

BOARD BRIEF

Highlights of the SMFC School Board Meeting
September 17, 2009

Statement of Foundation: Jean Abeles invited Board Members, District staff, and audience members to attend the up-coming educational forum, "California's Schools: America's Future" to be held on September 23 from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the Bayside Theatre.

Statement of District Staff: Asst. Superintendent, Joan Rosas, announced the recent decease of Bayside teacher, John McGuiness. She shared that John was a popular teacher with his students and was a well-respected member of his staff. Joan commended the STEM staff, district personnel, and members of the Crisis Intervention Team for their support of students, staff, and community during this difficult time.

Statements of Board Members: Mark Hudak congratulated district students, staff, and parents on achieving an Academic Performance Index (API) score of 841. He expressed appreciation for the excellent work being done at our schools to improve student achievement and suggested that sites continue to examine and share their "best practices" district-wide.

Statement of Superintendent: Dr. Clark also congratulated district students on performing well above the state API target of 800, gaining 21 points this year over the 2008 score. She indicated that (with the exception of a few) SMFCSD schools increased their API scores and thanked the site staffs and administration for their continued hard work in helping all students achieve. Dr. Clark explained the Federal accountability system (Adequate Yearly Progress), which focuses on whether or not students score at the proficient level or above on state assessments. She shared results of the SMFCSD 2009 Adequate Yearly Progress Report, indicating that we met 37 of 41 AYP Criteria. Student Participation Rate was met for both ELA and Mathematics, however, Percent Proficient Criteria were met for English-Language Arts only. Pendery concluded by emphasizing that we, as a district and community, "have a lot to celebrate" and that we need to continue to work together to build on our successes.

Action or Information: The Board:

recognized the newly hired teachers for the 2009-10 school year, as they shared their education backgrounds and excitement at working in the SMFCSD.

received information on student enrollment for the 2009-2010 school year. Molly Barton, Asst. Superintendent, shared that enrollment continues to grow district-wide and as of Sept. 17, 2009, 10,597 students are attending our schools.

received information regarding the first two Professional Development Days, July 27 for Year-Round schools and August 28 for Traditional Calendar schools. Susan Totaro, Director of C & I, reported that K-5 teachers participated in math training on the Everyday Math Program and middle school teachers attended site specific training. Evaluation responses were positive.

received an update on Measure L Network and Technology Infrastructure Upgrades. Rick Edson, Director of Technology, reported on the status of Measure L approved technology priorities, including performing upgrades in order to provide an adequate infrastructure and increasing technology resources for students and teachers.

received information regarding possible building sites for a 4th school in Foster City. Micaela Ochoa, Chief Business Officer, reported that on August 31 the Foster City Council determined that Boothbay Park, Port Royal Park and the 15 Acres adjacent to the Government Center, would not be considered as a site for a 4th elementary school. The Council voted that the city-owned property at the terminus of Halibut Street at Beach Park Boulevard could be considered. Micaela reviewed advantages and disadvantages of building on that site, as well as describing other options (e.g. 6 potential acres at Civic Center Site, private Foster City properties, land options in the Mariner's Island area of San Mateo). The District recommendation also included looking at San Mateo school sites that have additional capacity and exploring other options suggested by the initial Focus Group. Members of the Board of Trustees discussed the suggested options and shared comments regarding future steps. The Board will present recommendations to the District at the October 1 School Board Meeting.

approved the 2008-09 Unaudited Actuals and Financial Report and the 2009-2010 Revised Adopted Budget.

meeting adjourned: 10:00 p.m.

Submitted by: Phyllis Harris, President, SMETA

Next Meeting: October 1, 2009 7:00 p.m.