

June 13, 2008

Dear Parents,

In April, your child took the *Stanford Achievement Test, Ninth Edition* here at Carden School of Fresno. We are very proud of all our students and of what they can accomplish. As a whole our students scored significantly above average in all areas and on the complete battery of tests the school-wide average was in the 80<sup>th</sup> percentile. With this letter you will be receiving an individual Student Report and a summary of how our students did school-wide.

The *Stanford Achievement Test* is a *norm-referenced* achievement test. This means most of your child's scores describe how he or she did on the test compared with other students in the same grade from across the nation who took the test at about the same time in the school year.

The top half of the report shows identifying information, the names of the tests taken, and the scores for each of the tests. The National Percentile Ranks (PR) are the scores that we find most useful because they are a comparison of how your student did in a particular area versus all the other students in the same grade who took the test. A percentile rank shows the percentage of students in the comparison group whose scores were equal to or lower than your child's score. For example, if your child scored in the 80<sup>th</sup> percentile then he or she scored as well or better than 80 percent of the students in his comparison group.

Grade Equivalents show the grade level for which a score is average or typical. For example a grade equivalent of 6.5 means that your child's score is about the same as what the typical score of children in the fifth month of the sixth grade would have been if these children had taken the same test.

Even though standardized tests provide a great deal of information regarding your child's achievement, they are not, by necessity, the only source of information that we look at. Because this is only one test, other factors may have affected their scores. Your child may have been not feeling well or have been distracted. These things might have caused the tests to be less than accurate.

I hope this letter finds you and your family enjoying a great summer. I look forward to seeing all the students and families that are returning in the fall. If you have any questions or would like to go over your child's test scores, I will be available throughout the summer to meet with you.

Sincerely,

Paul Duncan  
Director