800 is to remain at or above 800. Actual growth is the number of API points a school gained between its base and growth years. Schools that reach their annual targets are eligible for awards.

Adequate Yearly Progress				
California Standards Test (CST)				
English/Language Arts				
Year Ending	Participation Rate		% Proficient & Advanced	
	04	05	04	05
Target	95%		24.4%	
	Met	Met	Met	Met
All Students	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
English Learners	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
SED [^]	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Asian	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Caucasian	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Math				
Year Ending	Participation Rate		% Proficient & Advanced	
	04	05	04	05
Target	95%		26.5%	
	Met	Met	Met	Met
All Students	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
English Learners	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
SED [^]	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Asian	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Caucasian	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

[^]SED = Socioeconomically Disadvantaged

API School Results						
	Base				Growth	
	2002	2003	2004		2003	2004
All Students						
Percent Tested	99	100	100	Percent Tested	100	100
API Score	843	864	867	API Growth Score	857	869
Growth Target	*	*	*	Actual Growth	14	5
Statewide Rank	9	9	10	Eligible for Awards	Not funded	
Similar Schools Rank	9	7	7	Eligible for II/USP		
Subgroups						
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged						
Base API Score	786	796	783	API Growth Score	795	782
Growth Target	1	1	1	Actual Growth	9	-14
Asian						
Base API Score	899	923	943	API Growth Score	911	951
Growth Target	*	*	*	Actual Growth	12	28
Caucasian						
Base API Score	850	870	871	API Growth Score	864	874
Growth Target	*	*	*	Actual Growth	14	4

***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.

Subgroup APIs and Targets: In addition to a schoolwide API, schools also receive API scores for each numerically significant subgroup in the school (i.e., racial/ethnic subgroups and socioeconomically disadvantaged students). Growth targets, equal to 80 percent of the school's target, are also set for each of the subgroups. Each subgroup must also meet its target for the school to be eligible for awards.

Percent Tested: To be eligible for awards, elementary and middle schools must test at least 95 percent of their students in grades 2 through 8, and high schools must test at least 90 percent of their students in grades 9 through 11 on STAR assessments.

Statewide Rank: Schools receiving an API Base score are ranked in ten categories of equal size (deciles) from 1 (lowest) to 10 (highest), according to type of school (elementary, middle, or high school).

Similar Schools Rank: Schools also receive a ranking that compares that school to 100 other schools with similar demographic characteristics. Each set of 100 schools is ranked by API score from 1 (lowest) to 10 (highest) to indicate how well the school performed compared to similar schools.

Federal Awards & Intervention Programs

	2003	2004	2005
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

California Standards Tests (CST)

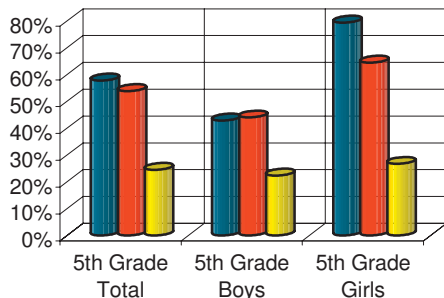
The California Standards Tests (CST) is administered to all students in the spring to determine student performance in relation to the State content standards. Student scores are reported as performance levels: Advanced (exceeds State standards), Proficient (meets State standards), Basic (approaching State standards), Below Basic (below State standards), and Far Below Basic (well below State standards). Students scoring at the Proficient or Advanced level meet State standards in that content area. Students with significant cognitive disabilities who are unable to take the CST are tested using the California Alternate Performance Assessment (CAPA). Detailed information regarding CST and CAPA results for each grade and proficiency level can be found at the California Department of Education Web site at <http://star.cde.ca.gov/>.

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).

% of Students in Healthy Fitness Zone 2004-05

■ Verdugo Woodlands ES
■ GUSD
■ California



California Standards Test (CST)

2003, 2004, 2005

Combined % of Students Scoring at Proficient and Advanced Levels

	Language Arts			Math Standards			Science (5th)		
	03	04	05	03	04	05	03	04	05
Second Grade									
All Students	54	40	53	74	68	65			
Females	54	36	56	64	67	64			
Males	53	43	49	84	69	66			
English Learners	42	28	41	62	61	51			
Non English Learners	69	49	62	88	73	75			
SED^	41	24	39	65	65	48			
Asian	70	67	67	83	92	83			
Caucasian	52	33	50	69	63	62			
Hispanic or Latino	46	14	47	77	36	53			
Third Grade									
All Students	64	53	43	75	74	72			
Females	71	53	42	69	65	69			
Males	56	54	44	79	85	76			
English Learners	41	40	29	63	69	64			
Non English Learners	76	70	53	81	81	78			
SED^	50	21	17	63	64	54			
Asian	70	72	78	83	89	89			
Caucasian	67	53	39	78	71	69			
Hispanic or Latino		43	0		71	53			
Fourth Grade									
All Students	69	80	86	76	88	81			
Females	64	78	85	66	89	76			
Males	73	80	87	85	87	87			
English Learners	46	45	80	64	68	76			
Non English Learners	76	92	91	79	95	87			
SED^	67	54	88	73	85	76			
Asian	88	93	100	96	100	93			
Caucasian	65	84	82	75	89	77			
Hispanic or Latino	57		91	43		91			
Fifth Grade									
All Students	62	74	76	72	76	76	58	58	
Females	66	72	82	72	70	71	52	56	
Males	60	76	71	71	83	80	66	59	
English Learners	19	29	48	38	48	52	24	30	
Non English Learners	71	84	87	78	82	85	66	68	
SED^	61	50	62	72	64	62	43	23	
Asian	76	91	93	88	96	93	78	71	
Caucasian	63	75	73	73	76	77	58	61	
Hispanic or Latino	47	38	73	53	46	45	31	27	
Sixth Grade									
All Students	71	75	78	75	73	78			
Females	71	78	77	71	65	67			
Males	70	72	78	78	80	87			
English Learners	41		62	53		62			
Non English Learners	77	77	81	80	72	81			
SED^	35	79	47	29	79	58			
Asian	88	79	93	88	93	100			
Caucasian	73	79	80	77	75	80			
Hispanic or Latino	33	60	43	44	47	43			

^SED - Socioeconomically Disadvantaged

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

California Achievement Test (CAT/6)

The California Achievement Test (CAT/6) is a standardized test that compares a student or group of students with a “norm” group from around the country. Reading and Math results of this test are reported as the percent of tested students scoring at or above the 50th percentile (the national average). School results are compared to District and State level results. All students in grades two through eight are tested in reading, spelling, written expression, and language arts. Beginning in 2005, the CAT/6 tests reading/language arts, spelling, and mathematics in grades 3 and 7 only and no longer tests science in any grade. Detailed information regarding results for each grade level can be found at the California Department of Education Web site at <http://star.cde.ca.gov/>.

CAT/6 Norm Referenced Test 2003, 2004, 2005 % At or Above 50th Percentile										
Subject Area Grade Level Year Ending	Reading					Math				
	2	3	4	5	6	2	3	4	5	6
	03 04 05	03 04 05	03 04 05	03 04 05	03 04 05	03 04 05	03 04 05	03 04 05	03 04 05	03 04 05
All Students										
Verdugo Woodlands	58 67	65 58 38	60 65	55 65	75 76	76 74	81 78 65	67 82	72 79	89 87
GUSD	52 54	39 40 40	44 45	45 50	57 59	62 66	64 63 66	62 59	62 67	72 72
California	46 47	34 35 36	35 36	40 41	45 46	57 59	52 54 55	48 49	49 50	51 53
Subgroups										
Females	58 69	76 57 45	63 72	62 58	78 70	70 79	76 71 64	56 78	74 77	89 88
Males	58 64	55 59 29	57 59	49 72	72 80	82 69	85 85 67	78 85	71 82	89 87
SED [^]	41 53	44 29 21	53 46	67 36	53 86	59 65	56 71 50	60 62	78 64	65 93
English Learners	49 56	38 42 26	36 18	13 29	41	72 68	63 69 52	57 41	44 50	76
Non English Learners	69 76	81 77 47	67 82	63 73	82 77	81 80	91 88 74	70 97	78 86	92 87
Asian	74 84	70 67 56	81 73	71 87	76 86	74 92	87 94 85	92 93	88 100	92 100
Caucasian	59 63	67 62 35	60 64	54 63	80 79	74 74	85 73 59	64 86	77 81	93 92
Hispanic or Latino	38 50	36 12	21	53 38	56 53	77 43	79 41	43	53 38	72 53

[^]SED - Socioeconomically Disadvantaged
Scores are not disclosed when fewer than 10 students are tested in a grade level and/or subgroup.

Teacher Assignment

Glendale Unified School District recruits and employs the most qualified credentialed teachers. For the 2004-05 school year, Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School had 30 fully credentialed teachers.

Teacher Credential Status	03 04 05		
	03	04	05
Fully Credentialed	30	30	30
Emergency Credentials	1	0	0
Interns	0	0	0
Waivers	0	0	0
Total Teachers	31	30	30
Average Years Teaching	10.2	12.1	13.0
Average Years in District	8.6	10.3	11.5

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 misassignments represent the number of teachers who did not hold a legally recognized certificate or credential, including teachers who were assigned to classrooms with English Learners (EL) and who were not properly certificated to teach EL students. Teacher vacancies reflect the number of open teaching positions that were not filled by a full-time certificated teacher for an entire year.

Misassignments/Vacancies	03-04 04-05 05-06		
	03-04	04-05	05-06
Misassignments of Teachers of English Learners	0	1	*
Vacant Teacher Positions	0	0	*

*2005-06 data was not available at the time of publication

The Federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act requires that all teachers in core subject areas meet specific Federal credential requirements by 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 2004-05 school year, 96.4% of core academic classes at Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School were taught by NCLB-compliant teachers. District-level information for comparison may be found in the *Glendale Unified School District Report Card*.

Teacher Education Levels 2004-05 Verdugo Woodlands ES	
Doctorate	0.0%
Master's Degree +30*	30.0%
Master's Degree	3.3%
Bachelor's Degree +30*	66.7%
Bachelor's Degree	0.0%
Less Than Bachelor's	0.0%
None Reported	0.0%

*Indicates additional hours above and beyond degree.

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.

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 2004-05 school year, staff development continued to focus 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.

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. The AB75 Principal Training Program is available to site administrators.

Textbooks & Instructional Materials

Glendale Unified School District sets a high priority upon ensuring that sufficient and current textbooks and materials are available to support the instructional program. Glendale Unified School District held a Public Hearing on August 16, 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 learners, are given their own individual standards-aligned textbooks or instructional materials, or both, in core subjects for use in the classroom and to take home. All textbooks and instructional materials used within the District are aligned with the California State Content Standards and Frameworks and have been selected from the State’s most recent list of standards-based materials. Teachers participate in the selection process to ensure that the textbooks support the District curriculum and content standards. Prior to adoption, all materials are on display for 30 days at the District Office to be evaluated by parents and community members.

District-Adopted Textbooks			
Grade Levels	Subject	Publisher	Adoption Year
K-5	Language Arts	Houghton Mifflin	2003
6	Language Arts	McDougal Littell	2003
K-6	Mathematics	Everyday Learning Corporation	2001
K-5	Science	Harcourt Brace	2001
6	Science	Holt, Rinehart & Winston	2000
K-6	Social Studies	McGraw-Hill	2000

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 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.

	Computer Resources		
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Computers	146	112	112
Students per computer	4.6	5.8	5.9
Classrooms connected to Internet	30	30	30

Counseling & Other Support Services

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 Student Success Teams coordinate support services for at-risk students. The Verdugo Woodlands Educational Foundation WAVE (Woodlander Avenue Volunteers for Education) funds an on-site counselor one day per week.

Counseling & Support Services Staff		
Title	Number of Staff	Full Time Equivalent
Counselor	1	0.2
Health Aide	1	1.0
Nurse	1	0.2
Psychologist	1	0.3
Resource Specialist	1	1.0
Speech/Language Specialist	1	0.4

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 the Pacific Avenue Center, 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.

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. Intervention programs enhance students' understanding and mastery of core subject matter. Students in all grades may participate in the Summer Academy, a districtwide program that provides additional learning opportunities for students having difficulty achieving grade level performance.

Because Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School has a large population of English Language Learners, all teachers have specialized training in teaching students learning English as a second language. English Language Learners are tested with the California English Language Development Test (CELDT) annually to measure progress. Students receive core instruction in all content areas, including English Language Development (ELD). ELD is taught in the regular classroom setting.

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 after school activities for GATE students.

The District's Special Education Program addresses the needs of those students with special needs through appropriate assessment, identification of problem 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. 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.

Expenditures & Services Funded

At the time this report was published, the most recent financial and salary comparison data from the State of California was for the 2003-04 school year. In 2003-04, Glendale Unified School District spent an average of \$6,639 to educate each student (based on 2003-04 audited financial statements). The figures shown in the "Current Expense of Education Per Student" table reflect the direct cost of educational services, per average daily attendance, excluding food services, facilities acquisition and construction, and certain other expenditures. This calculation is required by law annually and is compared with other districts state-wide.

Current Expense of Education Per Student* 2003-04		
Statewide Average		
All Unified School Districts		
GUSD	Districts	All Districts
\$6,639	\$6,987	\$6,919

*Ed-Data and California Department of Education, School Fiscal Services Division - J-200 Reports.

In addition to general fund State funding, Glendale Unified School 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:

- Applied Technology Education Act
- Class Size Reduction
- Economic Impact Aid
- Educational Technology Assistance Grants
- Gifted and Talented Pupils
- Home-to-School Transportation
- Instructional Materials
- Peer Assistance and Review Program
- Safe and Drug Free Schools Program
- School Improvement Program
- Special Education
- Tenth Grade Counseling
- Title I Program
- Year-round School Incentive

Salary & Budget Comparison

State law requires comparative salary and budget information to be reported to the general public. For comparison purposes, the State Department of Education has provided average salary data from school districts having more than 20,000 average daily attendance throughout the State.

Average Salary Information Teachers - Principal - Superintendent 2003-04		
	GUSD	State Average
Beginning Teachers	\$37,236	\$37,061
Mid-Range Teachers	\$57,164	\$58,294
Highest Teachers	\$73,765	\$72,876
Elementary Principals	\$93,497	\$94,471
Middle School Principals	\$99,311	\$98,940
High School Principals	\$104,304	\$107,418
Superintendent	\$174,000	\$179,061

Salaries as a Percentage of Total Budget		
	GUSD	State Average
Teacher Salaries	42.4%	41.4%
Administrative Salaries	5.1%	5.1%

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.

