



Board Briefs

Highlights from this week's Board of Education meeting

Sue Kuwabara elected as IUSD's newest Board president

During its annual organizational meeting, the Board of Education voted unanimously to elect Sue Kuwabara to a one-year term as president and Michael Parham to a one-year term as clerk. Sharon Wallin, who was president this past year, was honored for her service.

The five-member Board also approved school site liaison assignments, appointed representatives to various committees and established meeting dates through December 2011. The next two regular meetings are scheduled for Jan. 18 and Feb. 1.

Board reserves right to take legal action against mental health cuts

Board members voted 3-to-1, with one abstention, to adopt a resolution that reserves IUSD's right to join other districts in taking legal action against the Orange County Health Care Agency, which plans to terminate contracted services for students with disabilities.

On Oct. 8, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger vetoed \$133 million in funding for mental health support services written into the Individualized Education Programs, or IEPs, of students with disabilities. As a result of the loss of funds, the Orange County Health Care Agency is preparing to end contracted services that include counseling, psychiatric care, medication management and residential treatment placements.

Several related lawsuits have already been filed, and school districts are hoping for legislative or judicial remedies. In the meantime, however, IUSD has a contract with the county agency through June 2011 that mandates services for approximately 89 local students at a cost of approximately \$1.7 million.

Board members certify First Interim Report of 2010-11

The Board voted to certify IUSD's First Interim Report of 2010-11 as "positive," meaning the district is projected to meet all of its financial obligations as mandated by the county.

Lisa Howell, assistant superintendent of Business Services, told Board members that the district is projecting positive ending balances through 2011-12 as a result of \$38 million worth of reductions made over the previous two years, as well as the influx of onetime federal dollars. However, the state of California remains mired in a severe fiscal crisis, and, based on current assumptions, IUSD will need to close an estimated shortfall of \$14.1 million in 2012-13.

The Orange County Superintendent of Schools requires each school district to examine and certify its financial condition as "positive," "qualified" or "negative" twice during each fiscal year. Positive is the ideal certification, while qualified indicates that a district may not be able to meet its financial obligations for the current year and the two subsequent years. A negative

(Continued on next page)

More highlights from the Dec. 7 Board of Education meeting

certification indicates that a district will not be able to meet its financial obligations over this period.

The First Interim Report reflects IUSD's financial health as of Oct. 31 and is due at the Orange County Department of Education no later than Dec. 15.

Coming Up...

Regular Meetings: *Tuesday, Jan. 18, 2011 in the Board Room (7 p.m.)*
Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2011 in the Board Room (7 p.m.)

BOARD OF EDUCATION

GAVIN HUNTLEY-FENNER, Ph.D. / SUE KUWABARA / CAROLYN McINERNEY / MICHAEL PARHAM / SHARON WALLIN

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LISA HOWELL, *Assistant Superintendent, Business Services* / CASSIE PARHAM, *Assistant Superintendent, Education Services* / TERRY WALKER, *Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources*

IUSD ... providing the highest quality educational experience we can envision.