



To: Mr. William O'Brien
Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors

From: Tom Changnon
Tom Changnon, Superintendent

Date: December 6, 2007

Re: Williams Report

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
 2007 DEC -7 P 2:19

Attached is the fourth Williams Settlement Report for Stanislaus County schools. In compliance with the Williams lawsuit settlement, every County Office of Education in the State is required to send this report to its County Board of Supervisors on an annual basis. The report also goes to the County Board of Education and each School District Board of Education identified in the report.

The Background section of the report outlines the lawsuit, and the legislation passed to implement the settlement. Also included is a description of the review and reporting process, and a summary of the findings.

This is an information item. No action is required by the Board of Supervisors.

If you have questions about the report or the process please contact Jane Johnston in my office.

cc: Christine Ferraro

Williams Settlement Report December, 2007

Background

In May 2000, the ACLU and other public interest advocates representing students across the State, filed a lawsuit against the State of California, Superintendent of Public Instruction, State Board of Education and the California Department of Education.

The lawsuit claimed that the State failed to provide poor and underprivileged students with equal educational opportunities.

Governor Schwarzenegger settled the lawsuit in 2004, and the California legislature enacted several laws to implement the settlement. The main focus of the settlement was to ensure that:

- All students have access to standards-aligned instructional materials and textbooks.
- All students have access to school facilities that are clean, safe and functional.
- All teachers are properly assigned and have proper certification or training.

The settlement also imposed additional reporting requirements for the School Accountability Report Cards (SARC) that schools are required to complete each year.

The new laws vest authority with County Superintendents to monitor and report on schools that have an API rank (Academic Performance Index) in the 1st, 2nd, or 3rd decile to ensure minimum standards are met. Beginning with the 2007-08 academic year, the 2006 base API is being used. In Stanislaus County the list includes 29 schools in seven districts (list attached). One additional charter school opted in to the process bringing the total number of schools to 30.

Note: The eligibility list will be updated every three years. The next update will be based on the 2009 API to be used in the Williams monitoring process beginning academic year 2010-11.

Review and Reporting Process

The review process includes school site visits within the first four weeks of each school year, and a review of records. Twenty-five percent of the site visits must be unannounced with the remaining 75% scheduled in advance. The process culminates with an annual written report to district and county school boards as well as reports to the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors. Quarterly follow-up reports are required as well starting with the 2006-07 Williams monitoring process.

In addition to the site visits, annual reporting, and quarterly follow-up reports, districts are required to post, in every classroom, a supplement to their Uniform Complaint Policies and Procedures that includes information on how to report deficiencies covered by the Williams Settlement. Districts compile the information quarterly and report status of the complaints and resolution of deficiencies to the County Office.

Summary of Findings

1. **Site Visits** - SCOE representatives visited 30 schools, eight of which were visited twice due to year-round schedules. Twenty-five percent of the visits were unannounced as required by law.
2. **Instructional Materials** – Two schools were identified as having insufficient instructional materials. Both schools remedied the insufficiencies in a timely manner.
3. **Facilities** – No schools were identified as having “emergency facility needs,” defined as an urgent threat to the health or safety of pupils or staff. No schools were identified as “not in good repair,” defined as not maintained in a manner that assures that it is clean, safe and functional. Some deficiencies were noted at 28 of the 30 schools visited, and included items such as cracked windows, missing and damaged ceiling tiles and the need for painting. Items such as these are generally mitigated through routine school custodial and maintenance services.

No deficiencies were noted at Adkison Elementary School in the Ceres Unified School District and Eisenhut Elementary in the Stanislaus Union School District. Both were noted as being very well maintained schools.

4. **Credentials** – Credentials are now being monitored according to the regular assignment monitoring schedule, with a report due to the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC) in June of each year (copies are available in the SCOE administration and human resources offices).
5. **School Accountability Report Cards (SARC's)** - All schools presented School Accountability Report Cards for review.
 - Five included minor discrepancies with regards to instructional materials, such as failure to list publication dates.
 - All schools included data regarding their facilities inspections, however, all but six schools failed to list the date the data was collected. This discrepancy will be addressed with all Williams schools prior to publication of the next SARC's.
 - The SARC's were not reviewed for teacher misassignments as teacher assignment monitoring is now done on the regular cycle with reporting to CCTC in June each year.
6. **Uniform Complaint Reports** – For the period of October 2006 through September 2007, SCOE received only one report from districts indicating they had received a complaint. This complaint was resolved.

**Williams Agreement
2007 Schools/Districts
Stanislaus County**

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District	School
Ceres	Adkison Elem.
	Caswell Elem.
	Walter White Elem.
Keyes	Keyes Elem.
Modesto City	Bret Harte Elem.
	Burbank Elem.
	El Vista Elem.
	Fairview Elem.
	Franklin Elem.
	Garrison Elem.
	Kirschen Elem.
	Marshall Elem.
	Orville Wright Elem.
	Robertson Road Elem.
	Shackelford Elem.
	Tuolumne Elem.
	Evelyn Hanshaw Middle
	Mark Twain Junior High
Patterson	Grayson Charter
	Las Palmas Elem.
	Northmead Elem.
	Creekside Middle
Riverbank	Rio Altura Elem.
	Riverbank High
Stanislaus Union	Chrysler Elem.
	Eisenhut Elem.
	Muncy Elem.
Turlock	Cunningham Elem.
	Osborn Elem.
	Wakefield Elem.