

January 10, 2017

## **Board Meeting Highlights**

At its January meeting this week, the Board approved the 2017-18 District calendar. There were two main factors going into the development of this calendar. One was starting school after Labor Day to allow for the maximum number of days for Measure D summer construction and the other was aligning Winter and Spring breaks with the Tamalpais Union High School District's calendar to accommodate families' schedules.

The School Board was updated on the District's Social Studies curriculum. Sally Peck, representing Bacich, illustrated how students from TK-4th grade learn about ever widening social spheres, starting with themselves and their classrooms, and culminating in the study of the state of California and the famed Gold Country unit. Research and note-taking were the focus of the presentation by Peter Goetz, representing Kent, accompanied by four sixth graders - Athena Nguyen, Hana Moore, Bayanni Rivera, and Ellie Titcombe. The students demonstrated how to transform unfamiliar text into brief, comprehensible notes in preparation for the Egypt report.

The stalwart volunteer leaders of the campaign to pass Measure B, the District's Parcel Tax renewal measure on the November ballot, were recognized and thanked by the Board. While the measure was ultimately unsuccessful, there was nothing but praise for the job done by Connie and Jeff Zlot, Debra Fletcher, Ross McKenna, David Riedel and Mark Friedman.

Liz Schott reported on progress made to date on the District's annual goals. Our greatest areas of growth have been: 1) teachers learning about and implementing innovative practices such as Project Based Learning, Arts Integration and Service Innovation; 2) increasing attention on student well-being including bullying prevention, cultural responsiveness, and social-emotional learning; 3) moving ahead with Measure D projects by hiring contractors, submitting plans to the State, and choosing a prefab building manufacturer for the classroom complex at Kent; and 4) working to pass the renewal measure for our Parcel Tax. There is much to be accomplished in the rest of the year, and good work has been done to date by our dedicated administrative, certificated, and classified staff.