

## **BOARD BRIEF**

### Highlights of the SMFC School Board Meeting

November 17, 2011

**Statements of Board Members:** In addition to making statements regarding their activities over the past two weeks, the trustees thanked Mark Hudak for his long years of service to SMFC. Members of the audience also spoke regarding the years of service provided by Mr. Hudak to the district.

**Statement by Superintendent:** Dr. Simms commented on her activities, as well as thanking Mark Hudak for his guidance.

**Action or Information:** The Board

**Approved** all items on the proposed consent agenda.

**Approved** the firm of Quattrocchi Kwok Architects to oversee the initial design phase of the proposed fourth elementary school in Foster City.

**Approved** NPA/NPS expenditures of \$125,202.75.

**Approved** the Superintendent's recommendations for changing the current report card system being used in middle schools. The plan presented includes an immediate return to using letter grades through the 2012-2013 school year; the establishment of a committee featuring proponents and detractors of a standard based reporting system to develop a new reporting system, if appropriate; and advance work to be done with an eye towards an appropriate reporting system when common core standards are initiated.

**Received** information from Molly Barton and School Innovations & Advocacy regarding the Special Education Opportunity. The report included recommendations from the auditing firm for possible ways to save money through consolidation and revisiting the criteria used for qualifying students for special services. To comments made by members of the audience and trustees, the firm pointed out that the report is a mathematical construct that serves as the basis for discussions and was not meant to represent policy decisions.

**Received** information from Susan Totaro regarding the October 31, 2011 District wide Professional Development Day. The report included a statistical analysis of responses from participants to the day.

**Approved** the extension of contracts for employment of Assistant Superintendents Molly Barton, Susan Totaro, and Donna Lewis.

**Received** a facilities update on construction work being done throughout the district.

**Received** information from Steve Mak regarding the 1<sup>st</sup> Interim Budget for the 2011/2012 fiscal year. The report included updated information regarding the failure of the State to realize expected revenues, which will trigger additional state wide cuts in funding.

**Approved** donations made to specific schools by non district community members.

**Received** the annual staffing report for SMFC.

Meeting adjourned: 11:10 PM

Submitted by: Janet Chappell, President, SMETA

Future meetings: December 15, 2011