



SPARC

SUPPORT PERSONNEL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT CARD

HOME OF THE SPARTANS

Jan Lyons, Principal
3,700 Students

Grades 9-12
Traditional Year

818 833 3700
www.sylmarhs.org

13050 Borden Ave.
Sylmar, CA 91342

"A continuous improvement document sponsored by the California Department of Education and the Los Angeles County Office of Education."

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The Sylmar High School Student Support Personnel Team plays a vital role in providing a safe school environment that promotes the academic and personal excellence of every student. As Principal of Sylmar High School, I fully support the implementation of the *American School Counseling Association* (ASCA) National Standards for School Counseling. Utilizing the ASCA model for school counseling programs, our SSPT provides services that encourage and promote academic, career, and personal/social development in preparation for the challenges of the 21st century. With an increase in school counselors due to Assembly Bill (AB) 1802 funding, our counselors have taken the lead in the planning and implementation of an individual review of students' academic performances, which is integral to the student support services program. Every student receives an Individualized Graduation Plan that aligns with their college and career goals. The school counselors have also been instrumental in increasing in-seat attendance to approximately 91.6%. As a result of the collaborative effort between SSPT, faculty and administration, SHS has experienced successes that include a significant increase in our graduation rate, an increase in the number of students attending college, and an increase in the rate of students passing the ELA section of the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE). The SSPT has prioritized its focus for improvement for the 2011 school year on increasing California Standards Scores in algebra for all students and will focus on increasing the rate of 10th graders who matriculate into the 11th grade. The SHS SPARC will play an instrumental role in our efforts.

STUDENT SUPPORT PERSONNEL TEAM

The Sylmar High School SSPT team operates under the philosophy that all students, given appropriate and timely support, can successfully graduate from high school. The numerous services SSPT members provide address both the common and unique issues students face as they prepare for life after high school. Small Learning Communities bring a deeper level of personalization and attention to student progress. The SLC model fosters regular communication among teachers, counselors, and administrators, helping to address students needs more effectively.



Furthermore, the SLC's encourage more parent involvement, facilitate timely referrals, and connect learning with real world occupational disciplines. The SSPT utilizes an accountability system, regularly analyzes student data, provides classroom guidance, and collaborates with community stakeholders to help

SHS students to reach their full potential. The SSPT facilitates ongoing Student Success Team meetings, 504 plans, and AB 1802 interventions. All certificated members of our SSPT hold appropriate credentials as required by the No Child Left Behind guidelines for highly qualified staff. Professional organization memberships enable the SSPT to stay current on research and legislative issues that assist us in developing and expanding our knowledge and effectiveness for the benefit of our students and families. SSPT members are affiliated with professional organizations which include: *American School Counselor Association, National Association of Social Workers, Association for California School Administrators, California Association for Bilingual Education, California Association of Nurse Practitioners, California Association of School Counselors, California Association of School Psychologists, California Career Educators Association, California School Nurse Association, and National Association of College Admissions Counseling.*

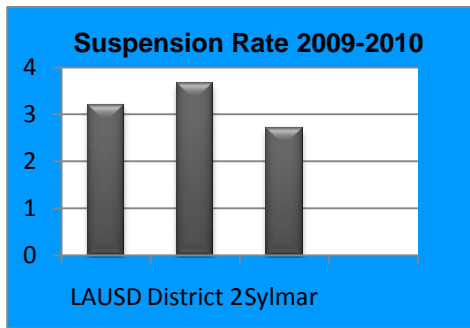
SSPT

Years of Experience

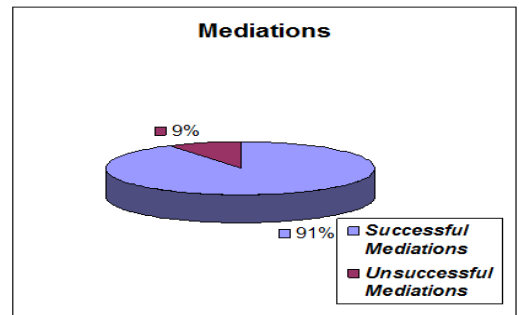
• Principal – MS, PPS, Admin	6
• 6 Assistant Principals – MA, MA, MS Admin, Ed. D, J.D	27
• 14 Counselors – MA, MS, MFT, PPS, MSW	60
• 1.5 School Psychologist – MA, PPS	16
• 1 Nurses – BSN, RN, P.H.N.	8
• 1 Speech/Language Therapist – MS	5
• 1 Librarian – MA	5
• 1 Community Coordinator- MA	3
• 1 Diploma Project Advisor -MA	3
• 1 Special Ed. Coordinator – MA	8
• 12 PALs (Peer Assistant Leaders)	1
• 1 School Police Officer – BS	3
• 7 Campus Security	4
• 4 Deans – BA	17
• 1 Magnet Coordinator – BA	10

SCHOOL CLIMATE AND SAFETY

At Sylmar High School, the SSPT plays a substantial role in providing ALL students with a safe, secure and supportive environment conducive to promoting student growth in the areas of academics, career/college, and personal/social development. SSPT members work to encourage students and help augment daily problems. ➤ SHS has one of the lowest suspension rates in the district due to alternative discipline measures. Mentoring programs such as Link Crew, PALS, drop-out prevention assemblies, and partnerships with agencies like Total Family Support, have proven successful in reducing the rate of suspensions. ➤ SHS developed a Peer Mediation program designed to encourage students to interact with others in a respectful and cooperative manner, and to feel connected with their school community. Our peer mediators go through extensive training where they learn effective strategies for mitigating and



resolving student conflicts. Peer mediators complete 40 to 50 mediations each year and have proven to have a high success rate. ➤ The graph to the RIGHT shows that students who participated in peer mediations experienced a 91% success rate based on the absence of repeat suspensions. ➤ The graph to the LEFT shows that Sylmar High School has a lower suspension rate compared to other high



schools in the same district. The SSPT team is an integral part of the completion of an updated School Safety Plan (SSP). Members of the SSPT facilitate and collect feedback during and after fire, earthquake, and emergency lockdown drills. The team reviews and adjusts the plan before it is approved by the School Safety Committee and is adopted by the district's Board of Education.

STUDENT RESULTS

The primary goal of the SSPT is to assist students in achieving their highest potential in the personal/social, academic and college/career content area standards set forth by ASCA. Adhering to ASCA National Standards guidelines, student achievement/results is a critical component to the evaluation and effectiveness of services provided and determines areas of improvements in order to meet the needs of our students.

Academic Domain

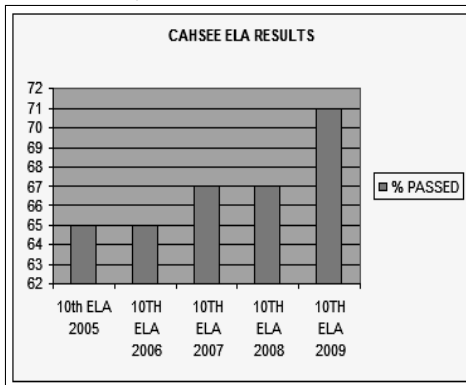
Standard A:A3: Students will achieve school success.

College/Career Domain

Standard C:B2: Students will identify career goals

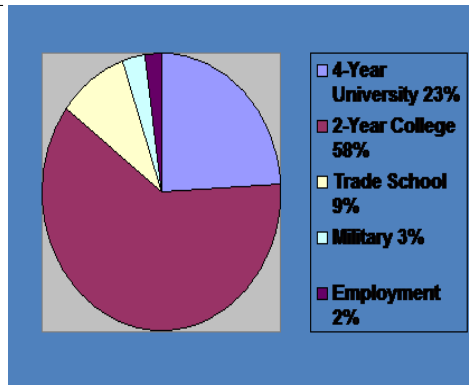
Personal/Social Domain

Standard PS:A2 A: Students will acquire interpersonal skills.



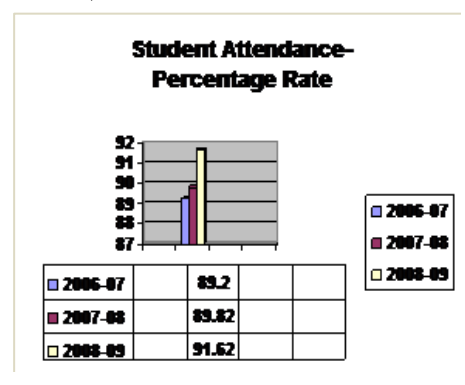
Academic

In the 2008-2009 academic year the four Smaller Learning Communities at SHS developed varied CAHSEE support plans that were carried out in the classrooms. Students received additional support for CAHSEE preparation through boot camps that were offered both after school and on Saturdays. The success of this program was especially evident in the 4% increase in the English Language Arts scores of 10th graders. SHS students continue to make significant progress in the ELA section of the CAHSEE.



Career

Sylmar High School annually refines its academic program to allow students to fulfill the minimum requirements for application to the University of California and California State University systems. We are pleased to report that as a result of our efforts, 258 graduating seniors from the 2008-2009 school year, met the UC/CSU entrance standards. In an effort to help students explore and identify career goals, counselors meet regularly with students to complete Individualized Graduation Plans.



Personal/Social

In the 2008-2009 academic year SHS implemented a school-wide attendance intervention program that included hiring four attendance intervention clerks. The clerk's primary tasks were to track down parents whose child had an unresolved absence. The program was a success in improving our in-seat attendance rate to 91.62%. Students who are present in school demonstrate respect for others and for their school community as a whole. Students are able to establish more effective strategies for communicating, goal-setting, and becoming active participants in the school community.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS / RESOURCES

The Sylmar High School SSPT is committed to building community partnerships that provide support services for our students. Using the school as the natural focal point for youth and families, our partnership work falls under three categories: parent engagement, academic supports, and college/vocational access. SHS partners provide services such as counseling, parent education, after school classes, homework assistance, and tutoring/mentoring, which assist us in meeting the academic, career and personal/social needs of *All* students. Parents, community members and businesses provide donations, volunteer as career speakers and offer job-shadowing opportunities. Parents and other community members are encouraged to volunteer in a variety of ways. Volunteers are an integral component of the SSPT and support our goal of an equitable, enriched education for all students. Volunteer groups and activities include: Partnership with Mission College and Kennedy Adult School, School Site Council, Neighborhood Partnership, campus beautification, student-led conferences and College Night. Anyone interested in volunteering, may contact: Denise Campbell, Counselor 818-833-3206 or Derek Martin, Counselor at 818-833-3678.

ACADEMIC

- College Summit
- Credit Recovery
- Adult School/Community College
- COST Team
- Sylmar Parks and Recreation
- Youth Policy Institute
- School Site Council
- Peer Tutoring

CAREER

- College/Career Day
- ROP classes
- Service Learning
- Lunch & Learn
- Explorers Program
- Career Counseling
- Work Experience

PERSONAL/SOCIAL

- SHS school-based police/probation
- Peer Mediators
- Valley Coordinated Services
- Our House (grief counseling)
- PALS
- Link Crew
- PTSA
- Sylmar Neighborhood Partnership