

BOARD BRIEF

Highlights of the SMFC School Board Meeting
August 20, 2009

Statements of Board Members: Jack Coyne announced that while it has been an honor and privilege to serve as a Trustee for the past 24 years, he has decided not to run for re-election to a 7th term.

Statement of Superintendent: Pendery Clark reported that at a recent Leadership Workshop, the management team determined that work in the area of Response to Intervention (RtI) would be the umbrella "goal" for the year, allowing continued focus on Standards Based Reporting, GLAD implementation, and training and implementation of the new math adoption. Dr. Clark also indicated that while the district continues to attempt to provide stability for its employees and protect jobs, staff and community will see the effects of budget reduction efforts, as evidenced by larger class sizes, fewer materials and freeze in categorical spending. Pendery expressed appreciation to SMETA for member support during the New Teacher Institutes and participation on the Professional Development Committee and Labor/Management Task Force.

Action or Information: The Board:

approved the Instructional Minutes for the 2009-2010 school year.

received information concerning the 2010-2014 Magnet Schools Assistance Program Grants and proposed school themes.

received information about the district's Language Arts adoption plans. As part of the state budget adoption, the Department of Education's Curriculum Commission was disbanded and the requirement that districts adopt new curriculum materials, suspended. Materials adopted prior to July 2008 are still considered Williams Act compliant, and therefore, our current Language Arts materials will continue to be used. The Language Arts Adoption Committee will be reconvened, however, to consider this information and give input with regard to areas of focus.

received an update on the 2009-2010 Budget. As a result of the 7/28 budget cuts in Sacramento, the district will need to cut an additional \$5.7 million from our budget for this school year, resulting in almost \$14 million in reductions. While the district did receive federal stimulus money to help off-set some of the cuts, this is one-time money and will not cover reductions needed in future years.

heard an update on the Parcel Tax Timeline and completed actions. In 2003 the voters passed a parcel tax to support small class size, hire and retain qualified employees, support programs and school libraries. This Parcel Tax expires in June 2010. A Parcel Tax Committee has convened to address the need to present another Parcel Tax initiative to the voters before the current one expires. A survey is being developed with polling scheduled for the week of Sept. 14. Results of the voter poll will be reviewed by the committee and presented to the Board of Trustees at the October 1 Board Meeting.

received an update on the District's long-term goal of building a fourth elementary school in Foster City. A public hearing will be held in the City of Foster City on August 31.

meeting adjourned

Submitted by: Phyllis Harris, President, SMETA

Next Meeting: September 3, 2009 7:00 p.m.