

Superintendent's Message – September 26, 2007

It's hard to believe that school has been back in session for five weeks. Our students have settled in and are delving into their studies. Students are participating in a variety of exciting projects like corresponding with pen-pals in other countries, working on literacy projects, beginning practice for school sports teams, and deciding which clubs to join.

The state's STAR (Standardized Testing and Reporting) test scores have been released. We're satisfied with the results but will continue to strengthen our curriculum and the delivery of instruction. I am especially pleased to say that Anderson Elementary School's strong focus on student achievement and literacy has resulted in a 37 point increase in their API (Academic Performance Index) score. We know that one year is just a beginning and that it is the multi-year pattern that is most significant. Yet, we are very proud of the dedicated students, staff, and families at Anderson who have taken an exceptional first step to set their pattern of progress.

The STAR results are important. They give us the data on how our students performed and where we need to focus our energies. Overall, we are succeeding in moving more students toward being proficient in mathematics and English/Language Arts. We have identified areas where improvement is needed and are working toward increased success for our students.

Community members who are evaluating Moreland schools have many resources to review our schools. The STAR test results are just one venue. People should also talk with our principals, staff, and families in attendance at the schools to understand the dedication, attitudes, activities, and programs in place in Moreland. Moreland's goal is to focus on the whole child, including; providing a safe learning environment, promoting strong social and emotional development, respecting diverse cultures, and teaching to the California content standards so that students are prepared for success.

Please find ways to be involved in your child's education every day.

Glen Ishiwata