

Madera County Superintendent of Schools

2023 Williams Annual Report

Presented to

Chawanakee Unified School District Board of Trustees

Chowchilla Elementary School District Board of Trustees

Golden Valley Unified School District Board of Trustees

Madera Unified School District Board of Trustees

Raymond-Knowles Union Elementary School District Board of Trustees

Yosemite Unified School District Board of Trustees

Madera County Board of Education

and

Madera County Board of Supervisors

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Madera County Superintendent of Schools

2023 Williams Site Visitation Annual Report
Required by
Terms of the Williams Settlement
November 2023

Background

In May 2000 the American Civil Liberties Union and other public interest advocates representing students across the state filed a lawsuit against the State of California, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the State Board of Education, and the California Department of Education. The lawsuit claimed that the State failed to provide poor and underprivileged students with equal educational opportunities. Allegations included that the following conditions existed in schools with poor and underprivileged students:

1. Lack of sufficient educational tools, e.g., textbooks, instructional materials.
2. Inadequate facilities, e.g., lack of heating/air conditioning, unclean restrooms, etc.
3. Lack of credentialed teachers.

The Williams Settlement covered a broad scope of issues regarding instructional materials, facilities maintenance, teacher credentialing and assignment monitoring, enhanced public reporting in the School Accountability Report Cards (SARC), and Year-Round Schools operating on the Concept 6 calendar [not a year-round calendar operating in Madera County at the time or since].

In August 2004 Governor Schwarzenegger settled this lawsuit. The initial result of the settlement was the enactment of five pieces of legislation to ensure monitoring of conditions at school sites with student scores in the lower third deciles or Deciles 1, 2, and 3 Schools on the 2003 Academic Performance Index (API). An additional outcome was a new oversight role for county superintendents for schools in deciles 1-3 on the 2003 base API. Subsequent legislation changed the API base year from 2003 to more current API deciles 1-3 schools for the purpose of school sites subject to site visitations. From 2012 through 2021 the schools monitored were based on the 2012 Base Academic Performance Index.

In October 2021 Governor Newsom approved Assembly Bill 599 that changed how schools were identified for Williams monitoring. The new criteria commencing with the 2021–2022 fiscal year, identified a list of schools pursuant to a specified procedure based on the schools identified for comprehensive support and improvement and additional targeted support and improvement or as low-performing pursuant to specified federal laws, and to additionally

include on the list schools where 15% or more of the teachers are holders of a permit, certificate, or any other authorization that is a lesser certification than a preliminary or clear California teaching credential. (Ed. Code Section 1240)

Site visitations require verification of sufficiency of textbooks and instructional materials; the adequacy, health and safety of school facilities; appropriate posting of the uniform complaint procedures [UCP], review of School Accountability Report Cards [SARC]; and review of teacher credentialing.

The findings of the required visitations are to be reported to the governing boards of those schools, the Madera County Board of Education, and to the Madera County Board of Supervisors. This report contains the findings of visits to the school sites in the six Madera County school districts subject to site reviews. Mountain Oaks High and North Fork Elementary in the Chawanakee Unified School District; Stephens Elementary in the Chowchilla Elementary School District; Freedom Home and Sierra View Elementary in the Golden Valley Unified School District; Alpha Elementary, Duane E. Furman Independent Study, Thomas Jefferson Middle, Martin Luther King Jr. Middle, and Parkwood Elementary in the Madera Unified School District; Raymond-Knowles Elementary in the Raymond-Knowles Union Elementary School District; and Coarsegold Elementary in the Yosemite Unified School District.

The visits as specified in California Education Code Section 1240 are:

1. To ensure that students have access to sufficient instructional materials in four core subject areas of English language arts, including the English language development component, mathematics, history/social science and science in all schools visited, plus world language and health at the secondary level and the availability of laboratory science equipment as applicable to science laboratory courses offered in grades 9 to 12, inclusive; and
2. To assess compliance with facilities maintenance to determine the condition of a facility that poses an emergency or urgent threat to the health or safety of pupils or staff; and
3. To determine if the school has provided accurate data for the annual school accountability report card related to instructional materials and facilities maintenance; and
4. To determine teacher vacancies, assignments, and credentials.

The standards set forth in the law define “sufficient” instructional materials to mean every pupil, including English learners, has a textbook and/or instructional materials in the four/six core areas to use in class and have access at home each night. Facilities standards for each

school district receiving state funding for facilities maintenance are required to establish a facilities inspection program and to ensure that each of its schools is maintained in good repair. “Good repair” is defined as maintaining schools that are clean, safe, and functional.

The School Site Review Team is required to visit a minimum of 25% of core curriculum classrooms at the elementary level, and 20% of sections of core subjects at the secondary level with a prescribed array of programs, e.g. review of courses for English Language Learners. Additionally, ancillary facilities such as restrooms, multipurpose rooms, computer labs, libraries, resource classrooms, and special day classrooms are subject to site review.

Findings

Findings in the required areas were as follows:

I. Access and Sufficiency of Instructional Materials in the Core Areas

Of the twelve school sites visited, the following findings apply to access and sufficiency of instructional materials. Site reports contain additional information regarding findings that may have been remedied during the site visit.

Chawanakee Unified School District

Board of Trustees Sufficiency Hearing and Action: At the September 12, 2023 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, a public hearing on “2023/2024 Sufficiency of Materials” was held. Following the public hearing, the Board passed Resolution No. 5-2023/2024 - Sufficiency of Instructional Materials for the 2023-2024 School Year, in which a sufficiency of textbooks and instructional materials was declared.

Site Visitation Findings: Textbooks and Instructional Materials

Mountain Oaks High and North Fork Elementary Schools: It was found that there was a sufficiency of instructional materials for students in all classrooms visited.

Chowchilla Elementary School District

Board of Trustees Sufficiency Hearing and Action: At the October 9, 2023 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, a public hearing on “#2023-24.5 Sufficiency of Approved Textbooks and Instructional Materials” was held. Following the public hearing, the Board passed Resolution

#2023-24.5 - Sufficiency of Instructional Materials for the 2023-2024 School Year, in which a Sufficiency of Approved Textbooks and Instructional Materials for the 2023-2024 School Year was approved.

Site Visitation Findings: Textbooks and Instructional Materials

Stephens Elementary School: It was found that there was a sufficiency of instructional materials for students in all classrooms visited.

Golden Valley Unified School District

Board of Trustees Sufficiency Hearing and Action: At the September 26, 2023 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, a public hearing on “#2023-24-07 Sufficiency or Insufficiency of Instructional Materials” was held. Following the public hearing, the Board passed Resolution #2023-24-07 – “Sufficiency or Insufficiency of Instructional Materials” for the 2023-2024 School Year was approved.

Site Visitation Findings: Textbooks and Instructional Materials

Freedom Home and Sierra View Elementary Schools: It was found that there was a sufficiency of instructional materials for students in all classrooms visited.

Madera Unified School District

Board of Trustees Sufficiency Hearing and Action: At the September 26, 2023 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, a public hearing on “No. 10-2023/24 Textbook and Instructional Materials Compliance Certification of Provision of Sufficient Standards-Aligned Instructional Materials For Grades K-12” was held. Following the public hearing, the Board passed Resolution No. 10-2023/24 Textbook and Instructional Materials Compliance Certification of Provision of Sufficient Standards-Aligned Instructional Materials for Grades K-12 for the 2023-2024 School Year was approved.

Site Visitation Findings: Textbooks and Instructional Materials

Alpha Elementary, Duane E. Furman Independent Study, Thomas Jefferson Middle, Martin Luther King Jr. Middle, and Parkwood Elementary: It was found that there was a sufficiency of instructional materials for students in all classrooms visited.

Raymond-Knowles Union Elementary School District

Board of Trustees Sufficiency Hearing and Action: At the September 14, 2023 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, a public hearing on “Instructional Materials, Textbooks, Statement of Assurance 2023-2024” was held. Following the public hearing, the Board passed Resolution #433.2023-24 Sufficiency of Instructional Materials for the 2023-2024 School Year was approved.

Site Visitation Findings: Textbooks and Instructional Materials

Raymond-Knowles Elementary: It was found that there was a sufficiency of instructional materials for students in all classrooms visited.

Yosemite Unified School District

Board of Trustees Sufficiency Hearing and Action: At the September 11, 2023 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, a public hearing on “Sufficiency of Instructional Materials” was held. Following the public hearing, the Board passed Resolution #2023/2024-03 Sufficiency of Instructional Materials for the 2023-2024 School Year was approved.

Site Visitation Findings: Textbooks and Instructional Materials

Coarsegold Elementary: It was found that there was a sufficiency of instructional materials for students in all classrooms visited.

II. Required Classroom Postings for Uniform Complaint Procedures

The required and up-to-date Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures notification was properly posted throughout the twelve school sites reviewed in each of the six school districts.

III. Verification of Data on School Accountability Report Card (SARC)

Remote review of SARCs for the twelve schools was conducted by the Madera County Superintendent of Schools’ Williams Monitoring Coordinator. Review of SARCs revealed SARCs were up to date in all twelve schools reviewed in each of the six districts as per current State Board of Education template requirements.

IV. Facilities Review Based on the Facilities Inspection Tool (FIT) Developed by OPSC

A thorough review of the twelve school sites was conducted using the State of California mandated Facilities Inspection Tool (FIT) developed by the Office of Public School Construction (OPSC). In the typical facilities school site review, district office level maintenance and operations representative(s) and the school site maintenance and operations staff accompanied review team member(s). This process serves to enhance the understanding of the need for corrective actions. Maintenance and operations staff members were accommodating in the process. District and site personnel responded with written statements as to any immediate corrective actions taken.

Chawanakee Unified School District

Certification was received verifying that corrective action was taken on the findings at Mountain Oaks High and North Fork Elementary.

Chowchilla Elementary School District

There were no findings.

Golden Valley Unified School District

Certification was received verifying that corrective action was taken on the findings at Freedom Home and Sierra View Elementary. The following represents the remaining finding scheduled for correction action at Sierra View Elementary School:

There is a current plan to repair the protruding concrete section in the central courtyard that is caused by the root structure of the tree nearby. Currently the edges are painted yellow as a precaution. The repair is complicated as it involves the underground drainage structures, but it is expected to be completed by next school year.

Madera Unified School District

Certification was received verifying that corrective action was taken on the findings at Alpha Elementary, Duane E. Furman Independent Study, Thomas Jefferson Middle, Martin Luther King Jr. Middle, and Parkwood Elementary. The following represents the remaining findings scheduled for corrective action at Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School:

In Room 503 the wallpaper is peeling off the wall. Solution: A tack board will be attached to the wall during Thanksgiving break.

In the gym three light fixtures are not functioning. Solution: As this has been an on-going problem, all 24 light fixtures will be replaced with a new system over Thanksgiving break.

Raymond-Knowles Union Elementary School District

Certification was received verifying that corrective action has been/will be taken on findings. The following represents the remaining findings scheduled for corrective action at Raymond-Knowles Elementary School:

Room 1	Grades 4 and 5:	1. Long rips in the carpet. Solution: Approved for work in summer 2024. 2. Extremely low pressure in classroom faucet. Solution: Plummer has been called for a quote. 3. Bookcase needs to be repainted. Solution: Will be painted in summer 2024.
Room 2	Grades 6, 7, and 8:	1. There are broken ceiling tiles. Solution: On order. Will be replaced. 2. Long rips in the carpet. Solution: Approved for work in summer 2024. 3. Sink cabinet – paint, missing wood, broken knob. Solution: Supplies on order for repairs.
Room 3	Grades TK, K, and 1	1. Replace stained ceiling tiles in student restrooms. Solution: A quote has been scheduled. 2. Broken ceiling tiles in classroom. Solution: On order. Will be replaced.
Room 4	Grades 2 and 3	1. Gap in wall covering needs trim to cover it. Solution: Supplies on order. 2. Wall trim is coming away from wall. Solution: Supplies on order. 3. Ceiling tile with hole needs to be replaced. Solution: On order.

Fencing is dilapidated and needs to be replaced. Solution: Quote has been requested. Repair will be scheduled.

Ground bark needs to be added around the playground structure. Solution: On order.

The gazebo needs to be painted. Solution: Booster Club will replace the gazebo with a new seating area.

Yosemite Unified School District

Certification was received verifying that corrective action has been/will be taken on findings. The following represents the remaining findings scheduled for corrective action at Coarsegold Elementary School:

Rooms 203 and 205 – Window blinds are bent. Solution: Replacement blinds are on order.

V. Teacher Vacancy, Assignment, and Credentialing

Chawanakee Unified

Mountain Oaks High – The review of teachers assigned to Mountain Oaks High revealed no teacher misassignment and no vacancies. Mountain Oaks High has three classroom teachers with no classes at 20% or more English Learners.

North Fork Elementary – The review of teachers assigned to North Fork Elementary revealed no teacher misassignment and no vacancies. North Fork has nine classroom teachers with no classes at 20% or more English Learners.

Chowchilla Elementary School District

Stephens Elementary – The review of teachers assigned to Stephens Elementary School revealed no teacher misassignments and no vacancies. Stephens Elementary School has 9 self-contained classes with 20% or more English Learners. 100% of teachers in those classes hold the appropriate English Learner Authorization.

Golden Valley Unified School District

Freedom Home – The review of teachers assigned to Freedom Home revealed no teacher misassignment. Freedom home has 2 classroom teachers with no classes at 20% or more with English Learners.

Sierra View Elementary – The review of teachers assigned to Sierra View Elementary revealed one teacher misassignment. Sierra View Elementary has 17 self-contained classes with no classes at 20% or more English Learners.

- One teacher was found to only carry a Substitute Teaching Permit and not properly assigned.
 - The district office was notified, and the teacher is completing testing for Preliminary Credential, as well as looking into an Emergency Permit.

Official notification of the specific findings was sent to Golden Valley Unified School District on October 4, 2023. Per the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC), Golden Valley Unified School District has 30 days to correct the misassignments once they are notified by the Madera County Superintendent of Schools.

Madera Unified School District

Alpha Elementary – The review of teachers assigned to Alpha Elementary revealed no teacher misassignments and one vacancy. Alpha Elementary has 29 self-contained classes with 20% or more English Learners. 100% of teachers in those classes hold the appropriate English Learner Authorization.

Duane E. Furman Independent Study – The review of teachers assigned to Duane E. Furman Independent Study revealed no teacher misassignment. Duane E. Furman Independent Study has 65 classes with 20% or more English Learners. 100% of teachers in those classes hold the appropriate English Learner Authorization.

Thomas Jefferson Middle School – The review of teachers assigned to Thomas Jefferson Middle School revealed no teacher misassignments and three vacancies. Thomas Jefferson Middle School has 119 classes with 20% or more English Learners. 100% of teachers in those classes hold the appropriate English Learner Authorization.

Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School – The review of teachers assigned to Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School revealed no teacher misassignments and one vacancy. Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School has 145 classes with 20% or more English Learners. 95.1% of teachers in those classes hold the appropriate English Learner Authorization.

- Two teachers were found to not carry any EL authorization or Emergency CLAD credential.

- The district office will be submitting an Emergency CLAD for both teachers.

Parkwood Elementary – The review of teachers assigned to Parkwood Elementary revealed no teacher misassignments and one vacancy. Parkwood Elementary has 27 classes with 20% or more English Learners. 100% of teachers in those classes hold the appropriate English Learner Authorization.

Official notification of the specific findings was sent to Madera Unified on October 4, 2023. Per the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC), Madera Unified has 30 days to correct the misassignments once they are notified by the Madera County Superintendent of Schools.

Raymond-Knowles Union Elementary

Raymond-Knowles Elementary – The review of teachers assigned to Raymond-Knowles Elementary revealed two teacher misassignments and one vacancy. Raymond-Knowles Elementary has 5 classroom teachers with no classroom at 20% or more English Learners.

- One teacher was found to only carry a Substitute Teaching Permit and not properly assigned.
 - The district office was notified.
- One teacher was found to only carry a Multiple Subject Teaching Credential and not properly assigned.
 - The district office was notified.

Official notification of the specific findings was sent to Raymond-Knowles on October 16, 2023. Per the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC), Raymond-Knowles has 30 days to correct the misassignments once they are notified by the Madera County Superintendent of Schools.

Yosemite Unified

Coarsegold Elementary – The review of teachers assigned to Coarsegold Elementary revealed no teacher misassignments and one vacancy. Coarsegold Elementary has 18 classroom teachers with no classroom at 20% or more English Learners.