

PALERMO UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Carol Brown, Principal



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To the Parents/Guardians of students at Golden Hills Elementary School:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that our school continues to be identified as a Program Improvement (PI) school under the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001. We are now in Year 2.

NCLB requires the state and district to review annually the academic progress of federally funded Title I schools and to identify schools in need of improvement. These schools are identified as PI schools after two consecutive years of not making adequate yearly progress (AYP). California determines AYP by considering the following three measures for K-8 districts:

The percentage of students scoring at the “proficient” or “advanced” level on the California Standards Tests for English-language arts and math

The percentage of students participating in those tests

California’s accountability measurement of progress, the Academic Performance Index (API)

Why is our school identified as PI?

The reason our school continues in PI is because it did not achieve AYP in 2009-10. The AYP area(s) that caused the identification is math.

Public school choice:

All parents/guardians of students attending a PI school have the right to request a transfer of their children to a non-PI school. There are no other 4-5th grade schools in the district. If you would like information about transferring your child or children to a non-PI school in another district, please contact the district at 533 4842.

Supplemental educational services (SES): How does a parent obtain a provider for their child?

Students from low-income families at continuing PI schools, whose parents did not select a public school choice option, are eligible for SES. These services are classes or tutoring which occur outside the regular school day with educational providers approved by the State Board of Education. If the number of eligible students who apply for the SES program exceeds the financial resources available, the lowest achieving students from low-income families will receive SES first.

What will the school do to address the problem of low achievement?

We are working with district staff to revise our school plan to include:

- Strategies, policies, and practices that utilize scientifically-based research and have the greatest likelihood of ensuring that all groups of students will meet the state’s achievement targets
- Professional development for school staff that will lead to removing the school from PI status
- Strategies to promote effective parental involvement in the school

What are the district and state doing to support schools in PI?

Our district is working with the CDE to improve curriculum, instruction, and student performance. Schools in PI Year 2 must implement the school plan and provide professional development.

How can parents become involved?

Research shows that strong parental involvement leads to student success at school. Parents interested in partnering with the school are encouraged to contact the school for additional information regarding:

Parental involvement policies
School-parent compact

Advisory committee/school site council meetings
Parent volunteer opportunities

If you have questions, need additional information on how you can get involved in our school improvement efforts, or would like to discuss the school’s instructional program and PI status, please feel free to call me and/or visit the school.

Please review the attached list of providers approved to serve the district. If you need assistance in making a selection of an SES provider, please contact the school at 532-6000. Please check below to indicate your interest in SES and return this letter to the school office.

_____ Yes, I am interested in SES.

_____ No, I am not interested in SES.

Parent Name

Student Name/Grade

Sincerely,

Carol Brown, Principal
Golden Hills Elementary School