

Board Highlights – May 9, 2017

The School Board voted unanimously to settle its lawsuit against the Marin County Office of Education, resulting in the District receiving \$1.42 million in exchange for interest in the Grant Grover facility and property, subject to final approval by the court. This is a mutually agreeable result to a lengthy dispute, which the District is pleased to have resolved. The County intends to continue educating 18-22 year old students at Grant Grover where access to the College of Marin is a key program component.

Our outstanding Physical Education program was highlighted in this month's Educational Showcase by teachers Matt Gillespie, Celeste Perez, and Ilene Braff. Bacich students, Emerson and Lily Flynn, Maddy Brooks, Jack Block, Lily O'Shea, Brody Buxton, and Lily and Lucy Perez demonstrated the use of Tinikling Sticks, a Filipino dance skill. Kent 8th graders, Kailey Golec and Marco Lizarraga shared their love of the social dance unit that 5th-8th grade students participate in every winter.

More teachers and students from 1st and 2nd grade presented information and examples of Project Based Learning work being done at Bacich. Lisa Cicurel-Jones and Nancy Kaneshiro explained the 1st grade Creekside Marsh project, while Talia Milano and Marty Ross shared the 2nd grade trout exploration. Second grade assistants were Kaz and Kate Rubel, Hannah Hirschbein, and Ellie Walker. Both projects address the concept of interdependent ecosystems and engage students across the curriculum by using persuasive writing, reading, math, and science.

The Board voted to enter into an agreement with Whitehurst/Mosher Campaign Strategy and Media to provide consultancy services in preparing our next Parcel Tax measure for the ballot. The Board was impressed by W/M's recent successes in crafting Parcel Tax measures in Mill Valley and Menlo Park and by their commitment to engaging all sectors of our community in conversation about Kentfield's unique budgetary and programmatic landscape.

Chief Budget Official Barbara Johnson presented the Second Interim Budget Report, which documents changes to the budget from July 1, 2016 through January 31, 2017. There have not been any major revisions and we are on track to end this fiscal year with 7.37% reserve, which tracks with our prediction at budget adoption of 7.39%.