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## **API Results Show San Marcos Schools Continue to Excel**

San Marcos, CA — San Marcos Unified School District's (SMUSD) students' state test scores continued to soar in 2009-10, sending the District's overall California State Academic Performance Index (API) up 70 points over the last three years to 853, according to results released today by the California State Department of Education. The API is a numeric index that ranges from a low of 200 to a high of 1000 with a statewide target of 800.

Superintendent Kevin Holt enthusiastically endorsed the hard work of teachers, administrators and staff, as well as students and families. "Our district's mission is to provide an unparalleled educational experience for our students. The 2010 API report speaks to the professionalism and commitment of our teachers, administrators, support and district staff as well as the hard work of our students and their families," he said. "Based on these results, we will be moving forward with a renewed focus on programs and projects that will yield continued gains for all students."

Six of the district's eleven elementary schools have reached an API above 900 with scores ranging from 902 to 942, while both high schools saw double digit increases. San Marcos High School now has an API of 829 and Mission Hills High School reached 839. Twin Oaks Elementary School saw the largest gains in one year, improving 67 points to 867 since 2009.

"We will continue to focus upon our core mission of providing a quality education and its promise of future opportunity," Holt said. "Through collaboration, we will work together to further increase our district's API scores and ensure that all of our students, no matter what their circumstances, thrive."

### **About the San Marcos Unified School District**

The San Marcos Unified School District is an innovative and collaborative community home to nearly 20,000 students at its 19 elementary, middle, high and adult education schools. With a 49-square-mile service area, the district serves the cities of San Marcos, Carlsbad, Vista, and Escondido as well as unincorporated areas of North San Diego County. Students at SMUSD benefit from the district's commitment to providing an unparalleled educational experience. Through an engaging and supportive environment, students are challenged, inspired, and poised to excel.

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