

School Board Meeting Summary 11/10/2010

The meeting included:

Student Learning

- A presentation by students Gracy Bucholtz, Catherine Conrow, Sabrina Dong, Tiffany Dong, Audrey Gaither, and Isabel Reicher about their community service project to save endangered tigers, "One Paw at a Time."
- An update by Carlos Garcia, Director of Technology, about the use of technology in classrooms. Ross School may host a demonstration and training session in the use of Promethean Interactive Whiteboards for Marin County teachers this winter. These boards, which enable anything that can be seen or done on a computer screen to be projected onto an interactive whiteboard, have been installed in all of the new classrooms.
- An update by Pattie Dullea and Greg Hamilton about implementation of the Response to Intervention program.

Finance

- An introduction to the new Interim Business Manager, Ruth Karlsrud.
- A discussion of the 2010-2011 budget including funding for the Kindness Campaign and laptop computers. The Board approved the budget revision for district revenue, but did not approve the revision for expenditures. The first interim report, including both revenue and expenditures, will be approved in December. The Financial Advisory Committee will continue to help with budget planning.
- A discussion about proceeds from the pavers sale. The Board agreed to place proceeds from the sale of pavers in the Endowment provided that the level for release of funds to Ross School is dropped from \$5 million to \$1 million or less, and provided that Endowment principal be available to Ross School should the Endowment Board determine that there is a need.

Facilities

- An update by Jim Walton, construction manager, about the finishing touches to the elementary school project, including air conditioning options for the two south-facing upstairs classrooms. The options will be discussed with teachers so that they can help select the most appropriate system.
- A presentation by Mark Quattrocchi, architect, and discussion of colors for the interior of the new multipurpose room. A light green color is proposed for 3 of the walls; the green color would extend to a height of 10 feet, and an off-white shade would be used for the remainder of the wall, up to the ceiling. Terra cotta (the color of the atrium) or tan is proposed for long wall opposite the stage, up to the level of the ceiling. The color board can be viewed in the district office.

Policy

- A discussion of the new interdistrict transfer policy. The policy is being revised because of the state's Open Enrollment Act, which allows students from identified low-performing schools to transfer to a school of their choice. A new policy will likely be adopted in December.

Consent Agenda

- Consent Agenda items included approval of the Apple computer lease purchase contract for 5th grade laptops and acceptance of the resignation of Donna Van Ness, Interim Business Manager.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Wednesday, December 8, at 7:30pm in the library. Please join us!

The Ross School Board of Trustees