

BOARD BRIEF

Highlights of the SMFC School Board Meeting
November 5, 2009

Statement of Board Members: Several members of the Board congratulated Lory Lawson, Ellen Ullrich, and Julie Chan on their recent election to the Board of Trustees. Lory thanked SMETA PAC for their efforts during the campaign. Board members also thanked District staff for their preparation of data and presentation regarding SMFCSD efforts in Closing the Achievement Gap at the Board Study Session on October 29.

Statement of Superintendent: Dr. Clark recognized and congratulated the new Board members. She thanked staff for preparing the data on Student Achievement, identifying efforts that are working well and providing suggestions for what can be done to raise the achievement of low performing students. She indicated that all schools will reflect this data in the site Single Plan for Student Achievement which will be presented to the Board. Pendery thanked the PTA Coordinating Council for their recent endorsement of the Parcel Tax campaign. Dr. Clark shared that members of the District and SMETA Leadership and Bargaining teams would meet on November 6, 7 and 11 to be trained in a method of bargaining (Interest Based Bargaining), which, if adopted, could lead to a model of working together which involves open communication and collaboration. Pendery informed the audience about the Race to the Top reform and encouraged people to learn more about this movement and contact their legislators regarding the negative impact it could have on California's educational system.

Action or Information: The Board:

recognized and approved the movement of 74 certificated staff to permanent status. Over 50 SMETA members were introduced by their site administrators and received congratulations from Joan Rosas, Dr. Clark, Cathy Rincon, and audience members. (Congratulations, SMETA members!)

received information on the Program Implementation at the Bayside S.T.E.M. Academy. Bayside staff gave updates on the implementation and success of the year round calendar and uniform dress. They described the partnership with the Stanford Design School and how design thinking methodologies are being integrated into S.T.E.M. classes. Several exciting examples of student work, which illustrate the essence of the approach, were shared with the Board.

received information regarding the implementation of Response to Intervention (RtI²). Asst. Superintendent, Toni-Sue Passantino and Beth Gough, Student Achievement Facilitator, presented a description of RtI² and described the core principles and systems which define the approach. They presented the District design and implementation timeline. District staff are currently in Phase I of the implementation, which includes school level understanding of the program and consensus building. Phase II, during which sites will develop integrated assessment, intervention, and monitoring systems, is targeted to begin this fall and extend into the early spring. It was indicated that all schools have included an RtI² implementation plan in their SPSA and that all schools are working towards the goal of Phase III implementation by September 2010.

received an update on the 2009-2010 Budget. Micaela Ochoa, Chief Business Officer, presented Revenue Limit history in the SMFCSD from 2003 to 2008, described how Revenue Limit works, and how it is applied during budget development. She indicated that the First Interim Report would be presented at the November 29 Board meeting.

meeting adjourned: 10:00 p.m.

Submitted by: Phyllis Harris, President, SMETA

Next Meeting: November 19, 2009 7:00 p.m.