

SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT CARD

SILVER GATE ELEMENTARY MAGNET SCHOOL

*Mr. Phil Yoon
Principal*

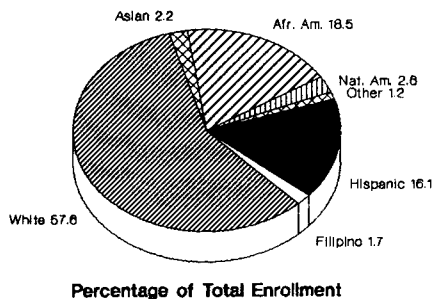
*1499 Venice Street
San Diego, CA 92107
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*MARCH 1995
San Diego City Schools*

SCHOOL PROFILE

Silver Gate Magnet School is located in Point Loma, an older, well-established area of San Diego. The neighborhood is economically diverse, with ever increasing ethnic diversity. The school, originally built in 1952, consists of three permanent buildings and two portables used as the library/media center.

**Student Racial/Ethnic Composition
1994-95**



Current student enrollment is 586 with 64 percent from the neighborhood and 36 percent transported from throughout San Diego.

MISSION AND GOALS

San Diego City Schools has adopted a mission statement to guide the district in providing educational programs.

It is the mission of [our district] to educate all students in an inte-

STUDENT LEARNING

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

How are students doing?

San Diego City Schools students in grades 5 and 7 take the Abbreviated Stanford Achievement Tests (ASAT) of competencies in basic skills. Students in many schools may also take the ASAT at other grade levels.

grated setting to become responsible, literate, thinking, and contributing members of a multicultural society through excellence in teaching and learning.

All district schools have set several goals in each of four major areas to accomplish this mission:

- Improving student learning
- Improving teaching
- Enhancing integration and diversity
- Enhancing shared decision-making and community involvement

Silver Gate staff believe that all students learn in a positive, supportive, quality environment. Staff strive to provide academic excellence through a program balancing basic skills, critical thinking, enrichment, and utilization of community resources. Fostering positive attitudes of students about themselves and others helps students develop a better understanding of, and relationship with, people of diverse backgrounds, cultures, and ethnicities.

Our report card is organized around the district goal areas. This will help parents understand our school's strengths and weaknesses as well as our success in improving the school by meeting our goals.

Silver Gate has a working Site Governance Team comprised of the principal, teachers, parents and a paraeducator rep-

REPORT CARD MEETING, INFORMATION

Date: *March 23, 1995*

Time: *8:00 a.m.*

Place: *Silver Gate Cafeteria*

Proposition 98 requires all public schools in California to provide information about themselves to the public through a School Accountability Report Card. This report card examines Silver Gate Elementary's policies, programs, and progress. At a meeting on March 23 at 8 a.m. parents can discuss the report card and ask questions.

More information about all areas covered in this report card is available at Silver Gate Elementary. We invite parents to come to Silver Gate to look at these materials, to meet their children's teachers, and to expand their involvement in their children's education.

representative, who assist in designing goals, objectives, the vision for the school, and in other shared decision making activities. In spite of state funding concerns, one of the top priorities for the SGT is the reduction of class size.

Silver Gate students continue to perform above average on all standardized achievement tests.

SCHOOL-TO-CAREER TRANSITION

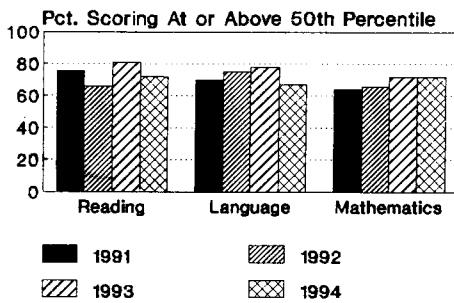
How are students prepared for the world of work?

Silver Gate offers a wide variety of experiences for students to become familiar with other jobs and companies that may interest them in addition to those which they are introduced to at home. We offer many field trips and career awareness

REPORT CARD COMMITTEE

Silver Gate parents and staff developed this report card.

Grade 5 ASAT Results



presentations where parents and outside speakers share their careers with classrooms. We also have several partnerships: McDonald's, FCTCPAC, and Union Bank.

ATTENDANCE/DROPOUTS

Do students attend and stay in school?

An important goal of all schools in our district is to keep students in school from early childhood through high school. The average daily attendance rate at Silver Gate for last year was 95.51 percent.

TEACHING QUALITY

TEACHING ASSIGNMENTS

Do we have qualified teachers?

There are 22 highly qualified classroom teachers at Silver Gate. The average teaching experience of our teaching staff is 16 years. Thirteen teachers have master's degrees. Each teacher is properly credentialed to teach the grade level at which they are presently assigned. Three teachers have credentials which qualify them for teaching children with learning handicaps.

TEACHER/ADMINISTRATOR EVALUATION

How are teachers and administrators evaluated?

The principal formally evaluates tenured teachers every two years. Temporary or probationary teachers are observed frequently and evaluated yearly. If a teacher's performance is not effective, the principal identifies areas requiring improvement and develops a program for improvement with the teacher. The principal is also evaluated every two years by a central office supervisor.

If you are concerned about a teacher, administrator, or other staff member, there are steps that you can take. You can find them in *Facts for Parents* sent home

Our non-apportioned absences (those without district-approved excuses) for 1992-93 were 16.01 percent. Last year, this figure increased to 19.16 percent. Parental support in requesting independent study contracts for absences not due to illnesses has greatly helped this effort.

Attendance Rates		
Year	% Absences Unexcused	% Actual Attendance
1989-90	12.9	94.5
1990-91	12.6	95.3
1991-92	10.9	95.1
1992-93	16.0	95.3
1993-94	19.2	95.5

DISCIPLINE AND CLIMATE FOR LEARNING

Is this school a good place to learn?

The campus is peaceful and orderly. This environment enhances learning. The following policies contribute to the positive atmosphere:

- We encourage mutual respect and responsible behavior.

with every student at the start of the school year. You may call the principal or the School Services Division to discuss this subject at any time.

SUBSTITUTES

Do we have qualified substitutes?

The district has a pool of substitute teachers available for assignment when a classroom teacher is absent.

By state law, credentialed teachers may substitute at any grade level and in any subject. We try to place substitute teachers in their area of expertise.

INSTRUCTIONAL AND LEADERSHIP QUALITY

How good is it?

Silver Gate has a variety of programs to reach the needs of our diverse population:

- Gifted seminar and cluster classrooms
- Special day learning handicapped classes (some of whose students are mainstreamed to regular classrooms for a variety of subjects)
- Basic skills lab for special needs in reading and math
- English as a Second Language instruction (ESL)

- We expect self-control and good behavior.
- Monthly we honor students for outstanding citizenship and academic achievement at Gator Gram assemblies.
- Children receive "good work" bulletins, bumper stickers, free time coupons, bus behavior rewards, perfect attendance rewards, and coupons for free treats at the Midway McDonald's for positive achievements.
- The Navy volunteers from Fleet Combat Training Center, Pacific (FCTCPAC) provide one-to-one tutoring.
- Each child is recognized at some point in the year for positive improvements.
- The Peninsula branch of Union Bank will be recognizing students for excellence in behavior and academic achievement.

Silver Gate continually reassesses its discipline policy, refining and ensuring it meets current student needs. It is Silver Gate's goal to minimize instructional time lost to discipline problems.

- Adaptive physical education and physical education
- Speech and language therapy
- Special education resource specialist program
- Music teacher
- There are numerous mentor quality teachers on site, with special skills which are shared with others, as well as two teachers who have been formally appointed as district mentor teachers.

Our curriculum is aligned with state-adopted frameworks and guidelines.

Silver Gate students consistently score within the top elementary schools in the district. Although proud of the high academic achievement experienced by our overall student population, concern regarding the lack of success of African American and Hispanic American students persists. Programs to enhance the academic success levels of these children are being planned and implemented.

Class size is determined by funding received from the state legislature. In California, during the 1990-91 school year, the pupil-to-teacher ratio was nearly the highest in the nation. The quality of education could be significantly improved by lowering class size.

Many of the teaching staff assume leadership roles within the school and district as key planners, committee chairpersons, and district curriculum representatives.

Teachers voluntarily seek professional development through university courses, conferences, workshops, and institutes on local, state, and national levels. This enables them to bring the best of current teaching practices to our school.

INSTRUCTIONAL TIME

How much time is there for instruction?

All district schools meet or exceed state requirements for annual instructional minutes. Silver Gate will have 40 minimum days this year. During these minimum days our staff holds grade level, thematic, and magnet refocus meetings. We also have conferences with parents.

Instructional Minutes, 1994-95		
Grade Level	Annual Instructional Minutes	
	School	State Requirement
K	46,100	36,000
1-6	55,300	54,000

TRAINING AND CURRICULUM IMPROVEMENT

What are we doing to improve staff?

The staff and principal of Silver Gate are committed to ongoing professional development for all members of our educational team, including principal, teachers, parents, and classroom aides. The principal supports opportunities for individuals to attend conferences, workshops, and mentor teacher demonstrations.

This year, the principal, teachers, and parents attended a variety of in-service training programs, on and off site, in the following areas: Family Reading, inventions, disaster preparedness, Study Skills for Success, parent education, collaboration skills, Socratic Seminars, site-based management, restructuring, conflict resolution, science, and health issues such as AIDS and hepatitis. In addition, our school and staff have been represented at the state Language Arts Convention, the California State Reading Association Convention, the annual Association for the Gifted conference, the National Science Teachers Association, and other district workshops and conferences. Instructional aides continue to be trained in several areas, including disaster

preparedness, literature-based instruction, playground supervision and games rules, and health issues. Each time staff attended special workshops and/or conferences they shared information with other staff.

In addition to the above training, staff will be involved in eight staff development days during the school year. These are days when children are not in attendance and staff spend the entire day updating and fine tuning their skills. Topics for the year include: completing a needs assessment, researching other magnets and possibly re-defining our magnet focus, visiting other school sites with model programs, attending the Greater San Diego Math Conference, the California State Reading Association Convention, and the Science Conference.

COUNSELING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

What support do we offer students?

Students at Silver Gate receive a variety of support services from highly qualified credentialed staff who work at Silver Gate on an interim basis.

These services include the following:

- A district counselor two days a week and a guidance aide six hours per day
- A resource teacher provides small group, pull-out service to students needing additional support in the language arts and mathematics
- A full-time special education resource specialist
- A music teacher two half-days per week
- A nurse two days per week and a health aide
- A full-time magnet resource teacher
- An adaptive physical education teacher two sessions per week
- A full-time physical education teacher facilitating the prep-time program
- A language, speech and hearing specialist three days per week
- A school psychologist one day per week
- Two library aides who keep it open throughout the school day.
- An occupational therapist serving students in the special education class
- Small group, individualized math instructor

As in previous years, we have seen a decrease in our support services due to state cuts in funding.

TEXTBOOKS AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

How current are our materials?

The district decides which textbooks will be used and provides them to schools according to enrollment. New textbooks in a subject area are adopted every eight years according to the state textbook review cycle. This year schools will use newly adopted textbooks and materials in science.

The instructional program at Silver Gate uses a variety of materials in addition to textbooks, including workbooks, encyclopedias, dictionaries, maps, charts, computers, calculators, audio-visual equipment, and resource materials. In addition, classrooms use core literature sets from our district instructional media center, and novel sets from our school library. Every student is provided with textbooks and sufficient support materials.

All students have access to the Silver Gate library at regularly scheduled classroom visits and at recess. Our library is stocked with nearly 7,000 fiction and non-fiction books and about 2,200 audio-visual aids.

SCHOOL FACILITIES AND SAFETY

How clean, safe, and orderly is our school?

To promote student and staff safety, we review procedures for student emergencies, fires, and disasters with the staff, parents, and students. Disaster supplies are available in each room. There is a problem with occasional nighttime and weekend vandalism, graffiti, litter, and misuse of property.

CLASS SIZE

Are classes too large?

On September 30, 1994, Silver Gate had the following class sizes:

Class Size by Grade Level								
K	1	2	3	3-4	4	5	5-6	6
30	24	25	31	18	30	30	19	30
31	25	26	31		30	29		30
30	25	25			29	30		

We believe we could do a better job of educating students if our class enrollments were lower. Through our restructuring efforts we are looking at ways to increase the amount of time teachers spend on teaching and children on learning.

INTEGRATION AND DIVERSITY

RACE AND HUMAN RELATIONS

Do students get along with each other?

Over 40 percent of our students live outside the residential area of the school. Our students are from varied ethnic back-

grounds and are all part of the Silver Gate family. Part of our emphasis is to help children develop an appreciation and an understanding of the diversity of backgrounds of others. Classroom teachers constantly involve children in values clar-

ification and multicultural activities. As a result of everyone's efforts, the atmosphere on campus is generally harmonious.

We continue to investigate ways to increase parent participation.

SHARED DECISION-MAKING

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Does Silver Gate welcome parent and community involvement?

Our PTA's volunteer hours and fund-raising have enhanced the school with enrichment programs, educational materials and equipment, field trips, classroom support, and more.

Activities involving the community include our long-standing partnership with the Navy Fleet Combat Training Center

Pacific (FCTCPAC) and student teachers from Point Loma Nazarene College. We are participating in the Built Environment Education Program (BEEP), with local architects working in the classroom with children. The Midway McDonald's restaurant supports school activities by providing food, drinks and student incentives.

The Friends of Silver Gate is a non-profit corporation comprised of concerned parents and teachers whose goal is to enrich programs through fund-raising. Donations

made to "Friends" are tax deductible and will benefit Silver Gate students.

The Silver Gate Site Governance Team and School Site Council have merged into one shared decision making body. This team of parents, teachers, staff and principal form the vision and direction for Silver Gate.

The operating premise of the Site Governance Team is that all meetings are open to the public. Staff and community involvement are encouraged.

FINANCES

EXPENDITURES AND SERVICES OFFERED

Where does it all go?

The adjoining budget chart shows the major areas of district funding for Silver Gate Elementary and other district schools. It includes all monies budgeted from the general fund except those for transportation, maintenance and operations, and district administration.

Each school receives an instructional budget based on enrollment and programs and on formulas set by Board of Education policy, state law, agreements with employee bargaining units, and guidelines of outside funding agencies.

Over the last 10 years, decrease in funding has led to program reductions. Since Proposition 13, the per-pupil spending by the state has dropped below the current national average of \$4,216. Aide time has been decreased and district counseling time is down. California ranks far below the national average in the amount of money spent per pupil. It is important for the public to understand that 79 percent of educational funding comes from the state, and if the public

Budget Category	Dollars per Pupil	
	School	Elem. Avg.
Regular Education	2,091	2,225
Special Education	343	397
Integration	305	175
Gifted and Talented	104	18
External Funding	81	358
Total	2,924	3,173

Regular Education—services, materials, and support to the general education program

Special Education—programs offering students with special needs appropriate, individualized education

Integration—the district's voluntary integration effort to counter the racial/ethnic isolation of pupils

Gifted and Talented—specialized learning assistance for students with great ability, achievement, or potential

External Funding—monies from agencies, usually federal or state, earmarked for specific services

Salary and Budget Data, Teachers and Administrators, 1992-93

Position	Unified Districts (20,000+ ADA)	San Diego (122,581 ADA)
	Annual Salary (\$)	
Beginning Teacher	26,330	24,881
Midrange Teacher	41,438	39,136
Highest Teacher	48,095	48,546
School Principal	65,360	69,086
Superintendent	108,046	125,663
Salary Category	Pct. of Budget†	Pct. of Budget†
Administrative	5.0	3.8
Teacher	43.9	42.0

† Percentage of general fund expenditures. Does not include benefits.

wants to increase financial support, pressure must be put on our state legislators.