





Cindy Fralin, Direct Instruction coach, curriculum coordinator, and teacher, said the Grade 2 CST score dipped slightly in 2005 because of an influx of students. “We only have one classroom at each grade level, so if a handful of children leave the school or are new to the school, test scores can vary a great deal. This, in turn, affects our API score, which also decreased slightly. However, we’re still ranked number two in the county, and we’re proud of our students’ progress.”

Fralin said Direct Instruction has helped many Richfield Elementary School students become life-long readers and learners.

“I’m a true believer and big advocate of Direct Instruction,” she explained. “Its programs have made a very big difference among so many of our students, often turning them into avid readers. The Direct Instruction programs implemented in the lower grades ensure that our students are reading at grade level and are able to be successful in the upper grades. Our local high school reports that our students are well-prepared for its curriculum.”

#### **State and National Recognition**

The U.S. Department of Education named Richfield Elementary School a No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School in 2004. The Blue Ribbon School Program recognizes schools that make significant progress in closing the achievement gap or whose students achieve at very high levels. The school also received the Governor’s Site Performance Award and the Governor’s Reading Award in 2001 and has achieved Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) every year it has been measured nationwide (2003-2005).

#### **About Richfield Elementary School**

Located among rural orchards and small farms, this Title I school serves more than 200 students in Grades K-8 in the Tehama County School District. The student population is 63% Caucasian and 37% Hispanic. Forty-six percent of the children qualify for free or reduced-price lunch, and 28% have limited English proficiency (LEP). For more information about Richfield Elementary School, visit [www.tcde.tehama.k12.ca.us/richfieldsd.html](http://www.tcde.tehama.k12.ca.us/richfieldsd.html).

#### **For More Information**

If you would like to learn more about success with Direct Instruction programs in your school or district, please contact us today at **1-888-SRA-4543**.

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