

High school students perform above county average on state assessment

By JASMINE LEYVA

Nearly three-quarters of students in the Campbell Union High School District met or exceeded state standards in English language arts on the California Assessment of Student Performance, the district announced in late August.

Roughly 72 percent of the district's high school students met or exceeded the state standards. District students were also 4 percent above the Santa Clara County average in English and literacy scores, at 68 percent.

"We're proud of the work that our teachers and staff have done to put us in the county average in English language arts and literacy," said Campbell Union High School District's Superintendent Robert Bravo in a

district statement.

Branham and Prospect high schools saw the largest improvement in English and literacy scores, the district said.

In math, the high school district's students improved by four percentage points from 2014-15 school year. Last year, approximately 45 percent of students met or exceeded standards. This year district students matched county student scores with 49 percent meeting or exceeding math state standards for the 2015-16 school year.

Westmont and Prospect high schools showed the most improvement in math, according to the high school district. Westmont saw an 8 percent improvement from its 2014-15 math scores, while Prospect saw a 6 percent improvement.

"We still have some work to do in math and we also want to make sure to strengthen our support for English language learners, but overall it looks like we're moving forward," said Mary Streshly, the district's assistant superintendent of educational services, in a district statement.

The district's two largest demographics, Caucasians and Latinos, saw their scores improve in both portions of the assessment.

The computer-based California Assessment of Student Performance replaced the multiple answer Standardized Testing and Reporting System beginning in the 2013-14 school year. According to the California Department of Education, students in grades 3-8 and grade 11 take the assessment.

For more information visit caaspp.cde.ca.gov.

p.m. Budd Avenue. A man said a woman tried to intentionally run him over with a vehicle after the two were in an argument.

Vandalism—Aug. 29, Jim Elder Drive. Wires to city street lights were cut by an unknown person.

Assault—Aug. 28, 9:49 p.m. Campbell Avenue. A man wearing a white shirt, black slacks and suspenders hit another person in the head with a wooden board causing a laceration. He fled before police arrived to the scene.

Drugs—Aug. 28, 1:45 p.m. Bascom Avenue and Campbell Avenue. A police officer contacted a man panhandling in a median. The man was found in possession of meth and was under the influence of meth. He was taken into custody and booked in to jail.

Public intoxication—Aug. 27, 6:41 p.m. Campbell Avenue and First Street.

A man was booked into jail after causing a disturbance at a downtown business while intoxicated. Campbell police officers determined he was too intoxicated to care for himself.

Brandishing a weapon and threats—Aug. 27, 4:21 p.m. Winchester Boulevard. A woman was threatened by a former friend as she was walking through a parking lot. The man brandished a knife at her and threatened to hurt her and her boyfriend. The man was located in Los Gatos and taken into custody. He was booked into jail.

Public intoxication—Aug. 27, 5 a.m. First Street. An intoxicated woman was brought to the police department by a friend to prevent her from driving. She was booked into jail after she was determined to be too intoxicated to care for herself.

Middle school could add grades

By JASMINE LEYVA.

The Campbell Union School District is still considering changing one of its middle schools from grades 5-8 to K-8.

Earlier this year Superintendent Eric Andrew proposed merging Campbell Middle School with Village School, an elementary school with students in grades K-5.

The district is in the "planning phases" of how and when it could implement the grade expansion and how many grades to add initially. The district could add one grade or multiple grades in the first year of expansion, according to Andrew.

"We're looking to do some innovative things in our district," Andrew said.

During initial discussions in the spring, Andrew and the district's governing board discussed adding grades to the middle school to "turn the school around" and make it a school parents want to send their students. Andrew said data from a community survey showed the middle school was not the

most desirable to parents.

Andrew said having a K-8 school could create a greater sense of community for students where older students become mentors to younger students. He noted a growing desire of parents who seek to enroll children into K-8 schools for continuity and safety.

The Village School is located on the outer edge of the Capri Elementary campus. The campus is known for its high parent participation rates and has a smaller student population. Merging with Campbell Middle is also seen as an effort to expand Village programs to the school.

In the spring, Village School teachers, staff and parents formally declined to merge with Campbell Middle for the 2017-18 academic year. School officials said there was not enough time to prepare for a merger, according to Andrew.

"They felt that they needed more time," Andrew said.

Village parents, teachers and staff also expressed a desire to stay at a K-5 school.

Andrew and the district's governing board will have final say on whether to go forward with the middle school expansion. For now, the district will gather advice from a committee of volunteers and representatives from the district. Andrew said it was not yet clear who is going to serve on the committee, but the district wants feedback from as many people as possible, such as teachers, school staff and families in the school community before any final decisions are made.

Andrew said additional school buildings will be needed to accommodate more students. That will be discussed as the district's plans progress. The district estimates new playgrounds, equipment, fencing, bathrooms and furniture could cost \$2-\$3 million.

If the expansion does go forward, Andrew said he hopes it can take effect next year or the following year.

"We're getting a lot of positive feedback," Andrew said.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Compiled from Campbell Police reports

Vandalism and drugs—Aug. 30, 9:15 p.m. Valley Forge Way. Lights and vehicles in an apartment were spray painted by a male suspect. The man was identified and believed to have been under the influence of a controlled substance. He was booked into the Santa Clara County Main Jail.

Theft—Aug. 30, 12:34 p.m. San Tomas Aquino Road. Someone took a purse and fled the area.

Robbery—Aug. 30, 8:29 a.m. Bascom Avenue. A man pulled off the headset of another person and hit the victim with it after getting upset about a meal. The man fled the scene with the headset.

Assault—Aug. 29, 11:58

Candidates

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Morales resigned.

The high school district will see incumbents Kalen Gallagher and Linda Goytia return to its board. Gallagher was first elected in November 2012 and is serving his first four-year term. He will represent Del Mar High for the current school year.

Goytia was also elected to the board in 2012. She is a retired teacher who taught in the district from 1971 to 2009. She is representing Boynton and Branham high schools this academic year.

High school district board members are elected to not only represent the district at large but to also

represent one or two high schools within the district. Board members report to each other about specific school site needs and concerns. The district has five high schools and two alternative programs.

Meanwhile, the Moreland School District's board will see the return of Robert Varich and Julie Reynolds-Grabbe. Varich has served on the board since May 2004 while Reynolds-Grabbe is finishing up her first four-year term. She was elected in November 2012.

Moreland has nine elementary and middle schools.

Candidates had to file election papers with the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters by Aug. 12 to qualify for the ballot.

Bond measures

Campbell voters will still have some school matters to vote on in November. The Campbell Union High School District is looking to get a \$275 million bond measure approved by voters. Measure AA requires a 55 percent majority of voter approval to pass.

The district says the bonds will go to "prepare students for modern careers through classroom modernization with technology and repairing campus facilities."

Meanwhile, Campbell Union School District's board has placed Measure CC on the ballot. If approved, the \$72 million bond measure will provide money to renovate and upgrade school buildings. It too requires a 55 percent majority to pass.