



# News Release

**For Immediate Release**

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## **LAUSD Schools Clean Up Their Act With School Health and Safety Inspections**

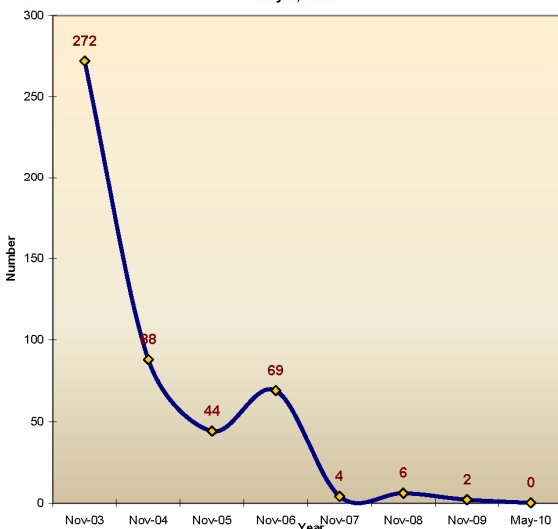
*District has NO schools with a health and safety scorecard rating of "Poor"*

Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) schools have reached an important milestone in the area of health and safety.

For the first time since the LAUSD's Safe School Inspection Program's inception, no District schools have a current *Health & Safety Compliance Scorecard* rating of "Poor."



**Number of Schools Rated "Poor" by Year**  
 May 1, 2010



The attached graph illustrates the progression of this accomplishment over the years. In 2003, out of 798 inspections, there were 272 schools rated "poor" based on an assessment of each school's compliance with health and safety standards. By the end of November 2009, there were only two schools with a scorecard rating of "Poor." We are now at zero!

With the nearly 800 schools the LAUSD Safe School Inspection Program supports, it is likely to have a small number on the "Poor" list at any given time. But this accomplishment is a proud moment for the District, illustrating its commitment to providing a safe learning and working environment.

"The safety of our students is our highest priority", said LAUSD Superintendent Ramon C. Cortines. "Employees across this District can be proud of these results. This focused effort to inspect our schools and share the results with the entire community has been an important part of our plan to maintain safe schools."

(more)

In 2001, routine health and safety inspections were initiated by the Office of Environmental Health and Safety (OEHS) in District schools to assess compliance with Federal, State and District requirements. In 2003, the District introduced a *School Safety Compliance Checklist* and a *Health & Safety Compliance Scorecard* to standardize the assessment process.

The *Compliance Scorecard* ratings of "Good", "Fair" or "Poor" is assigned to each school based on an assessment of the school's compliance with 14 health and safety standards, which are: asbestos management; campus security; chemical safety; emergency preparedness; facilities and equipment maintenance; fire/life safety; indoor environment; injury and illness prevention; lead management; pest management; prevention programs; restroom facilities; science lab safety; traffic and pedestrian safety.

A "Poor" rating means a school does not meet the minimum requirements in several health and safety standards, but does not indicate the school is unsafe to occupy.

Further details are available in the OEHS *Safe School Inspection Guidebook*, which may be accessed at, <http://www.lausd-oehs.org>.

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