

Bard Briefs

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NOVEMBER 16, 2015 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

► Superintendent and Board Recognize Student, Staff and School Stars

The Superintendent and Board recognized students, staff and schools. Below is a brief summary of those recognitions. The entire text can be found in the agenda packet.

Meadowbrook Middle School Math teacher, **Kay McHeffey** is one of 10 teachers nominated by State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tom Torlakson as California's finalists for the 2015 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST).

October 31, 2015 was designated "**Paul Messerle Day**" in the Fifth District of the City of San Diego by City Councilman Mark Kersey. Mr. Messerle, an art teacher at RBHS, was named one of five 2015 San Diego County Teachers of the Year in October.

The California Music Educator Association – Southern Border Section has named Executive Director, **Dr. Elaine Cofrancesco** as this year's Outstanding Administrator.

On October 21, RBHS Senior **Salwa Khan** was interviewed on HuffPost Live about her "Humans of RBHS" photo diary. A video clip from that interview was shared with the Board and the audience.

Tierra Bonita Elementary School has been selected as an Apple Distinguished School for 2015-2017. This is the second time that Tierra Bonita has earned this honor. They were named an Apple Distinguished School in 2013-2015.

► PUSD Earns "Green California Schools" Award

Poway Unified School District is the proud recipient of the 2015 Green Schools Leadership Award for "Resource Management." Members of the Green Schools Advisory Board applauded PUSD's outstanding water conservation projects and programs – and the fact that our District saved 3,951,684 gallons of water between May, 2014 and May, 2015!

► Public Hearing on Educator Effectiveness Grant

The Board President called for a Public Hearing on the Educator Effectiveness Grant Funding Plan. As a condition of receiving Educator Effectiveness Grant funds, PUSD is required to develop and adopt a plan delineating how the funds will be spent to support:

- beginning teacher and administrator support;
- coaching and support services for teachers identified as needing improvement;
- professional development for teachers and administrators aligned to state standards;

and to promote educator quality and effectiveness.

► Budget Update

Associate Superintendent Malliga Tholandi presented a budget update to the Board. Highlights from that presentation included a positive balance of \$5.6 million as of 10/31/15, and a strong multi-year projection.

► ITEM C – PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Board heard comments from the public regarding:

- RFP for additional legal services for the District;
- Dyslexia screening and instructional support;
- College Bound San Diego in PUSD;
- Bullying and Sexual Harassment;
- Firing of specific District personnel;
- Stipends/compensation for Robotics program advisors;
- Increased library funding;
- Establishing a district-wide digital library;
- Support for the Superintendent and his staff.

► Resolution - Use of People-First Language for Students with Disabilities

The Board approved a resolution encouraging the use of People-First language, “an objective form of communication aimed at eliminating generalizations and stereotypes by focusing on the person rather than the disability.”

► Appointment of Personnel Commissioner

The Board was informed of the appointment of Darren Keenaghan to the District’s Personnel Commission. Mr. Keenaghan is a Program Coordinator for the City of San Diego Personnel Department.

► 2016-17 Student Attendance Calendar

The Districtwide Calendar Committee presented its recommended student attendance calendar for 2016-17. A recommendation for the adoption of this calendar, along with the 2016-17 non-traditional calendars for Valley Elementary and Abraxas Continuation School will be brought forward at the January 19, 2016 Board meeting.

► Future meetings

Regular Meetings:

Tuesday, December 15 in the District Office (6 p.m.)

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