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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **OUSD Presents the 2010 Accountability Progress Report (APR)**

ORANGE, Calif., September 24, 2010—The Educational Services Division presented its annual report of Orange Unified School District Student Achievement Results from the California Department of Education at the Board of Education Meeting last evening. Led by Dr. Gunn Marie Hansen, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, the presentation was an overview of the District's student achievement data from the State of California's spring 2010 assessments.

The primary goal of California's Accountability Progress Reporting (APR) system is to measure and report the academic success of California's public schools. The system includes three major components: the Academic Performance Index (API) Report – a state accountability measure; and two federal accountability measures – the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) report; and the Program Improvement (PI) report. Both API and AYP are based on statewide assessment results from the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program. The AYP includes STAR performance results in addition to California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) results and graduation rates. The PI report supplements the AYP report by providing information on the PI status of schools and school districts.

Currently, there are 168 Title I schools in Orange County that are in Program Improvement status. OUSD boasts one of only four Program Improvement Schools in the county that exited PI this year-Fairhaven Elementary School. Only 2% of PI schools statewide exited Program Improvement. Fairhaven accomplished this by meeting AYP targets two consecutive years. Two additional schools, Cambridge Elementary and West Orange Elementary met all components of AYP criteria for the 2009-2010 school year and will be eligible to exit PI if they make AYP for 2010-2011.

OUSD is currently in Year 2 as a Program Improvement District due to a number of significant subgroups falling short of Federal proficiency targets. Those subgroups include Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino, Socioeconomically Disadvantaged, English - Learners, and Students with Disabilities.

Taking a look at OUSD five-year statistical trend data shows an increase in proficiency in both English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics. For example, from 2006-2010 ELA district wide proficiency improved from 54% to 60.6%. During that same period, mathematics increased from 55.4% to 60.3% proficient. However, the recent four-year trend shows a limited increase in student achievement. ELA average proficiency gain over that period was 1.65% and 1.23% for mathematics. Meanwhile, some individual OUSD schools did show 1-year accelerated gains in proficiency rates. For instance, Fairhaven Elementary increased math proficiency by 11.7%, Cambridge Elementary saw an 8.4% increase in ELA, and Orange High School's ELA proficiency climbed 4.6%

Dr. Hansen stated, "While there is reason to celebrate there is work that needs to be done. The Educational Services Division is currently evaluating strategies to exit schools from PI. One such strategy is Safe Harbor. We are identifying and targeting students and subgroups to meet that goal." Safe Harbor is defined as a subgroup making AYP by reducing the non-proficient students by 10% from 2010 to 2011.

*The Orange Unified School District is located at 1401 North Handy Street in Orange, CA*

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