On August 31, the California Department of Education released its 2007 Accountability Progress Report, which is comprised of the state Academic Performance Index (API), the federal Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), and the federal Program Improvement (PI).

The API is a numeric scale ranging from 200-1000 that reflects a school’s or local agency’s performance level based on the results of statewide testing. California’s ultimate goal is to have all schools scoring 800 or better on the API. Nearly all of Lamorinda’s public schools have been and remain over the 900 mark. This is good news for homeowners in the district, as consistently good scores reflect the added value of a top-notch school system to home buyers and sellers.

The Acalanes Union High School District’s API of 882 was the highest in the state. In a statement released by the District Office, Superintendent Jim Negri said, “I am very pleased by the assessment results released today. The results are a strong indicator that the exemplary efforts and commitment of our teachers, support staff, administrators and community align with our continuous improvement efforts related to student learning and achievement.”

All schools in the district measured academic growth under this index. Miramonte joins Campolindo in the select group of high schools scoring above 900.

Although API scores were somewhat lower than last year at many of Lamorinda’s elementary and intermediate schools, all remain among the best in the state with bragging rights to scores of 900 or more. Gains were made by Lafayette Elementary, Camino Pablo Elementary, Wagner Ranch Elementary and Joaquin Moraga Intermediate. In overall district scores, Orinda was down eight points from last year with an API of 950, Moraga was up five points to 943, and Lafayette dropped seven points to 913.

The results of the 2007 Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program and the 2007 California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) were used in calculating the 2007 Growth API. For more information or to view the complete API reports go to http://www.cde.ca.gov/.