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32 LAUSD SCHOOLS RECEIVE 2008-2009 STATE TITLE I ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Los Angeles—Thirty-two schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) have earned 2008-2009 Title I Academic Achievement Awards for consistently exceeding their Academic Performance Index (API) and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) by the California Department of Education.

“I applaud the academic achievements these schools have consistently demonstrated,” said Superintendent David L. Brewer III. “These 32 schools are models for academic excellence and prove that students who attend urban public schools can, and do, excel regardless of their socio-economic level. Kudos also to our teachers, school administrators, staff and parents who work hard every day so our kids are learning and achieving to ensure they have a successful future.”

Those LAUSD schools honored are: **Crescendo Charter, Crescent Heights E.S., Cahuenga E.S., Harvard E.S., Latona Ave. E.S., Solano Ave. E.S., Synergy Charter Academy, Burbank Blvd. E.S., Danube Ave. E.S., Hamlin St. E.S., Kester Ave. E.S., Newcastle E.S., Stagg St. E.S., Superior St. E.S., Vintage Math/Science/Technology Magnet, Beethoven St. E.S., Nestle Ave. E.S., Clifford St. E.S., Delevan Drive E.S., Dorris Place E.S., Franklin Ave. E.S., Maywood E.S., Fair Ave. E.S., Mountain View E.S., Stonehurst Ave. E.S., Harbor Teacher Preparation Academy, 186th St. E.S., 156th St. E.S., Park Western Place E.S., South Shores/CSUDH Visual and Performing Arts, Van Deene Ave. E.S., and the Watts Learning Center.**

“I commend these schools for their extraordinary achievement,” said Senior Deputy Superintendent Ramon Cortines. “We are pleased that so many of our Title I schools are being recognized. These awards are proof that at these schools, students are engaged in learning, teachers are providing outstanding education, and principals are leading in the right direction. It is my hope that we will increase the number of schools receiving awards next year.”

Of the 32 Title I schools honored, 19 elementary schools are multiple year recipients. Another five schools have been recognized as Title I AAA schools for six consecutive years. They are:

- Hamlin Elementary School (2008 API is **887**)
- Kester Ave. Elementary School (2008 API is **883**)

(more)

- Nestle Ave. Elementary School (2008 API is **862**)
- Park Western Place Elementary School (2008 API is **925**)
- Vintage Street Fundamental Elementary School (2008 API is **870**)

The Title I Academic Achievement Award is given to Title I schools that have exceeded their Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for two or more years or are significantly closing the achievement gap among major subgroups. Title I schools' eligibility for the award is determined using rigorous criterion that includes:

- Receiving Title I funds
- At least 40 percent of students are classified as socio-economically disadvantaged
- Schoolwide API of 800 or higher or an API growth at least double the school's target, and
- Making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) even as targets increased each year.

API measures the academic performance and progress of public schools in California with the state setting 800 as the API score that schools should strive to meet.

State Superintendent of Instruction Jack O'Connell will recognize these LAUSD schools at the Annual Title I Conference on April 28, 2009 at the Anaheim Marriott in Orange County.

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