



Board Briefs

Highlights from this week's Board of Education meeting

IPSF representative details new five-week campaign

Cheryl Braun of the Irvine Public Schools Foundation discussed IPSF's five-week campaign to raise money for classroom support in 2010-11.

In response to the state budget crisis, IPSF has announced that all funds collected between now and March 1 will be used to lessen the impacts of potential class-size increases. Braun noted that the Irvine Public Schools Foundation is the only organization with the resources to impact every school in IUSD. She added that IPSF is underwriting the cost of this latest fundraising effort to ensure that 100 percent of the dollars received go directly to support students.

Parents and community members are encouraged to learn more about the foundation and its five-week campaign by logging on to www.ipsf.net.

PTA president updates art contest, announces health conference

Steffanie Early, president of the Irvine Unified Council PTA, told the Board that 14 local participants in the PTA's annual Reflections arts competition were honored by the organization's Fourth District, which represents Orange County. Five students, whose names have yet to be announced, will now go on to compete at the state level, she said.

Early also noted that the Irvine Unified Council PTA, Fourth District PTA and IUSD are sponsors of the second annual Life Threatening Events Associated with Pediatric Patients in Sports (LEAPS) Conference at the Orange County Department of Education on Feb. 6. Leading experts in pediatric cardiology, sports medicine and other fields will share the latest evidence-based information about health hazards associated with pediatric sports.

Assistant Superintendent presents a brief budget update

Lisa Howell, assistant superintendent of Business Services, offered a brief update on California's budget crisis and its impact on IUSD.

Figures from the Department of Finance calculate a statewide loss of about \$250 per student for 2010-11, meaning Irvine Unified faces a projected shortfall of nearly \$23.8 million. Howell cautioned that the this amount may continue to fluctuate between now and June, noting that earlier numbers provided by School Services of California indicated the deficit was closer to \$22.5 million.

The Board will hold its next Budget Study Session from 4 to 6 p.m. on Feb. 9 at the District Office.

Board votes to initiate bargaining process with employee groups

In separate actions required by the state's Education Code, Board members voted to adopt joint proposals between IUSD and its two largest employee groups – the Irvine Teachers Association and the California School Employees Association (CSEA), Chapter 517 – to initiate the bargaining

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More highlights from the Feb. 2 Board of Education meeting

process for 2010-11. Action had already been taken to initiate bargaining for 2009-10.

Board members also voted to adopt a similar joint bargaining proposal for the Irvine Supervisory Association, applicable to the 2009-10 and 2010-11 fiscal years.

Board initiates proceedings for recreation improvement assessments

The Board voted unanimously to initiate proceedings for the levy and collection of assessments within IUSD's Recreation Improvement and Maintenance District for 2010-11. This funding mechanism helps IUSD pay for the installation, maintenance and service of its recreational facilities.

Coming Up...

Special Meetings: *Board Study Session - Budget*
Tuesday, February 9, 2010 in the Board Room (4-6 p.m.)

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

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