

FONTANA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT CARD • SPRING 1996

Juniper Elementary School

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A Message from the Principal

The School Accountability Report Card was established by Proposition 98, an initiative passed by the California voters in November 1988. The Report Card, to be issued annually by local school boards for each elementary and secondary school in the state, provided parents and other interested people a variety of information about the school, its resources, its successes, and the areas in which improvements are needed.

The Report Card for Juniper Elementary School will provide a unique picture of our educational environment. We know students, parents, and the community will find our school extremely interesting and challenging. Our student population has remained stable at a count of approximately 676, K-5 students for the past two years. In addition to the 676 students we have two pre-school classes with a student count of 55. All students have equal access to a wide variety of educational and auxiliary services to help students reach their potential.

The Reading Recovery Program and the Project Success Bilingual Program are provided at Juniper School. Both programs provide students with extra help but in different curricular areas. We have extended our Chapter I Program to provide schoolwide services for all students. With reading and mathematics as our curricular focus, we promote reading through the use of the Renee Herman Reading Program, RIBET (Reading is Bringing Everyone Together), the Rigby School to Home Program and Reading Connection which is an extension of our Reading Recovery Program, and we are working extremely hard to implement the new math adoption, Quest 2000. Several schoolwide assemblies were utilized as support for different curricular areas as well as field trips.

Juniper parents voted with an over 80% majority to adopt a school uniform. The uniform policy will go into effect at the beginning of the 1996-97 school year.

Patsy Jane Etheredge, Principal  
 Juniper Elementary School

School Description

Juniper Elementary School is a Pre-5 school, one of twenty-one elementary schools in the Fontana Unified School District. Over the past several years our student population has changed rapidly, and today Juniper Elementary School is a rich mixture of Anglo (17%), Latino (63%), Black (18%), Asian (0%), Native American (1%), and Other (Pacific Islander, Filipino 1%) students. The proportion of children who speak English as a second language (35%) is increasing, with 235 students who require primary language support to be successful.

Juniper is fortunate to have parents who are involved in the education of their children through volunteering in classrooms and participating in the School Site Council, Bilingual Advisory Committee and the Parent Teacher Association.

The Mission of the school as adopted by the entire staff (teachers, administrators, classified, Site Council, etc.) is:

Juniper School will create a nurturing, positive, stimulating learning environment that will enable students to develop their fullest potential into productive, responsible citizens.

In its efforts to achieve this Mission the school works closely with several community groups, the Fontana Teachers' Association, the City of Fontana (Parks and Recreation and Performing Arts Center), Fontana Police and Fire Departments, Merrill Community Services, Sizzler Restaurant, McDonald's and Life Touch Studios.

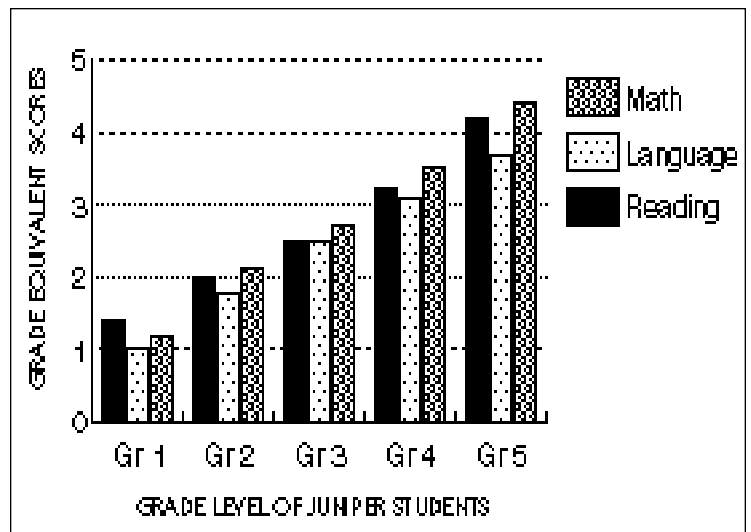
Size of School

At a total enrollment of 676 students, Juniper School is larger than 45% of the elementary schools in the State of California. In 1991 the school converted to a single track continuous school program (CSP) because of the stabilized enrollment and desire of parents and staff to remain on a year round schedule. We now have a total of 22 K-5 classes, 4 special education classes and 2 pre-kindergarten classes.

INDICATORS OF THE CONDITIONS OF THE SCHOOL

Student Achievement

This graph represents results from Reading, Language and Math sections of the ITBS Achievement Test for Juniper Elementary School. Our students took this test in the Spring of 1996. The ITBS is a standardized, multiple choice test, and the results compare our students according to a national "norm" group. Students from various parts of the United States took this test to establish the "norm" or expected scores for students at each grade level. The bars on the graph indicate the average "Grade Equivalent" scores for each grade level at Juniper.



Teachers have noted that the children appear to be excited about coming to school and are on task in the classrooms. Curriculum changes in all grade levels had led to an overall upward surge in the children's enthusiasm and creativity. Samples of children's work are on display throughout the school.

Attendance Rate

Juniper Elementary School continues to recognize and emphasize the importance of regular attendance throughout the school year, and is identifying at-risk students to help stem the drop-out rate in later school years. The 1994-95 school year average daily attendance was 95% with a high mobility rate of 90% and a 47% stability rate.

Expenditures & Services Offered

Although funding in many budget categories for Juniper Elementary School is established in the District budget adopted by the Board of Education, valuable information is available at the school site. The following are significant:

- a) For 1995 the school received \$19,950 for instructional purposes.
- b) In addition to state and local revenues received for general education, the school received the following categorical funds from special state and federal programs: \$119,480 from Chapter I funds, \$39,913 School Based Coordinated Program, \$2,995 Bilingual (EIA/LEP), and \$3,402 Title IV.

# INDICATORS OF THE CONDITIONS OF THE SCHOOL (Continued)

## Class Sizes and Teaching Loads

As a result of an agreement negotiated with the Fontana Teachers' Association the district staff was at an average of 31 students per class, K-5. Due to individual grade loads, however, some classes were higher or lower than the average.

### 1995/96 Distribution of Children for Each Teacher

	Pre-School	Kinder garten	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5
Class 1	23	31	31	(7*	25*)	(22*	9*)
Class 2	23	31	29	25	(16*	12*)	29
Class 3		30	(27*	6*)	(8*	25*)	32
Class 4		32	(20*	12*)	28	29	
Class 5		(19*	11*)	29	27		
Class 6				26			
Sp. Ed.	9	1*	3*	1*	2*	4*	6*

\* Indicates Combination Class

Because of student mobility, these numbers can vary on almost a daily basis. Feel free to contact our school office to get current class size numbers.

## Teacher Assignment

Every teacher in Juniper Elementary School is properly certified to teach at the appropriate grade level. With the seven designated bilingual classrooms, six teachers are bilingual and the teachers in second grade have received special training to work with bilingual students.

## Textbooks and Instructional Materials

Consistent with school district policy, all textbooks are within the states seven year adoption cycle. In 1995-96, we adopted a new series for mathematics. The Addison-Wesley Series was adopted by all elementary schools. In addition to the new textbooks, the district provided math manipulatives and calculators for all classrooms. This coming school year 95-96 will be the adoption year for a new language arts series (reading, writing, spelling, etc.).

## Counseling and Support Services

The school enjoys the services of a full-time library clerk. When needed, students also receive the services of a 5-hour per day health clerk, a Resource Specialist, a speech therapist, and adaptive P.E. teacher, a school nurse, a psychologist, and three Renee Herman Reading Aides. Instrumental and vocal music instruction is available to students in grades 3-5. A full-time counselor is also available to meet student needs.

## Substitute Teachers

As is the case with all surrounding school districts, the Fontana Unified School District is not always able to find substitutes who are qualified to teach in our school. However, in an attempt to provide more substitutes, our Board approved all teachers to substitute at Fontana schools when off-track or during summer vacation.

## School Facilities and Safety

According to the Standard School Crime Report for the first semester of 1994/95, there were 12 safety related incidents at Juniper Elementary School. This normally includes several types of vandalism and property crimes that occur during the school day.

## Classroom Discipline & Climate for Learning

There is general agreement among all school staff on the instructional goals of the school, the policy for maintaining order and the need for everyone to cooperate. The school and District administration have been especially supportive of the on-going process of improving our instructional and discipline programs. Each parent is provided with a copy of our school's discipline plan at the beginning of each school year or upon enrollment. The plan includes state, district and school guidelines.

## Quality of Instruction & Leadership

There is a variety of programs on the campus to meet the diversity of the student needs. These programs include: Adapted Physical Education, Bilingual Education, computer lab, G.I.V.E. and T.A.K.E., EDY Program, Language, Speech and Hearing, Physical Education (school-wide), Renee Herman Reading, Reading Recovery, Resource Specialist and Special Day Classes. Programs that recognize student achievement and citizenship include Jazzy Jets, Principal's Honor Roll, Honor Roll, Outstanding Academics, Perfect Attendance, Certificates from McDonald's, Sizzler and Life Touch Studies.

Administrators, teachers and staff are dedicated to recognizing students for continued effort and providing a positive atmosphere for learning.

## Teacher Evaluation & Professional Improvement

In accordance with the negotiated contract all permanent teachers in the Fontana Unified School District are evaluated on a two-year cycle. All non-tenured teachers have formal observations three times per year and are evaluated twice yearly.

## Training & Curriculum Improvement

Juniper Elementary School has a plan for training and curriculum development which was developed jointly by the teachers and the administration. Features of the plan include: opportunities for teachers to observe and coach each other, travel to select conferences, the use of consultants from the department of instruction at the local universities, the district's staff development services and other outside sources. An especially important component of our program has been the opportunity to have days of student non-attendance for staff development purposes.

## Salary Reporting 1995-96

The law requires we report our salary structure compared to similar district statewide averages. The most current data provided by the California Department of Education is for the 1995-96 school year.

The lowest beginning teachers' annual salary is \$28,280 for 182 days of service or \$155.38 per day. The statewide average for beginning teachers in districts similar to ours is \$26,980 annually.

The average mid-range salary is \$42,600 for 182 days of service or \$228.57 per day in our district. The statewide mid-range salary is \$42,403 in districts similar to ours.

The highest salary for a teacher in our district is \$53,182 or \$292.21 per day in our district. The statewide average for the highest paid teachers in districts similar to ours is \$49,859.

All teachers salaries represent 42.7% of the total budget.

Principals' salaries vary according to time in the position and work year; however, when salaries are averaged for all such principals, their annual averaged salary is \$62,399 or 299.77 per day of service. The statewide average for principals is \$67,192.

Our district superintendents' salaries vary based on responsibility; however, when salaries were averaged their annual average salary (1994-95) was \$90,124 which equal 0.3% of the total budget. Superintendents are paid to work 220 days excluding weekends, holidays, and vacation at an average daily rate of \$409.65. They are responsible for the services performed by 2,414 certificated and classified employees and for about 31,000 students. Data is not available for districts with similar numbers of students; however, the 1994-95 state average for superintendents in similar districts was \$114,830.

All certificated and classified administrative salaries and board stipends in our district represent 4.53% of the total budget.