

## Principal's Newsletter

September 30, 2009

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On September 15, the State of California released school accountability progress reports for over 10,000 individual schools. I am pleased to report that Alamo students continue to perform above district and state averages in language arts and mathematics. The Academic Performance Index (API) increased by 16 points to 913 on a scale of 200 to 1000. The percentage of students in grades 2-5 who scored proficient or advanced on the California Standard Test (CST) in language arts is 77.3. The percentage of students in grades 2-5 who scored proficient or advanced on the CST in mathematics is 84.6.

### English Language Advisory Council (ELAC)

Alamo is going to create and convene an ELAC committee to discuss the academic needs and progress of second language learners. Parents who wish to serve on the ELAC must be formally elected. If you would like to serve on the ELAC, please submit your name to Espy, the school secretary, by Monday, October 6. Information on the election process will be sent home in mid Oct.

### Construction update

The \$5-7 million dollar renovation to the campus will begin in December and continue for just over a year. The school will receive many improvements including new paint, linoleum flooring, new ceilings, new lights, upgrades to the bathrooms, ramps for accessibility, a public address and bell system, and a reconfiguration of classrooms so they are equal in size. Most of the work will be done after school but some may occur during the school day. There will be a full-time construction manager and great attention has been given to safety issues, especially in regards to the removal of paint and asbestos.

### Pledge of Allegiance/morning gathering

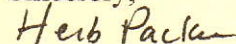
This year, the full student body will gather on Monday mornings for general announcements, words of encouragement, occasional musical performances and the Pledge of Allegiance. On Tuesday through Friday, the Pledge of Allegiance will be required in every classroom. Both teachers and students always have the right to opt out of participating. In the event that a teacher does not participate, he/she will insure that the Pledge of Allegiance occurs.

### Safety

The safety of the children is the number one priority at Alamo. Fire drills are practiced each month. An earthquake drill was practiced in September. A lockdown drill will occur in Oct.

As always, please contact me with any issues or concerns.

Sincerely,



Herb Packer, Ed. D.

Principal