Board Briefs

Highlights from this week's Board of Education meeting

ITA announces scholarship recipients for 2008

Jo-Ann Agapito, vice president of the Irvine Teachers Association (ITA), announced this year's ITA scholarship recipients. The "Students Interested in Entering the Education Profession" scholarship, open to IUSD seniors who have been accepted to four-year universities and plan to pursue degrees in education, was awarded to Mariah Kelly of Irvine High School. Venture Scholarships, awarded to students interested in continuing their education at a community college or a technical school, went to Steven Smith of Creekside High School and Michael Martelle of University High. Finally, Kelley Vandemoortel (Irvine High), Carly Richardson (Aliso Niguel High), Jonathan Formica (Orange County High School of the Arts), Lauren Raney (Trabuco Hills High) and Logan Sewell (Brea-Olinda High) were announced as recipients of the Carrie Valderrama Memorial Scholarship, which honors the memory of the late Irvine teacher and is open to children of ITA members.

Board gets an update on IPSF's upcoming initiatives

Julie Tapp of the Irvine Public Schools Foundation presented information on some of IPSF's upcoming initiatives, including the Innovative Teaching Awards Program and the popular Summer Enrichment Academy. Tapp also praised those who organized and participated in this year's Donald Bren Honors Concert on April 29, and she urged residents to spread the word about IPSF's fifth annual House Raffle.

Students, parents and staff to rally against state cuts to education

Wendy Bokota of the Irvine Unified Council PTA invited teachers, students, parents and staff to participate in a May 15 rally against the Governor's proposed cuts to education. The rally, which will precede a countywide effort at the Civic Center in Santa Ana, is scheduled to take place at 3:30 p.m. outside the District Office, located at 5050 Barranca Parkway. Bokota encouraged attendees to wear blue, underscoring the theme of "Blue About the Budget."

Board approves 2008-09 High School Textbook Catalogue

Meeting a yearly Education Code requirement, the Board voted to approve new high school textbooks for 2008-09. The additional texts, selected by high school staff with the assistance of curriculum committees, will enhance existing courses and serve as resources for new classes previously approved by the Board.

Coming Up...

Regular Meetings: *Tuesday, May 20, 2008 in the Board Room*
Tuesday, June 3, 2008 in the Board Room

BOARD OF EDUCATION
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IUSD ... providing the highest quality educational experience we can envision.