

Assessment Report and Strategic Plan Goals

**Palo Alto Unified School District
Board of Education
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Assessment Report and Strategic Plan Goals

This is the second of two reports on academic achievement and the Strategic Plan goals.

- At the October 13th Board Meeting, the first report presented results for the elementary and middle school Strategic Plan Goals, for the state and federal accountability systems (API and AYP), and for the spring 2009 California Standards Tests (CSTs)**
- This evening's report will present academic achievement results at the high school level, including results on the Strategic Plan academic achievement goals for the high schools.**

Purpose of the Report

To review student academic achievement at the high school level, as measured by

- the UC/CSU a-g status of PAUSD's graduating class and the related Strategic Plan goals,
- the College Board's SAT and Advanced Placement (AP) examinations,
- the end-of-course, subject specific CSTs, and
- the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE).

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The Strategic Plan's Academic Achievement Goals for the High Schools

Goal 1: By 2012, the percentage of graduates meeting the UC/CSU a-g course requirements will be 85% or better.

Goal 2: By 2012, the percentage of under-represented minority students who graduate meeting the UC/CSU a-g course requirements will be increased by 50% or more.

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The UC/CSU a-g Course Requirements

A specific set of 15 college prep courses (known as the a-g courses) with a grade of C-minus or better in every course, including:

- “a” History/Social Science (2 years)
- “b” English (4 years)
- “c” Mathematics (3 years, through Algebra II; 4 recommended)
- “d” Lab Science (2 years; 3 recommended)
- “e” Language other than English (2 years or appropriate SAT II or AP exam and score)
- “f” Visual & Performing Arts (1 full-year course)
- “g” College Prep Elective (1 year)

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Completing UC/CSU a-g Course Requirements Comparisons of Selected CA High Schools

<u>High School</u>	<u>Class of 2007</u>	<u>Class of 2008</u>
Piedmont	95%	87%
Mira Costa (Manhattan Beach)	88%	85%
Lowell	87%	91%
Monta Vista	86%	78%
Saratoga	84%	80%
Mission S.J.	84%	61%
San Marino	84%	90%
Palos Verdes	82%	86%
Lynbrook	81%	80%
Gunn	74%	79%
La Canada	72%	76%
San Ramon	72%	72%
Palo Alto	65%	70%

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UC a-g for PAUSD Graduates

Met UC/CSU a-g course requirements:

2008	Gunn	362 of 458 grads	79%
	<u>Paly</u>	<u>270 of 384 grads</u>	<u>70%</u>
	Total	632 of 842 grads	75%

2009	Gunn	329 of 437 grads	75%
	<u>Paly</u>	<u>309 of 404 grads</u>	<u>76%</u>
	Total	638 of 841 grads	76%

The 2008 numbers are final; the 2009 numbers are preliminary. It is during this time each year that the official and final updates are made to the student records for last year's seniors.

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UC a-g for Gunn & Palo Alto H.S. Graduates African-American and Hispanic Students

Met UC/CSU a-g course requirements:

2008	African Amer.	11 of 23 grads	48%
	Hispanic	14 of 38 grads	37%
2009	African Amer.	16 of 37 grads	43%
	Hispanic	21 of 62 grads	34%

As of 2009, the California student data system no longer accepts the designations of "multiple ethnicity" or "declined to state."

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UC/CSU a-g “Not Met” for 2008 & 2009 Graduates Of those missing 1 or 2 a-g Course Requirements

Missing	2008 Number	2008 Percent	2009 Number	2009 Percent
Of those missing 1 or 2 a-g's	75	36% of the 210 not meeting a-g	84	42% of the 199 not meeting a-g
a: History/SS	3	<1%	1	<1%
b: English	38	18%	47	24%
c: Math	33	16%	35	18%
d: Lab Science	9	4%	10	5%
e: World Lang	15	7%	22	11%
f: VPA	1	<1%	3	2%
g: Elective	6	3%	0	0%

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College Board SAT Exam

Palo Alto Unified Results

- Mean scores and participation rates
- Comparisons, state and national
- Comparisons, top ranked CA high schools

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SAT Trends: PAUSD's Mean Scores & Participation Rates

<u>Class of</u>	<u>CR</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rate</u>
2009	626	664	631	1921	86%
2008	626	661	630	1917	84%
2007	624	655	615	1894	85%
2006	614	649	611	1874	86%

- This table only includes Gunn and Palo Alto High Schools.
- The participation rate is the percent of graduates tested.

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SAT Comparisons: Class of 2009

	<u>CR</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Mean scores</u>				
PAUSD	626	664	631	1921
California	500	513	498	1511
National	501	515	493	1509
<u>Percentile ranks</u>				
PAUSD, 25 th	560	610	570	1740
CA, 75 th	580	600	570	1750
National, 75 th	580	600	570	1750
PAUSD, 50 th	630	680	640	1950

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2008 SAT Rankings: 10 Top CA High Schools

Class of 2008	CR	M	W	Total	Part. Rate
1. Gunn	623	665	631	1920	84%
<i>Gunn, Class of 2009</i>	621	672	631	1924	82%
2. Saratoga	623	664	632	1920	90%
3. Mission S.J.	618	672	624	1914	93%
4. Palo Alto	629	656	629	1913	84%
<i>Paly, Class of 2009</i>	630	655	632	1917	83%
5. Monta Vista	601	675	616	1892	88%
6. Troy	613	638	613	1884	68%
7. Lynbrook	597	671	607	1874	90%
8. Piedmont	608	619	622	1850	92%
9. University (Irv.)	591	650	595	1837	87%
10. Miramonte	599	645	601	1827	91%

- *High schools with grade 12 enrollments greater than 200.*
- *The participation rate in this database is the % of fall grade 12 enrollment tested.*
- *Comparisons for the Class of 2009 are not yet available.*

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National Merit Students

<u>Class of:</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
<u>Gunn</u>			
Commended	68	60	50
Semifinalists	42	31	44
<u>Palo Alto</u>			
Commended	52	55	47
Semifinalists	46	27	35

The 208 commended and semifinalists in the Class of 2010 represent 23% of the present senior class.

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College Board Advanced Placement (AP) Exams

Palo Alto Unified Results

- AP exams taken
- AP exam scores
- Comparisons, top ranked CA high schools

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AP Exams Taken, May 2009 Results

	<u>Gunn</u>	<u>Paly</u>	<u>Total</u>
Total # of exams taken	1,626	1,028	2,654
Total # of students tested	610	498	1,108
Total enrollment, Gr.11&12	948	852	1,800
2009 Exams/enrollment	1.72	1.21	1.47
Grades 11 & 12			
2008 Exams/enrollment	1.83	1.05	1.49
Grades 11 & 12			
2007 Exams/enrollment	1.68	1.03	1.36
Grades 11 & 12			

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AP Exam Scores

Score distributions from 5 (highest) to 1 (lowest)

Percent of exams

<u>Score</u>	<u>May 2009</u>	<u>May 2008</u>	<u>May 2007</u>
5	51%	48%	50%
4	29%	32%	29%
3	13%	14%	15%
2	5%	4%	5%
1	2%	2%	2%

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2008 AP Rankings: Top & Selected* CA High Schools

<u>High School</u>	<u>Rate</u> (scores \geq 3 per Gr.12 enrollment)	<u>High School</u>	<u>Rate</u>
1. Lowell	4.33	14. La Canada	2.34
2. Gunn	3.40	16. Miramonte	2.30
3. Troy	3.39	18. Palo Alto	2.02
4. Torrey Pines	2.92	20. San Marino	1.95
5. Mission S.J.	2.83	21. Lynbrook	1.92
6. Univ. (Irvine)	2.82	22. Piedmont	1.91
7. LA Center	2.65	33. Mira Costa	1.71
8. Monta Vista	2.60	90. San Ramon	1.19
9. Saratoga	2.49		
10. Palos Verdes	2.47		

*The top six K-12 districts on the 2009 Growth API (October 13 Board report) were: San Marino (952), La Canada (926), Piedmont (922), Palo Alto (920), Manhattan Beach (915; Mira Costa HS above), and San Ramon (914).

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2009 California Standards Tests Subject Specific Exams

Palo Alto Unified Results

- Science
- History/Social Science
- Mathematics

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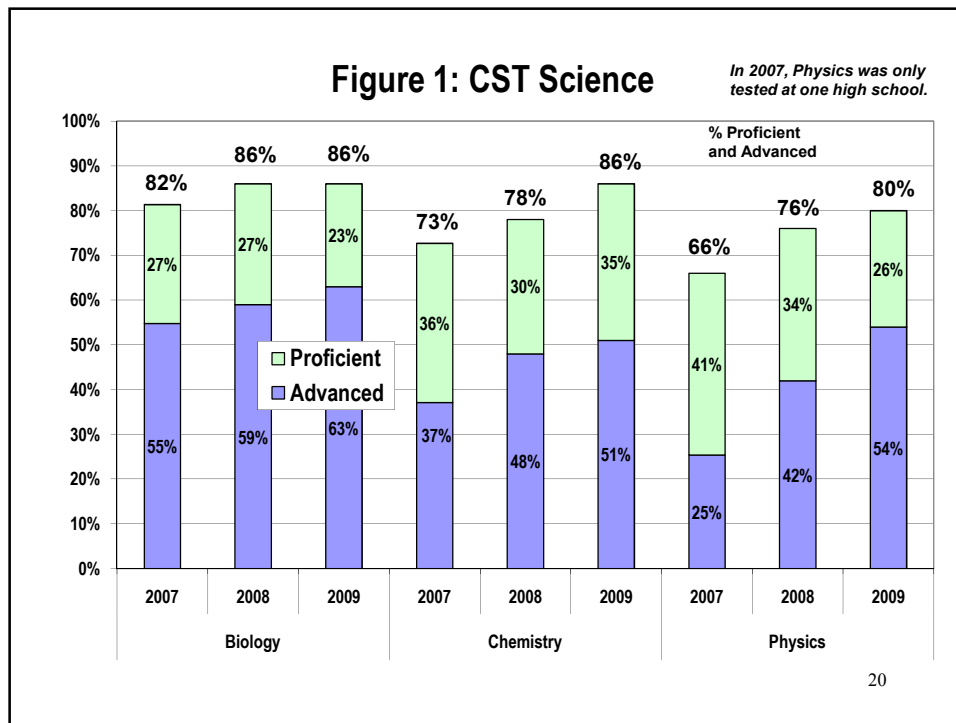
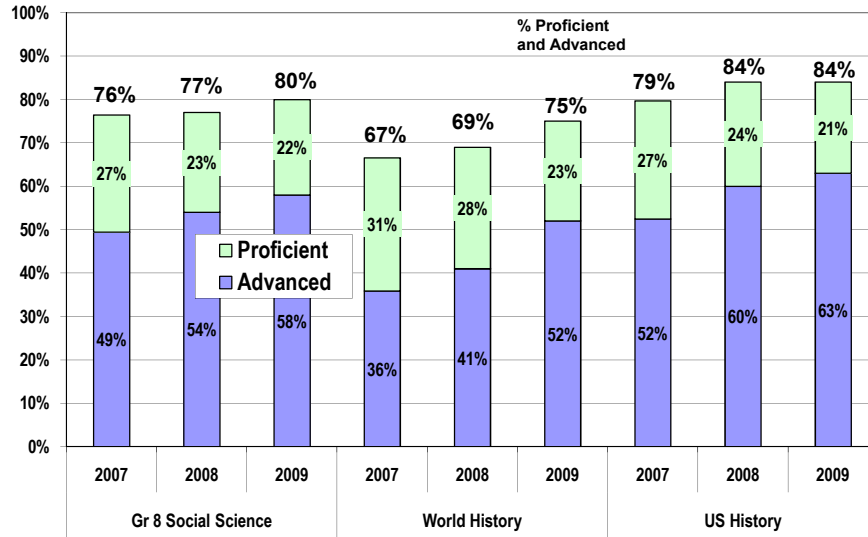


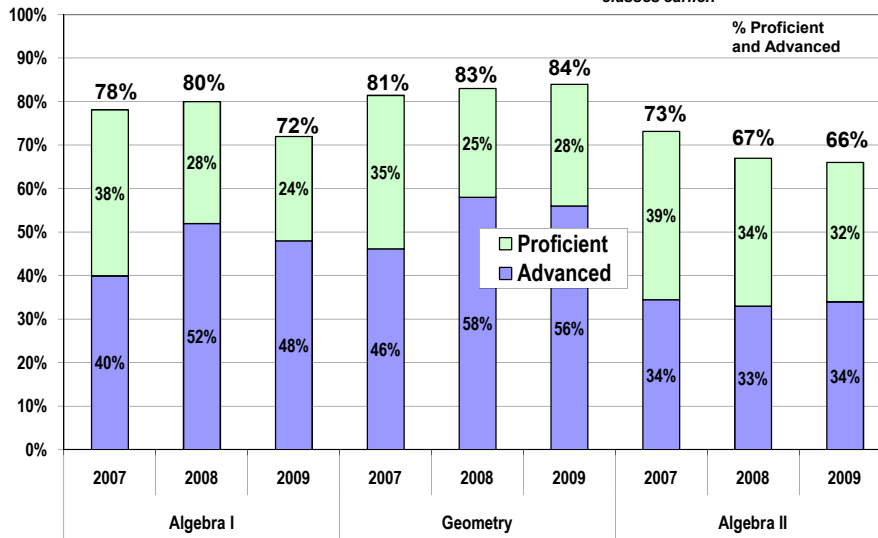
Figure 2: CST History/Social Science



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Figure 3: CST Mathematics

The lower scores in Algebra I and Algebra II are a consequence of more students taking advanced math classes earlier.



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PAUSD CAHSEE Perfection

It is PAUSD's responsibility that every student who achieves the necessary 210 credits required for graduation, and is further required by the state to pass the CAHSEE for graduation, will pass the CAHSEE.

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PAUSD CAHSEE Perfection

Since the inception of the state's CAHSEE requirement for graduation in 2006, PAUSD has had the following numbers, by graduating class, of students who have fulfilled all other graduation requirements but failed to graduate due to the CAHSEE:

Class of 2006	0
Class of 2007	1 (has graduated)
Class of 2008	0
Class of 2009	1

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