

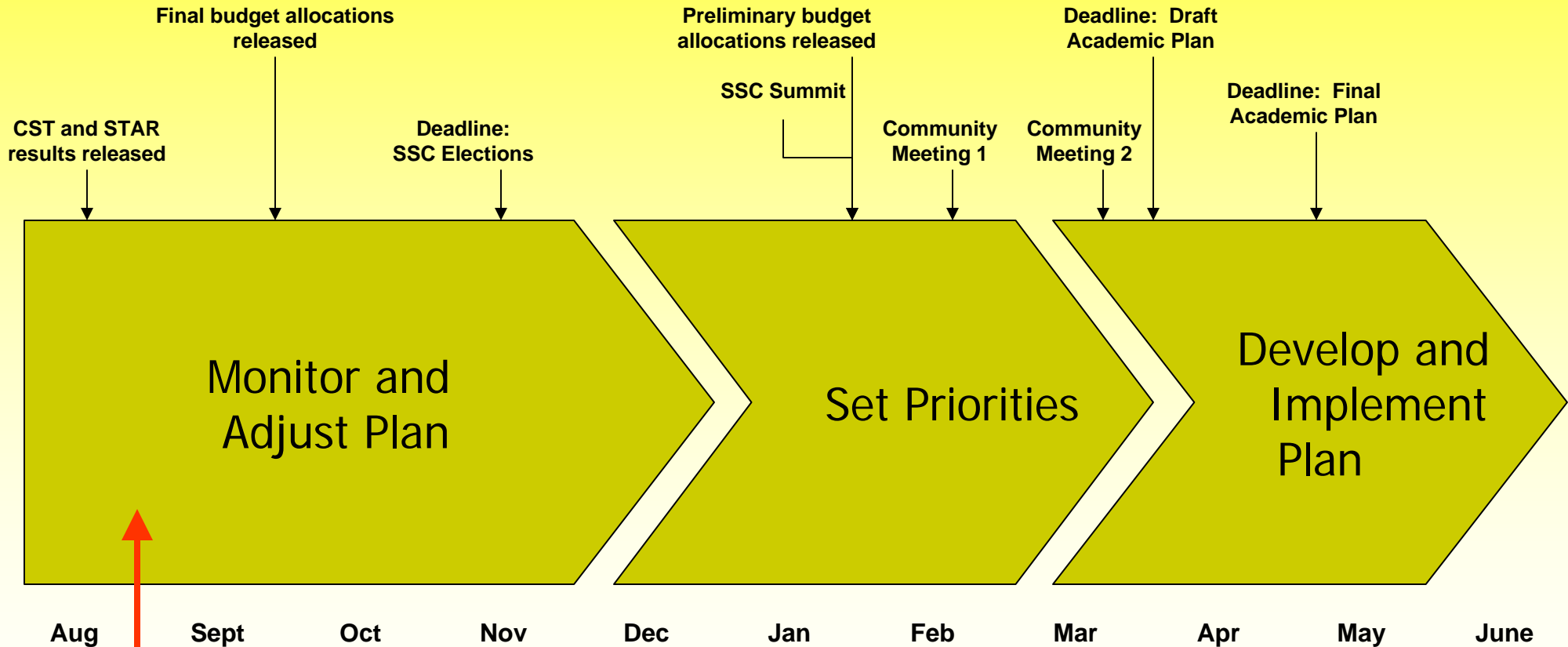
School Governance: A Course for Parents

Reviewing Academic Performance

*Helping parents become partners in
improving student achievement through their
School Site Councils.*



SSC Timeline




We are Here

Reviewing Academic Performance

- California has “academic standards:”
 - For each grade
 - For each subject
- Spell out what students are expected to learn
- Teachers required to teach information covered by the standards
- Standards do not say HOW to teach the content

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Example from 2nd Grade Math Standards:

- Students should understand whole numbers up to 1,000
- Understand the place value for each digit
- Be able to use symbols $<$, $=$, $>$ to order and compare numbers up to 1,000

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Example from 4th Grade English Language Arts:

- Be able to write narratives
- Be able to write responses to literature
- Be able to write information reports
- Be able to write a summary of a reading selection

...all at the appropriate level for the grade.

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You can find out more:

- SFUSD publishes summaries of the standards for each grade (in three languages).
- At the California Department of Education website <http://www.cde.gov>

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Student knowledge of the standards falls into five categories:

- Advanced
- Proficient
- Basic
- Below Basic
- Far Below Basic

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...and the goal is for ALL students to be “proficient” or “advanced”

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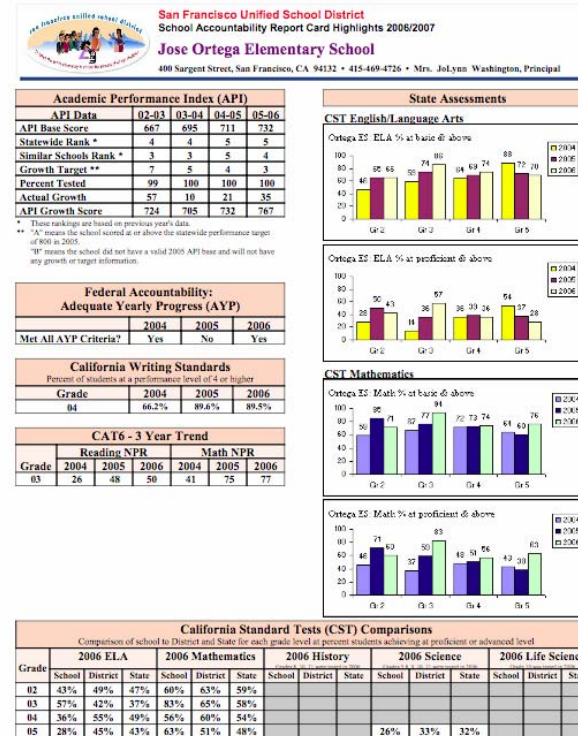
How can I find out how well the children at my school are learning the California Standards?

1. Letter from the CDE to each parent during the summer.
2. Your school's *School Accountability Report Card (SARC)*, available at <http://www.sfusd.edu>.

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SARC Highlights:

[See full-size in binder]



Reviewing Academic Performance

What questions should you ask, as an SSC parent, about how effectively your school is teaching your children the California Standards?

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SSC Parent questions:

- Do the school staff understand **WHAT** the children are not understanding?
 - Staff have a LOT of data available to understand precisely what standards students are missing.

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SSC Parent questions:

- Are the school staff thoroughly familiar with the standards for their grade/subject?
- What activities are the staff doing to learn the standards?

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SSC Parent questions:

- How do teachers pace and deliver a curriculum that actually teaches the standards?
- How does the principal oversee this process?
- What opportunities do teachers have to work together, as a team, to coordinate their curriculum?

Thank You

For more information, please contact:

Parents for Public Schools – San Francisco

**The Women's Building
3543 18th St. #1
San Francisco, CA 94110
415-861-7077**

www.ppsf.org

