

Focus for Improvement

- Fully implement the Open Court reading program.
- Provide monthly professional learning activities focusing on analyzing data and planning lessons according to student needs.
- Identify and assess key areas of instruction for each grade level.
- Support struggling readers through intervention programs and small group instruction.
- Support all levels of learners.
- Increase parent involvement in their child’s academic progress and school activities.

Academic Performance Index

The Academic Performance Index (API) is California’s way of comparing schools based on student test scores. The index was created in 1999 to help parents and educators recognize schools that show progress and identify schools that need help. A school’s API determines whether it receives recognition or sanctions. It is also used to compare schools in a statewide ranking system. The state Dept. of Education (CDE) calculates our school’s API score using student test results from the California Standards Test, the CAT/6, and, for high schools, the California High School Exit Exam. API scores range from 200 to 1000. The CDE expects all schools to eventually obtain APIs of at least 800.

Prairie’s API was 696 (out of 1000). This is an increase of 39 points compared to last year’s API. About 99 percent of students took the test, which did meet the state’s required participation rate of 95 percent.

API RANKINGS: Based on our API score, our school is ranked on a scale from 1 to 10 (10 being the highest). We receive one ranking that compares us to all elementary schools in the state. Compared to all elementary schools in California, our school currently ranks 4 out of 10.

We also receive a second ranking that compares us to schools with similar students, teachers, and class sizes. Compared to similar schools, our school currently ranks 9 out of 10.

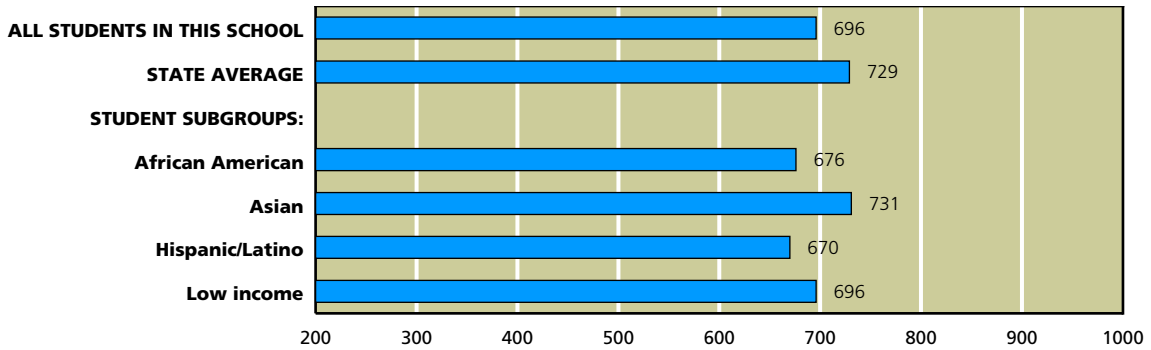
API GROWTH TARGETS: Each year, the state sets specific API “growth targets” for every school. They assign one growth target for the entire school, and they set additional targets for ethnic or socioeconomic subgroups of students that make up a significant portion of the student body. Schools are required to meet all of their growth targets. If they do, they may be eligible for awards, such as the Governor’s Performance Award; if they do not, they may receive sanctions. We met our assigned growth targets during the 2002–2003 school year and qualified for the Governor’s Performance Award. Just for reference, 82 percent of elementary schools statewide met their growth targets.

CALIFORNIA API ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE INDEX	
Met schoolwide growth target	Yes
Met growth target for prior school year	Yes
API score	696
Growth attained from prior year	+39
Met subgroup* growth targets	Yes
Governor’s Performance Award	Yes
Underperforming school	No

SOURCE: API based on spring 2003 test cycle. Growth scores alone are displayed, and are current as of February 2004.

*Ethnic or socioeconomic groups of students that make up 15% or more of a school’s student body. These groups must meet AYP and API goals. R/P - Results pending due to challenge by school. N/A - Results not available.

Academic Performance Index, Spring 2003



SOURCE: Academic Performance Index based on spring 2003 test cycle. State average represents elementary schools only. NOTE: Only groups of students that represent at least 15 percent of total enrollment are calculated and displayed as student subgroups.