



## **Many schools in state fall short of API target**

### **Del Rey Elementary School improved the most in Victor Valley**

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While 53 percent of all California schools met their API growth targets this year, nearly two-thirds of all state schools fell short of the state target for the Academic Performance Index in 2008, according to data released Thursday by the California Department of Education.

In the Victor Valley, a mere 20 out of 115 schools met the state target.

The API is a single number, ranging from 200 to 1,000, that reflects a school's performance level and measures performance growth based on statewide testing.

Del Rey Elementary School improved the most in the Victor Valley, with its API score jumping 100 points from 2007, from 690 to 790.

With the highest decrease in non-charter school scores in the Victor Valley, Oro Grande Elementary dropped by 36 points, from 738 to 702. Sitting Bull Elementary fell 34 points, from 866 to 832.

Despite the majority of schools scoring below the state accountability target of 800, eight out of the nine area districts saw improvements from 2007 — Victor Valley Union High School District's score stayed the same — and eight schools raised their APIs by at least 50 points.

Heritage, a kindergarten through eighth grade parent choice school, was the highest scoring elementary school at 902, University Preparatory was the highest scoring middle school at 840 and Serrano High School was the highest scoring non-charter high school with a 760 API.

Twenty schools in the Victor Valley dropped to lower API scores in 2008 than 2007.

For the second year in a row, Victor Valley's lowest scoring elementary school was Puesta Del Sol Elementary at 681, though the school did improve by 27 points from 2007. The area's lowest scoring middle school was Columbia Middle School at 613, and the lowest-scoring high school in Victor Valley was Silverado High School with a 658 API.

The Victor Elementary School District out-scored all other area districts, with a 781 API average. The lowest performing district was Oro Grande Elementary School District, with a 643 API average.

**The Academy for Academic Excellence scored the highest out of all high schools in San Bernardino County with an 832 API.**



**James Quigg / Staff Photographer**

Andrew Cook works on a GAVRT mission at the Academy of Academic Excellence. The school again led high schools in API scores this year, raising its score 20 points.

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