

From the Board Room ...

Notes from the Board of Education Meeting: 8/8/02

... informing all

Let's Celebrate!

Despite some pretty horrendous odds, school sites have been cleaned and refurbished and will be ready to go for Fall. Board President Julia Brownley joined Superintendent Deasy in publicly thanking all the maintenance and operations staff who have worked so diligently through the summer to prepare the schools for our students.

Good news for Malibu High School and Middle School students and staff: the new classroom building AND the new auditorium will be up and running for the first day of school. **Also, available for first-day use** will be the Cafeteria at John Adams Middle School **and for first-week use**, the rooms at Muir/SMASH that were closed this Spring.

Many fans and friends of Nutrition Services Director Rodney Taylor convened to celebrate his ten-plus years of service at SMMUSD. President Brownley spoke for everyone when she thanked Rodney for the dedication, leadership, vision and hard work he's given to the district. He was additionally recognized for always putting SMMUSD students' health first and for establishing the nationally recognized Farmer's Market Salad Bar program. Characteristically, Rodney thanked his staff for his success.

Superintendent's Report. Mr. Deasy reported that nearly all teaching positions had been filled – remaining vacancies are in the areas of the advanced Sciences and Math, as well as two administrative positions. The Superintendent also provided an update on the new Race and Discipline Task Force that has been formed in response to requests from the Mothers for Justice. The Task Force is made up of community members, district staff, students. There have been two

the voting block

August 8, 2002

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Board Meetings/ Date

All major agenda items passed, 6-0 (unanimously) with motion by Mrs. Brady, seconded by Mr. Pratt, Mr. Jordan *in absentia*, with no abstentions.

Agenda Items Pulled by staff:

No. A15 - Approval to Establish A New Position: Assistant to the CEO/Samohi
No. A.17 - Hollywood Charter School
Copies of all documents are available in the Office of the Superintendent

Highlights

+ IntraDistrict Permits - BP 5116

The Board adopted language revision to the policy which states that once a family has received an IntraDistrict Permit the receiving school will be regarded as the home school of the family and that all siblings in the family may attend that school, automatically. The priorities order was also revised. Final order for permit requests **in the event that space is available:**

- 1) intradistrict (non-siblings)
- 2) interdistrict: SMMUSD employees
- 3) interdistrict: siblings (K-1, 6 or 9)
- 4) interdistrict: Cities of Santa Monica or Malibu employees

+ Police on Campus Form

The Board approved the new Police on Campus form with revisions. The form represents one of the first of many steps being taken to address the concerns of the Mothers for Justice who spoke before the Board at the June 27, 2002, meeting. The form, with Board-suggested revisions will be reviewed by the district's legal counsel and the Los Angeles County Office of Education. In addition to review and understanding of the new form, Superintendent Deasy stated that a significant portion of staff development time prior to the start of school will be devoted to ensuring that existing policies and procedures are fairly, consistently and equitably administered.

meetings and it's anticipated that the group will continue to meeting throughout the year. The group has been charged with helping to look at behaviors emerging from the original testimony of the Mothers for Justice, suggesting corrective actions, as needed, and reviewing district practices and policies to help develop means to ensure equity in administration of those policies. The Superintendent listed four additional concrete steps that the district has already taken:

- an extensive professional development program constructed around understanding bias, behavior, perceptions and equity
- developing a reporting mechanism relative to student/law enforcement interface
- investigation of the history surrounding the original testimony from the Mothers for Justice
- non-optional training for all campus security personnel to be provided by the Los Angeles County Office of Education.

NOTE: Copies of Peggy Harris' informative report, Year 1 Implementation of K-8 Math Adoption are available for review in the Office of the Superintendent.

Important Items Coming Before the Board

Major Action:

Work session Dates (8/22/02)
Hollywood Charter School (8/22/02)

Discussion:

Independent Study/PE (8/22/02)

On-line:

Last-minute Updates on Board Meeting Agenda Items
www.smmusd.org

Please check the district website for important updates and contact numbers.