Silver Creek High School

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Mission Statement

The Mission of Silver Creek High School, in partnership with family and community, is to provide our students with equal access to a quality education in a safe and caring environment, empowering students to become critical thinkers and lifelong learners, interacting cooperatively as socially responsible citizens in a multicultural and technological world.

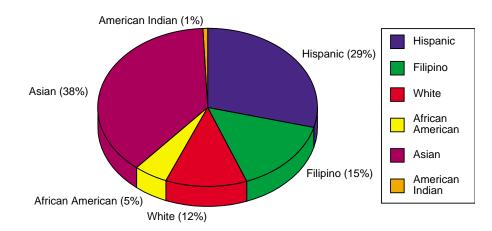
School Goals

- To expand support services and provide equitable access for all students
- To improve the achievement level and graduation rate of all students
- To involve staff, students, parents, and the community in an educational partnership
- To integrate skills and technology across the learning environment
- To assist students in developing a vision for their own future, and the process involved in setting and achieving goals
- To develop in students a sense of responsibility for their own educational and well being

School Profile

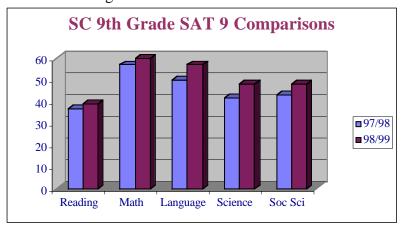
Located in the Evergreen Valley area of San Jose, Silver Creek's staff and parents have high academic expectations of the students. Silver Creek's goal is to assist every student in achieving his/her maximum potential. Every student is exposed to a rigorous curriculum and graduates are prepared for college and/or the work place. Silver Creek staff are in the process of developing a baccalaureate program which will be in place by the 2000-01 school year.

Ethnic Breakdown of Student Body

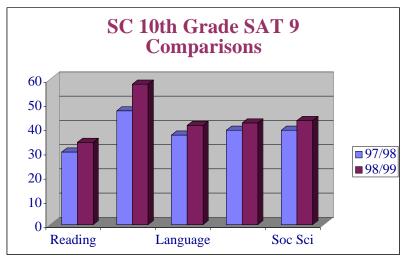


SAT9

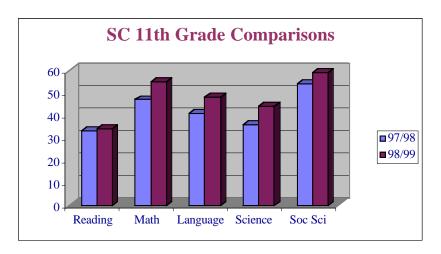
The State of California now requires schools to test all students using the Stanford Achievement Test version 9 (SAT-9) in grades 9-11. Students are tested in reading, language, mathematics, science and history/social science. The SAT9 test is designed to compare student performance against a national sample of students at the same grade level.



Silver Creek's 9th graders performed better in all subject areas when compared to the previous years' 9th grade. Scores in Math were especially impressive.



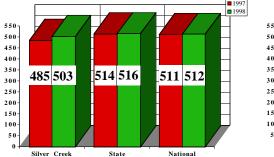
Silver Creek's 10th graders also scored better in all subject areas when compared to the previous years' 10th grade scores. Significant gains were made in math.

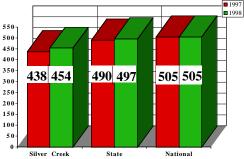


Silver Creek's 11th graders also scored better in all subject areas when compared to the previous years' 11th graders. Math and social science scores were impressive.

The Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) is a voluntary 2 1/2 hour test that measures verbal and mathematical reasoning abilities related to successful performance in college. Colleges use the information to recruit and select students. The College Board reports the number of students from each school who took the test.

Scholastic Aptitude Test Math Scale Scores Verbal Scale Scores





The College Board reports the average scale scores of students who gave permission to release those scores to their schools. The graphs above compare the mean mathematics and verbal scores for Silver Creek attained in 1997 and 1998 with those attained by students across the state and across the nation.

In 1998-99, the Silver Creek Average Daily Attendance (ADA) was 93.2%. Silver Creek's attendance monitoring system notifies parents by phone of student absences. Absences are also noted on the quarterly report cards. Liaison staff make home visits when students have missed excessive amounts of school and/or when phone contacts are unsuccessful.

In the 1998-99 school year, Silver Creek had a dropout rate of 6%. There were 215 students suspended during the 1998-99 school year with 5 students expelled.

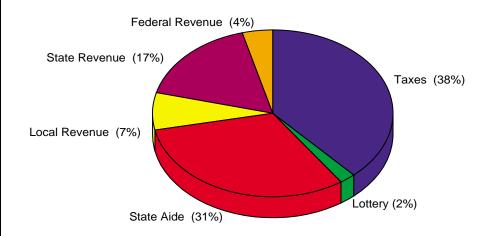
Student Achievement

School Attendance/ Dropout Rates/ Expulsions

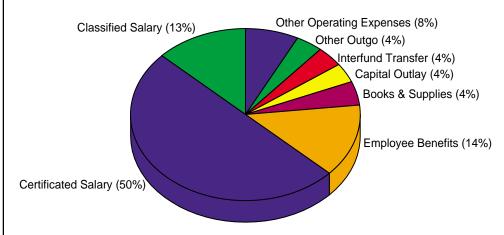
Expenditures and Services Offered

In 1998-99, the East Side Union High School District received \$146 million. When costs for direct instruction, transportation, salaries, fringe benefits, food services and facilities maintenance are considered, the district expended \$6,646 per student. The graphs below illustrate district income and expenditures.

—General Fund Income—



-District Expenditures-



A variety of integrated instructional programs have been developed within the East Side Union High School District. Through these programs, students can obtain technical training to prepare them to enter the work force or further their education. Included are Integrated Career Programs (ICP's); Tech Prep; Work Experience; Central County Occupational Center, which includes Regional Occupational Satellite Programs; New Ways Workers; Partnership Academies and Job Placement Center.

Silver Creek received additional funds to provide assistance to students with special needs. The following special programs are offered at the school:

- Adaptive Physical Education
- East Side Electronics Academy
- Education Assistance
- Emergency Immigrant
- Evergreen Valley College Courses
- Gifted and Talented Education
- Institute of Management and Technology

- Learning Handicapped
- Limited English Proficient
- Multi-Service Team
- School Improvement Program
- Speech Therapy
- Student Assistance Program
- Vocational Education
- Migrant Education Program

Many things affect employee salary. Considerations that affect the salary of educators are: the size of the district and whether it serves only high school students, elementary students, or both. Below, we provide statewide averages, ranges and ESUHSD figures.

	STATE- WIDE AVERAGE	STATE- WIDE RANGE	ESUHSD AVERAGE
Beginning Teacher's Salary	\$30,652	\$27,309-\$37,130	\$30,351
Midrange Teacher's Salary	\$50,676	\$41,540-\$59,852	\$52,607
Highest Teacher's Salary	\$60,962	\$53,428-\$69,300	\$64,827
School-Site Principal's Salary	\$86,783	\$68,065-\$109,091	\$84,673
District Superintendent's Salary	\$117,436	\$90,436-\$138,395	\$121,033

Class size in the East Side Union High School District varies by subject from an average of twenty or less in reading classes, ELD, and 9th grade Opportunity classes to forty-two or less in physical education. The specific class size by subject area is established by a contractual agreement between the East Side Teachers' Association and the school district.

It is each school's responsibility to monitor class size at that site and to maintain class averages at or below the agreed upon numbers. Where class size exceeds the subject average, a monetary penalty is assessed against the school district. The typical teaching load for a full-time teacher is five classes plus a preparation period, with one to three subject level preparations. Teachers with less than a full-time contract have a proportionately lower teaching load.

Instructional Aides for ELD are provided through State and Federal Supplementary Funds to assist in Math, Sheltered Science, Sheltered World History, Sheltered Keyboarding and various ELD courses.

Instructional Aides are provided through Special Education funds for all Special Education classes.

The average department class size is as follows:

Improvement & Development . 20

Department/Class Size	Department/Class Size
Art 29	Other 30
Business Education 29	Safety Education
Typing/Keyboard 40	Science 32
English 30	Social Science 32
Foreign Language29	Additionally, the following classes
Homemaking29	average:
Industrial Education	ELD
Mathematics 32	Language Arts 1 & 2 20
Performing Arts (Band,	Survival Skills
Choir, except for Drama) 30	Language Arts 3 30
Physical Education 42	Bilingual/Sheltered
Reading	-

All ninth grade English classes were loaded at a ratio of 20 to 1 under the auspice of the state's class size reduction program. Additionally 9th grade math and science classes were reduced to 20 to 1 or 25 to 1.

California law requires that teachers be assigned to classes only within their area of credential authorization. Where it is necessary to make assignments outside of current credential authorizations, appropriate special credentials are obtained. For the school year of 1998-99, there were approximately 4 teachers requiring special credentials throughout the district.

Compensation/ Salary

Class Size and Teaching Loads

Teacher Assignments

Substitute Teachers

Pinding and hiring qualified substitute teachers is a problem at all East Side high schools. The need for substitutes varies with the day of the week and the time of year. Coupled with teacher absences for illness and personal necessity, there are special professional growth activities that require teachers to be absent from their classes. These special activities may include teacher training workshops or subject area conferences.

When the need for substitutes exceeds the supply, the regular classroom teachers are called upon to fill in for their colleagues during their preparation period. Regardless of the reasons for calling in substitute teachers, the instructional program suffers when the regular teacher is absent. Every effort is made to minimize teacher absences.

Teacher Evaluation and Teaching Loads

A ll teachers and staff are regularly evaluated. Teachers are observed and assisted by administrators. The principal and associate principals are required to provide formal written evaluations for permanent teachers every other year. Temporary and probationary teachers are evaluated annually. The principal also evaluates the performance of the associate principals. The principal, in turn, is evaluated by the superintendent.

Teachers participate in staff development programs offered by the district and Silver Creek High School. In addition, many take advantage of local college and university classes and workshops offered by the Santa Clara County Office of Education.

Mentor teachers and subject area coordinators support teacher improvement and curriculum development, and Silver Creek now has a Cluster Lead (along with Overfelt and Santa Teresa) who will help reach our school goals.

Textbooks/ Instructional Materials

All students are provided with textbooks for courses that require them. On the average, a new textbook costs between \$35.00 and \$40.00. Students who take five or six required courses may have as many as 6 texts worth a total value of \$175.00.

New textbooks were adopted by the Board of Trustees last year for courses in ELD, Health and Safety Education, Foreign Language, Home Economics, and Social Science. These textbooks are being phased into schools over a two year period to replace outdated textbooks.

Four computer labs are available for student use in math, business, Institute of Management and Technology, computer fundamentals, Electronics Academy, Reading, English, Social Studies, Foreign Language and ELD classes. Computer Labs are also available for after school SAT preparation, term papers, career exploration, etc.

Textbook losses continue to be a serious district problem that students, parents and teachers must address every year.

Counseling/Student Services

Silver Creek has 121 full/part time teachers and 9 Instructional Aides who provide direct classroom assistance to students. Additional staff who provide support services are three full-time Counselors, two Student Advisors, one Home-School Liaison, Student Activities Coordinator, State/Federal Programs Coordinator, Librarian, Career Center Technician, Bookroom Clerk, Health and Attendance Clerks, Secretaries, Nutrition Staff and Custodial Staff. Administrative staff include a Principal and two Associate Principals.

Safety, Cleanliness of School Facilities

Silver Creek opened its doors in 1969 with a capacity for about 1,800 students and they currently have more than 2,500 students. Eight portable classrooms have been added to help with the increased enrollment and ten new portables have been recently installed to house students while the H (Science) Building is being renovated. They are also in the process of repainting the

entire exterior of the school and the new color scheme has been received with great enthusiasm.

A safe and healthy campus environment has been a priority for many years and they continually focus on the physical and mental well-being of students and staff. Graffiti vandalism has been greatly reduced and is always painted over immediately upon discovery. Students are orderly and well-behaved and constantly receive praise for exhibiting mature demeanor and conduct. The Maintenance and Gardening staff do an outstanding job of keeping the classrooms and campus clean and the staff and students work cooperatively to provide a spirit of goodwill at Silver Creek.

Silver Creek has a written discipline plan that was developed by staff and parents in accordance with district policy. The plan is mailed to parents at the beginning of each school year. Special programs have been developed by the school to encourage appropriate student behavior. Behavior Modification Class which is held on Saturdays is designed to retain students in the system, yet correct misbehavior and truancy. This year Silver Creek has added two new procedures which should improve the image of the campus. Only Silver Creek hats will be allowed to be worn on campus during the school day and there will be no writing or graffiti on book bags or backpacks.

During the 1998/99 school year the emphasis for staff development was placed in two areas—alternative methods and time periods for delivering instruction, and in preparation for WASC mid-term visit during the 2000/01 school year. To achieve the first goal two nationally known guest speakers were invited to work with teachers on Block scheduling and different ways to deliver instruction. Teachers were offered several hours of collaboration time to work on lesson plans. For the WASC accreditation, Focus on Learning groups met on several occasions to continue working on the WASC action plan which is centered around success for all students. The second Summer Institute was held, thirty teachers were offered the chance to work for one month during the summer in collaboration with other members of their department on course content and assessment standards. The highlight of the year was a full day inservice with the staffs of Overfelt, Santa Teresa and Silver Creek (held at Silver Creek) in which teachers had the opportunity to choose four different workshops offered in a variety of curriculum and technology areas.

Silver Creek focuses on preparing students to be successful in high school, to achieve the best possible intellectual and personal development, and above all to graduate with skills that enable them to achieve success beyond the high school years.

The majority of students are truly interested in obtaining a good education and feel that Silver Creek is preparing them for the world of work and/or further education beyond high school.

The School provides a challenging and comprehensive academic curriculum, a variety of tutorial programs, career education, individualized and group counseling, and a variety of support systems for all students.

The school leaders and student representatives actively shape and promote the culture of the school focusing energies so that the school's purpose is to guide the everyday behavior of students and staff in the classroom.

The classroom experience at Silver Creek High School is considered to be the single most important facet of the students' education. The expectations for students are high. Students are encouraged to strive to meet the school academic standards in order to be eligible for graduation and for participation in extra curricular activities.

Classroom Discipline

Staff and Curriculum Development

Quality of Instruction and Leadership

School leaders encourage students to strive for excellence in preparing for post-secondary education as well as participating in a variety of contests and activities that take place at school. The latter would include organizations such as CSF, NHF, MESA, University/College Opportunity Program, Upward Bound, VICA, Interact, Speech and a number of other academic clubs on campus.

Student absenteeism, academic progress and the dropout rate are continually being evaluated and a variety of strategies are utilized in order to make improvements in these areas. The number of students in advanced placement courses, honors courses and advanced courses have increased dramatically at Silver Creek High School. The image of Silver Creek High School is one of a safe and orderly educational institution which has a good reputation in its attendance area and the city.

Silver Creek High School emphasizes academic achievement and extra curricular activities. Student clubs have grown to fifty organizations this year. A number of noontime student activities have been developed in order to involve the student body as a whole in the student activity process.

Faculty members function in a professional climate of innovation and experimentation in order to pursue the school's mission and purpose with visible accomplishments through our academic and co-curricular activities. A variety of programs have been developed to help the at-risk, average and above average students.

Both the East Side Academy program and the Math lab at Silver Creek High School were awarded the Golden Bell Award from the California School Boards Association (CSBA) for outstanding curriculum programming. The CSBA Golden Bell Award symbolizes excellence in education by recognizing creative innovative curriculum programs throughout the state.

Instructional Minutes

S ilver Creek had 64,920 instructional minutes which exceeds the state requirement.

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