

Weekly from Dr. Rudolph

December 1, 2017

No update from Superintendent Rudolph this week due to the California School Boards Association conference in San Diego.

Upcoming Events

Monday, December 4	Parent University, 6:30 p.m., Graham MUR
Tuesday, December 5	MVEF, 7:00 p.m., Conference Room C
Wednesday, December 6	Kindergarten Information Nights at All Schools, 8:00 p.m.
Thursday, December 7	Huff Principal's Coffee, 8:15 a.m.
Thursday, December 7	Landels ELAC, 8:30 a.m.
Thursday, December 7	Monta Loma Chorus Concert, 1:00 p.m.
Thursday, December 7	Landels SSC, 3:30 p.m.
Thursday, December 7	Regular Board Meeting, Graham MUR
Friday, December 8	Crittenden Luau Fundraiser, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Friday, December 8	Graham Books Inc. Fundraiser, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 9	Graham Arts and Holiday Fair, 9:0 – 1:00 p.m.

From the Director of Technology

- Working on testing of data integration of SchoolMint
- Working with the Special Ed department to develop a process for updating demographic data in Siras
- Monthly technology department meeting

From the Public Information Officer

- Parent University autodialers and promotion
- [Castro](#) and [Theuerkauf](#): New web sites launch!
- School marketing plan
- Open enrollment and school info nights promotion
- Social media updates
- State of the Schools materials development
- Support with parent communications (curriculum)
- Parent and staff newsletters
- Huff, Mistral, Graham and Monta Loma newsletter templates refresh
- Parcel tax/Bond oversight committee search promotion

From the Chief Business Officer

Food & Nutrition Services

Before Thanksgiving, Monta Loma had a food pantry that serviced over 100 families with food insecurity and another 75 students at Crittenden with backpacks filled with food. We serviced two groups: one that had access to a kitchen and those who had no means to prepare food.

The Pantry was very well received and we look forward to possibly serving these families with a lunch meal during the Christmas break.

Maintenance, Operations and Transportation

Jim Bakos', Director of MOT, last day was November 30. Starting Friday, Dec. 1, Robert Clark will take over the role of MOT Director, with Brian Perron stepping up to assume some of the day-to-day operations of the M&O duties in the interim while we work out the final organizational structure of the MOT department. Jim and Robert have met twice this week to help ensure a smooth transition.

General Business/Chief Business Officer

We have been working on the First Interim documents for the Board meeting.

I met with the three directors to discuss various topics in their respective departments. Debbie Austin, Director of Food and Nutrition Services, and I discussed the success of the Monta Loma/Crittenden food distribution and details of a possible December break giveaway as well. Maria Liu, Director of Fiscal Services, and I created an action plan to address the amount of contracted services used currently.

I conferenced with the DTA, who is working on the Facilities Eligibility calculation with the State for State bond funds. The rough estimate is we are eligible for \$10-\$15 million in State matching funds. The amount could be increased, as DTA is finalizing the calculations for a few schools yet to do. I conference on Friday again for final numbers.

I am working with our attorney on the process to replace the District's copiers. Our Xerox copiers are either at the end of their leases now or within a few months. We are working on the process to get them replaced and all District copiers on one contract term.

Terri Wallace, Preschool Director, and I are working on a Kaboom grant for a new Preschool playground for the Preschool at Latham site (Castro). We plan to submit in the next few weeks.

From the Offices of Educational Services

This week, the Middle School Schedule Task Force met on November 20 and 27 to continue work to develop a new schedule. The team reviewed the feedback collected from staff on the two options and began work on a third option. The third option is a variation of the 8-period day that addresses some of the concerns raised by staff. A third update will be provided to the Board of

Trustees on December 7. The Task Force meets again on December 4 and 1 and will provide a recommendation to Dr. Rudolph and Cabinet. The recommendation will be presented to the Board for consideration at the January 4 meeting.

This week was the third in our 4-part optional math training for elementary teachers. The trainings are taking place after school for 1.5 hours and are focused on the math standards and Eureka Math. The trainings are facilitated by trainers from the Santa Clara County Office of Education.

Cathy Baur and Tara Vikjord worked together on a presentation on the California Dashboard. The Dashboard results will be released to the public sometime the week of December 4. The Dashboard was originally scheduled for release on November 27 but was delayed, which in turn delays the presentation for the Board of Trustees.

Cathy Baur and Gary Johnson met with the Associate Superintendent and Director of Special Education from the Mountain View Los Altos Union High School District. The primary purpose of the meeting was to discuss ways to further ease the transition for our students with disabilities from eighth grade to ninth grade.

Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

This week, Tara and Cindy Lundberg visited the RTI programs at Castro, Bubb, Stevenson, and Monta Loma with Trustee Wheeler and Trustee Wilson. Cindy participated in the third session of the Eureka Math after-school training for elementary teachers and provided support for teachers at Huff with RTI strategies. Tara collaborated with the Middle School Literacy coaches this week in reviewing trimester 1 assessments and data and planning ahead for trimester 2. Tara also worked with the instructional coaching team to review the district benchmark standard progressions in ELA and Math to support rigorous instructional planning, vertical articulation, and alignment

State and Federal Programs and Strategic Initiatives

This week, the team organized a professional development day for the Read 180 program at Crittenden. The professional development was conducted by a trainer/coach from Read 180 for the classroom teacher. Additionally, at the bi-monthly facilitator meeting the group discussed the School Attendance Review Team process, Cops that Care, and Pure Good Foundation Christmas party. A meeting was held with the special education department to solidify the new alternate reclassification process. Meetings have been held with all site administrators and CELDT coordinators to review the timeline and procedures for fall reclassification.

PowerPoints have been created for all grade levels with example ELPAC Release Questions. The PowerPoint will help administrators and teachers understand the new test and provide opportunities for students to see some of the item types.

Special Education

The Local Education Agency Medi-Cal collaborative met last week to complete the annual report to the California Department of Health Care Services. This program allows school

districts to receive some reimbursement from the Medi-Cal program for health-related services such as psychological assessments, speech and/or occupational therapy.

Preschool

Our district's strategic plan includes a focus on finding ways to increase access to high quality early education with 2016-2018 as planning years and 2018-19 as the first year of implementation. Not only have we made significant strides in achieving our desired outcome but we've accomplished this ahead of schedule. In 2015-16, we had 128 preschool spaces. With the acquisition of relinquished state preschool funding from another agency within the county, we added 40 spaces during the 2016-17 school year. During the 2016-17 school year, we were granted additional state preschool funding, which allowed us to add spaces for 2017-18. This year we have over 200 spaces and, for the first time in more than 20 years, we no longer have a waiting list for eligible state preschool children.

We are currently at 80% of our total enrollment and we expect to reach or be near capacity once the California Department of Education gives final approval of our county's Child Care Subsidy Pilot program which will increase income eligibility ceilings for families and reduce the age eligibility criteria from 3 years old by September 1st to 2 years and 9 months. These long-awaited changes will allow us to enroll more students from our community, several of whom are already on a waiting list.

In keeping with our long-standing practice of the full inclusion of students with special needs and disabilities and our district's strategic plan to address the Achievement Gap, nearly 9% of our total enrollment is children with IEP's. We've worked closely with the staff in the special education department to create different classroom instructional models to accommodate a wider variety of student needs. While students with IEP's are included in all of our classrooms, we have two sessions with additional staff that allows us to implement a co-teaching model with a maximum of a 1:5 adult to student ratio (one general education preschool teacher, one special education preschool teacher, one to two general education instructional assistants and one special education instructional assistant).