



# BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

May 15, 2012 Volume 23 – Number 13

## Personnel Actions Ratified by the Board:

### The employment of:

**Deborah Lazarri-Jones**, Program Specialist at District Office, effective date to be determined; **Holly Chavarria**, Instructional Paraprofessional Learning Assistant at Sherwood Elementary, effective May 7, 2012; **Andrew Sanchez**, Instructional Paraprofessional-Resource at Ustach Middle School, effective date to be determined

### The reinstatement due to lay-off of:

**Ashley Harris**, 7/8 Grade Teacher – 60% at Ustach Middle School to 7/8 Grade Teacher – 100% at Ustach Middle School, effective August 6, 2012; **Joy Green**, First Grade Teacher at Crossroads Elementary, effective August 6, 2012; **Nicole Prom**, Fifth Grade Teacher at Orchard Elementary, effective August 6, 2012; **Denise Argain**, Sixth Grade Teacher at Savage Middle School, effective August 6, 2012

### The request of personnel leave of absence of:

**Lisa Fraioli**, Fifth Grade Teacher at Standiford Elementary, of five days as per contract Article 6.13, effective February 26, 2012 (partial day) February 23, 2012, March 5, 2012, March 8, 2012, March 19, 2012 and March 22, 2012 (partial day) (total of 40. Hours)

### The resignation of:

**Doreen Carvalho**, Instructional Paraprofessional – ASES at Sylvan Elementary, effective May 25, 2012; **Julie Davis**, Instructional Paraprofessional-Resource at Somerset Middle School, effective May 25, 2012

### The change in assignment of:

**Francisca Ramirez**, Lead Speed Line to Student Store Manager at Somerset Middle School, effective August 8, 2012; **Stephen Hammond**, Lead Night Custodian at Savage Middle School to Head Custodian I K-5 at Sanders Elementary, effective date to be determined; **Jose Jimenez**, Custodian, from 4.0 hours to 8.0 hours, effective May 1, 2012; **Steven Sforza**, from Food Service Driver-Traditional to Food Service Driver-Year-round, effective date to be determined; **Patrick Morey**, Lead Night Custodian at Ustach Middle School to Head Custodian I K-5 at Crossroads Elementary, effective date to be determine; **Cathi Bacon**, Program Administrator to Program Specialist at District Office, effective July 1, 2012; **Ashley Grim**, Interim Principal K-5 at C.F. Brown Elementary, to Permanent Principal K-5 at C.F. Brown Elementary, effective July 1, 2012

### The retirement of:

**David Mc Lendon**, Custodian at Sylvan Elementary, effective July 10, 2012

## Other Items Approved by the Board of Trustees:

- ❖ The Minutes of the April 24, 2011 Regular Board Meeting;
- ❖ The ratification of personnel items;
- ❖ The ratification of checks as listed;
- ❖ The declaration of the need for fully-qualified educators for the 2012-2013 school year;
- ❖ The approval of the updated 2012-2014 Single Plan for Student Achievement for Woodrow Elementary School;
- ❖ The approval of the architectural and engineering services proposal from SKW & Associates for the Portable Relocation Project;
- ❖ The approval of Change Order No. 1 with J.L. Bray and Son, Inc. in the credit amount of <\$74,133.00> for the Standiford Modernization Project;
- ❖ The declaration of the value of each obsolete item listed is less than \$2,500.00; and authorize staff to dispose of the equipment in accordance with Education Code 17546;
- ❖ The ratification of the tentative 2012-2013 contract language agreement between the District and the California School Employees Association, Chapter #73;
- ❖ The approval of approval of the Behavior Specialist Paraprofessional job description;
- ❖ The approval of the expenditure of construction funds;
  
- ❖ The approval of the listed donations:
  - The donation of a payroll pledge in the amount \$108.00 from Ryan Gutierrez (Parent) to Crossroads Elementary School.
  - The donation of \$422.05 from Crossroads PTA to Crossroads Elementary School for the science fair.
  - The donation of \$1,260.00 from the Birthday Book Program to Freedom Elementary School for library books.
  - The donation of \$175.31 from SaveMart to Sanders Elementary School for participating in the S.H.A.R.E.S. Program.
  - The donation of \$3,729.44 from Sherwood PTC to Sherwood Elementary School to purchase computers and software.
  - The donation of \$1,000.00 from Standiford PTSA to Standiford Elementary School for library books.
  - The donation of \$500.00 from Shadowchase Running Club to Stockard Coffee Elementary School for the visual and performing arts program.

❖ The approval of the listed donations (Con't):

- The donation of \$201.46 from Prime Shine Transportation Grant to Sylvan Elementary School for transportation to the Gallo Center.
- The donation of \$260.03 from SaveMart to Woodrow Elementary School for participating in the S.H.A.R.E.S. Program.

**TOTAL VALUE OF DONATION: \$7,656.29**



### **RECOGNITION PRESENTATION:**

The school selected to be recognized at the Board Meeting was Somerset Middle School. Mrs. Latham shared lots of good things are happening at Somerset Middle School and announced the following accomplishments:

Somerset has spent considerable time this year studying why their academic progress has become somewhat stalled and making plans for improvement. They sent a team of teachers to the California League of Middle Schools conference where they heard an expert in the field of poverty provide insights into what has become a new reality. They learned that they have to teach differently in order to get different results. Teachers have received a considerable amount of staff development this year. They attended workshops to learn about and plan for Common Core Standards and Vocabulary across the Curriculum. They participated in a deep analysis of the Middle School Program Survey and the learned about the new role of parents in the LEAP. Their work in Professional Learning Communities has helped begin to make specific plans for improvement: They began a mandatory Academic Intervention at lunch, taught by a teacher, to provide a place where students can complete their homework when they don't do it at home. When Academic Intervention at lunch doesn't work then students are assigned a study hall as their elective. They have some wonderful success stories to report from both of these programs. They have studied good instructional practice in staff meetings and practiced specific strategies each month. Finally, they are planning five Language Acquisition Classes for next year. These classes will address the needs of the Long Term English Learner with new materials and a focused approach. They know an excellent middle school has a well-balanced program. Nearly one fourth of the Somerset students participated in sports this year. Their athletic directors are vigilant in being sure students are academically eligible before they can play. Teams included basketball, softball, volleyball, soccer, wrestling, track and cross country. Many students participated this

### **RECOGNITION PRESENTATION (Con't):**

year in clubs and activities including art club, technology club, FAN (fitness and nutrition), community involvement and ski/board clubs. Every sixth grader prepared a speech for the District Speech Contest. Sixteen spoke to all 300 sixth graders at our new Speech Symposium before nine went to the Somerset finals. Students regularly receive recognition for academic progress through the Somerset Renaissance program which is funded entirely by the PTSA. Forty-one percent of the student body received over 500 academic, attendance and citizenship awards last week. Somerset students are involved in the democratic process. Classroom representatives meet with elected officers once every trimester to make important decisions affecting the school. Student representatives attend Parent Teacher Student Association meetings and are members of the School Site Council. Twenty parents will graduate this week from the Parent Institute for Quality Education where they learned to support their teenagers at school. Somerset students and staff value volunteerism. Teachers take their own time to support the Sylvan Foundation events, sixth grade orientation, eighth grade graduation, dances, concerts and sporting events. A teacher volunteers each morning to teach students how to raise, lower and fold our flags. All teachers stay after school when a child needs help. Students volunteer in the Somerset and Sherwood classrooms for the Severely Handicapped as Peer Helpers. Many volunteer to be tour guides for in-coming students. Student leaders read morning announcements every day and lead the pledge of allegiance. At long last, their school is filled only with the sound of teenage voices rather than the sound of construction equipment. They continue to enjoy and take care of the facelift. Mrs. Latham is confident that she is transferring a healthy, vibrant school to Somerset's new principal, Patricia Lingerfelt.

### **EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION:**

The employees selected to be recognized at tonight's Board Meeting are the nominees for "Teacher of the Year".

Mr. Matthew Shipley introduced Lynda Griblin, Teacher at Standiford Elementary School. He shared Lynda Griblin is one of the most impassioned teachers is truly a star at Standiford Elementary School. After nineteen years of teaching in the District. She frequently engages her students in science experiments, research and investigations, and learning projects, and she incorporates the use of computer technology in ways that are highly engaging to her students and helpful for visual and experiential learners. Many students have developed a deep love for learning in Mrs. Griblin's class after previously experiencing only academic disappointment and disengagement. There are numerous students who are so much better off now for the time that they spent studying with Mrs. Griblin. The Standiford Family is truly proud to present to you Mrs. Lynda Griblin as a Stanislaus County Teacher of the Year for 2012.

## **EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION (Con't):**

Ms. Carrie Albert introduced Darlene Pierson, Teacher at Sherwood Elementary School. Darlene is one of those outstanding teachers who make a difference in the lives of students everyday. Darlene is a Severely Handicapped teacher of students in the third, fourth, and fifth grade. She is passionate about creating a rigorous learning environment within her special needs class. Her classroom is full of happy children who want to come to school each day. Darlene has taught both music and art lessons on Fridays to large groups of regular education students so that grade levels can meet in Professional Learning Communities (PLC) during school hours. Parents of Darlene's students are always welcome in her classroom. She provides instructional leadership and staff development to new and veteran teachers as a trainer of new curriculum. Special education professionals, classroom teachers, student teachers, and other professionals, both within and outside of the district have requested to see her innovative talents. Darlene is a master in the art of teaching students in special education like no other.

## **INFORMATION & DISCUSSION:**

### **a. Superintendent Update: Taxation Levels for Sylvan District Residents:**

Dr. Halverson shared a chart with a breakdown of all the taxes paid by Sylvan District residents.

### **b. Curriculum Update: Transitional Kindergarten and PLC Update:**

Mrs. Wharff updated the Board about Transitional Kindergarten and shared a video about the status of Professional Learning Communities.

### **c. Human Resources Update: Staffing**

Mrs. Hendricks shared that staffing is status quo at this time.

### **d. Facilities Update: Board Questions**

Mrs. Perez shared the modernization project at Sherwood Elementary School will begin in September.

### **e. Boundary Study Committee Update:**

The Board was presented with an update by Mrs. Perez from the Boundary Study Committee Meeting.

### **f. Capital Outlay, Routine Repair and Maintenance Plan:**

The Board was presented with a draft of the Capital Outlay, Routine Repair and Maintenance Plan by Mrs. Perez for approval at the next Board Meeting.

## **INFORMATION & DISCUSSION (Con't):**

### **g. Continued Graduation Options for 2012-2013 Discussion:**

The Board discussed the options for the 2012-2013 graduation but due to the various constraints decided to keep graduation the same for next year.

### **h. Continued Travel Expenses Discussion:**

The Board continued their discussion about travel expenses and directed staff to continue providing a list of attended conferences as well as what is budgeted for the year.

### **f. Districtwide Communication Presentation:**

Dr. Halverson presented information on current District communications. He shared staff will be presenting the District Communications Plan draft for review and approval by the Board at a future Board Meeting.

**Superintendent's Comments:** Dr. Halverson shared the following:

- The artwork on display in the Boardroom is from the students of Freedom Elementary School.
- The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduations will be Saturday, May 26, 2012 at Johansen High School.

Somerset	9:00 AM
Ustach	11:30 AM
Savage	2:00 PM

- REMINDER: The Sylvan Educational Foundation Fireworks booth needs volunteers; please contact Naomie at the D.O. to sign up.
- Introduced Patricia Lingerfelt and welcomed her back home to the Sylvan Union School District.
- Congratulated Mrs. Ashley Grim for being hired as the Principal of C.F. Brown Elementary School from interim principal last year.

## **Board Reports:**

**Mr. Collins** shared a positive acknowledgement of Mr. Rawe. He thanked Mr. Rawe for being an absolutely outstanding Board Member with high integrity and always keeping the students in mind. This is a better Board because of him. He shared the Foundation's Fireworks booth will be selling fireworks beginning June 30<sup>th</sup> through July 4<sup>th</sup>. If you "like" the Foundation's Facebook page between now and July 3<sup>rd</sup> you will be entered into a drawing for a fireworks package valued at \$199.

## **Board Reports (Con't):**

**Mr. Rawe** had nothing to report.

**Mrs. Miyakawa** thanked everyone for their hard work and a great year.

**Mrs. Lindsey** apologized for not attending the retirement dinner because she was at a CSBA convention in Sacramento. She encouraged everyone to go to the CSBA website to join the grass roots movement "Be Mad".

**Mrs. Zeek** shared she attended the visit at C.F. Brown by State Superintendent Tom Torlakson and it great to see the school and the kids. She thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

## **NEXT BOARD MEETING:**

June 5, 2011 at 7:00 P.M. in the Boardroom.