

Bard Briefs



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MARCH 17, 2014 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

► Board and Staff Recognize Moment of Silence

The Board, staff and visitors took a moment to remember Willow Grove fifth-grader, Taylor Hernandez, who passed away on March 2nd, and PUSD employee, volunteer, and parent, Julie Leonard, who passed away on February 25th. Our thoughts and prayers are with their friends and family members as they mourn their losses.

► Board Recognizes PUSD Students

Several PUSD high school seniors are National Merit Scholarship Finalists. Congratulations to all of the outstanding students listed in the green sheet.

Poway High School students Nacara Akins, Sarah Contreras, Hannah Jones, Kealoha Leonui, Austin Okeson, Victoria Smith and Dane Skriloff have been approved by the California State Future Farmers of America (FFA) Association to receive their Golden State FFA Degrees.

Westwood Elementary School's Safety Patrol has been named the Best Safety Patrol in the Northeastern Division, and has also earned the title of Best Safety Patrol in San Diego County.

Each year the PTA Reflections Program challenges students to create artwork inspired by a specific theme. This year's theme is "Believe, Dream, Inspire." Students participate in the Reflections Program by submitting entries to their school site PTA. PUSD students from pre-kindergarten through grade 12 created 721 pieces of artwork. 60 pieces advanced to the Ninth District Reflections Program, and 30 entries from Poway Unified received Awards of Merit. Eight entries received Awards of Excellence and will advance to the California State PTA Reflections Program. A listing of all students can be found in the green sheet.

► Board Recognizes PUSD Staff Members

Cynthia Arellano, AVID teacher at Meadowbrook Middle School, has been selected as the Coordinator of AVID's newly-formed Alumni Association. Six universities, including San Diego State University and California State University, San Marcos, have established AVID Alumni Association chapters on their campuses to ensure a smooth transition to college for AVID students.

► Board Receives Update on D39C Enrollment Lottery Process

(Full PowerPoint Presentation will be available on website.)

The Board received a detailed report on the D39C enrollment lottery process from Executive Director II, Eric Lehew, during this month's D39C update. Dr. Collins and Mr. Lehew reviewed the pre-lottery commitments, the lottery process and post-lottery process for D39C enrollment.

The District's commitments to this process in order to establish the lottery were: per Government Code and per District Board Policy, the number of seats allocated to each CFD was determined by the percent of financial contribution; ensure a level of school enrollment, by grade level to operate effectively, and downsize impacted schools within the contributing CFD's; continue the established practice of enrolling students of employees assigned to the school site; ensure balanced diversity of enrollment reflective of the district (lower SES populations and Special Education programs); and ensure all remaining placements made using an unbiased, random lottery draw.

The lottery process itself took place as follows: all students were placed until the participating CFD's full allocation was met or there were no more students to place from the CFD (Phase 1 and 2); once all students from each CFD were placed,

or the CFD reached 100% of its priority allocation, remaining open seats were allocated to increase access for CFD's that had reached 100% (Phase 3); and the lottery process honored families and allowed siblings to enroll together as long as there were seats available at the specific grade level or within the CFD.

Mr. Lehew reviewed the CFD allocations of each contributing CFD and detailed the conclusions of Phases 1, 2, and 3. He then reviewed Phase 4, which filled CFD's not at capacity with TK, added an additional Grade 6 class, and replaced declined enrollees from the original March 7th lottery.

It is also important to note this process is still continuing. Next steps are: continue to monitor and consider placement for CFDs that have not reached 100% priority allocation; notify parents of position in wait list for their CFD and which CFD's are over seat allocations for the 2014-15 school year; continue to take in applications of students who will be placed at the end of the wait list by CFD; monitor enrollment through spring/summer 2014 to determine potential placement from wait list and/or new classes; and staff school at 2014-15 enrollment numbers.

► **Board Approves Resolution No. 49-2014, Entitled "Acknowledgement of School Bus Drivers' Day – April 22, 2014"**

The Board approved Resolution No. 49-2014 to recognize School Bus Drivers' Day on Tuesday, April 22, 2014. Each year we have an opportunity to recognize the accomplishments of our school bus drivers, an outstanding group of individuals who transport over 3,500 students twice a day, over two million miles annually. Managing up to 84 students on a school bus can be very difficult, yet our drivers continue to do so in a safe, professional, and competent manner.

For these achievements, and other special emphases this year, we are extremely proud of our Transportation staff for their efforts in working with the District to help maintain home-to-school service. Transportation staff was instrumental in establishing the PUSD Foundation T.A.K.E. Committee (Take All Kids Everyday) for the purpose of assisting students with their transportation needs. PUSD Board Members and staff are extremely proud of the job our school bus drivers do and are pleased to acknowledge their accomplishments through this resolution.

► **Board Receives First Reading of Proposed Revision of Board Policy Section 5.15 – Use of Tobacco**

The Board received the first reading of proposed revisions to Board Policy Section 5.15 – Use of Tobacco. The Board Policy has been updated to ensure compliance with California Education Code to include nicotine products and electronic cigarettes and/or devices.

► **Future meetings**

Regular Meetings:

Wednesday, April 23, 2014 in the District Office (6 p.m.)

Monday, May 19, 2014 in the District Office (6 p.m.)

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