



Board Briefs

Highlights from this week's Board of Education meeting

IPSF chief pledges support for education in Irvine

Neda Zaengle, chief executive officer of the Irvine Public Schools Foundation, affirmed the foundation's support for Irvine's schools during the ongoing fiscal crisis.

Noting the challenges facing IUSD, Zaengle highlighted a few of the ways that IPSF provides financial support and enrichment for students. She encouraged parents and community members to visit the foundation's newly redesigned website at www.ipsf.net.

PTA honors winners of the 2009 Reflections art contest

Steffanie Early, president of the Irvine Unified Council PTA, presented a brief update on her organization, which has seen its membership rise to an all-time high of 12,295 parents, teachers, staff and community members.

Early also recognized local participants in the PTA's annual Reflections arts competition and introduced the 24 who recently received awards during a ceremony at City Hall.



The Irvine Unified Council PTA and the IUSD Board of Education honor students who recently earned awards in the 2009 Reflections arts competition. From the 1,225 entries, 495 students were recognized at their schools and 24 received awards during a ceremony at Irvine City Hall.

The national PTA Reflections Program provides opportunities for students to express themselves and to receive recognition for their artistic efforts. Overall, 1,225 entries were submitted in Irvine based on this year's theme, "Beauty is..!"

Board approves independent financial audit for 2008-09

Meeting a requirement of the state Education Code, Board members voted to receive and file a financial audit of IUSD for the 2008-09 fiscal year. The audit was conducted by the independent firm Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co.

Board approves second reading and adoption of hazing policy

The Board approved the second reading and adoption of a new hazing policy designed to promote responsible and respectful school citizenship.

The county Department of Education has encouraged districts to develop individual disciplinary policies specific to hazing. IUSD defines hazing as "a method of initiation or pre-initiation into a pupil organization or body, whether or not the organization or body is officially recognized by an educational institution, which is likely to cause serious bodily

(Continued on next page)

More highlights from the Jan. 12 Board of Education meeting

injury or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to a former, current, or prospective pupil.”

Coming Up...

Regular Meetings: *Tuesday, February 2, 2010 in the Board Room (7 p.m.)*
Tuesday, February 16, 2010 in the Board Room (7 p.m.)

Special Meetings: *Board Study Session - Budget*
Tuesday, January 19, 2010 in the Board Room (4-6 p.m.)

Community Forum - Budget
Tuesday, January 26, 2010 in the Board Room (7-9 p.m.)

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

GWEN E. GROSS, Ph.D., *Superintendent of Schools*

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.