

Steffan Manor Elementary School 2002-2003 Grand Jury Report

Reason for Investigation

Each year the Grand Jury visits a random selection of schools in the County.

Procedure

The Grand Jury:

- Toured school facilities
- Talked with administrators, teachers, support staff, students and parents
- Observed students in classes, moving from class- to- class and on the playground
- Observed library, computer lab, gymnasium and classrooms
- Reviewed health, safety and emergency evacuation procedures

Background

1. As a result of an arson fire in April 2001, Steffan Manor Elementary School was relocated to temporary trailers on the parking lot of Pennycook Elementary School in Vallejo. They are projected to return to their original rebuilt location in September 2003.

2. Despite the chaos created by the fire, the Vallejo Unified School District Administration, the administrative staff, support staff and the teachers, with the help of people in the community, managed to boost morale and continue a viable education program. Today Steffan Manor Elementary School is a clean, orderly, happy, achieving school. This school, a designated Target School due to its low Academic Performance Index (API), has increased its API despite the fire and ensuing adverse conditions. Innovative programs in math, reading and computer learning have been established. The Parents Club has been an active and productive participant throughout. The administrative staff, teachers, support personnel, students and parents are to be highly commended.

IV. Finding and Recommendation

Each finding is referenced to the background paragraph number

Finding #1 - Steffan Manor Elementary School has developed a well-rounded program, under adverse conditions, to meet the needs of the student population. (1, 2)

Recommendation #1 - Continue these admirable programs.

Affected Agencies

- Solano County Office of Education
- Vallejo Unified School District
- Steffan Manor Elementary School