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**San José Unified School District**  
*"Inspiring and Preparing for Success"*

***San Jose Unified Schools Make Gains on Academic Performance Index  
Over Eighty Percent of Schools Increased API Scores***

*San Jose, CA.* The state's 2010-11 Accountability Progress Report (APR) released today showed improvement at many of the District's elementary, middle and high schools. Fourteen SJUSD schools showed double-digit growth on their Academic Performance Index (API) and over eighty percent showed gains. Seven SJUSD schools were highly ranked within Santa Clara County for their gains.

Dr. Vincent Matthews, Superintendent of San Jose Unified School District, commented, "We are very pleased to see our schools' API growth, especially those with double-digit growth and those with consistent gains. Even as we celebrate these gains, our urgency lies with the opportunity gap that exists between our Hispanic and White students. It is imperative that we all focus our attention on closing this gap and ensuring that all students in San Jose Unified receive a high quality education and are skilled 21<sup>st</sup> century learners. We invite the community to give input on the 21<sup>st</sup> century skills we believe our students should know and be able to do. Community meetings are being scheduled and will be on our website soon. Your voice is important- we urge you to get involved."

Many SJUSD schools were highly ranked within Santa Clara County for API growth. California's accountability system measures the performance and progress of a school or an LEA based on results of statewide tests at grades two through twelve. A school's API is a composite number, ranging from a low of 200 to a high of 1000, that represents the weighted results of student performance on these tests.

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SJUSD Schools Ranking in the Top Ten for API Gains in Santa Clara County			
Elementary Schools	County Rank	Point Gain	2011 API
Washington	4	68	798
Almaden	8	53	782
Anne Darling	9	51	793
Middle Schools	County Rank	Point Gain	2011 API
Burnett	7	22	692
High Schools	County Rank	Point Gain	2011 API
Willow Glen High	3	27	748
Alternative Schools* with 50 or more valid student scores	County Rank	Point Gain	2011 API
Liberty	1	70	546
Broadway	3	43	702

Broadway continued their consistent gains for a third year, with a cumulative gain of 213 points on their API. When asked about the increase in their scores, Principal Stephanie Ogden gave credit to the school's committed staff and students, flexible scheduling and "wrap around" support services for students that include counseling, tutoring, health and wellness services, college and career support, and outreach services. Dane Caldwell- Holden, Principal of Learning Options, echoed the sentiment of teacher commitment at Liberty High. Caldwell-Holden commented, "My teachers act as instructors, mentors and guides to the students who come to them and they treat every student as a singular individual." Leland Plus had gains of 122 points and ranked #1 in the County among all high schools for API growth, but are not listed on the above chart, as they only have 16 valid student scores.

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Almaden Elementary School increased their API by 53 points and moved out of Watch status. Anne Darling Elementary School exited Program Improvement (PI) status and Washington, Canoas and Galarza Elementary Schools entered Safe Harbor. Safe Harbor is achieved when a subgroup has greatly improved since the previous year—even though they did not meet the state goal. The target for Safe Harbor improvement is at least a 10% reduction from the previous year of the percentage of students who scored below proficient for English language arts or mathematics. Teacher collaboration, student motivation, thoughtful data analysis, parent involvement and a shared vision were cited by elementary school principals Maria Evans of Washington Elementary, Enrique Pin of Almaden Elementary and Rigo Elenes of Anne Darling, whose schools ranked high within the county for their API gains.

Secondary principals Lisa Aguerria-Lewis of Burnett, and Kaia Hamilton of Willow Glen High stated, “teamwork, teacher collaboration, an adult mindset that all students can achieve, and focused, quality instruction in the classrooms,” were responsible for their increases.

The District’s API score increased from 792 to 798. Although Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) targets for participation were met with all subgroups, only 31 of the 46 AYP criteria were met, leaving the District in PI status. Although small gains were made, the Hispanic students did not meet ELA and math targets.

San Jose Unified is resetting their strategic plan and is seeking community input on 21<sup>st</sup> century skills. Information can be found on the District’s website [www.sjusd.org](http://www.sjusd.org) regarding the process under the heading of “Get Involved: Resetting the Strategic Plan.” Community Meetings for input, feedback and information will be scheduled soon.

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