



Board Briefs

Highlights from this week's Board of Education meeting

IPSF accepts \$50,000 grant from Kaiser Permanente

Neda Zaengle, CEO of the Irvine Public Schools Foundation, accepted a \$50,000 check from Kaiser Permanente and thanked the organization for funding health education in IUSD's elementary schools.

Kaiser's contribution will specifically pay for "The Great Body Shop," a comprehensive health program that has been shown to reduce violence as well as the use of alcohol, tobacco and drugs.

Zaengle said the foundation is committed to developing sustainable, community-based partnerships that support healthy students and families in Irvine, and she noted that Kaiser has been a generous and consistent donor.

Families Forward marks its 25th year of providing assistance

Margie Wakeham, executive director of Families Forward, recognized the ongoing partnership with IUSD and its schools as her organization celebrates its 25th anniversary.

Established in 1984, Families Forward assists those in need, offering food, housing assistance, career coaching, life skills counseling and other vital services.

Noting that her organization has seen an unprecedented rise in the need for its services this year, Wakeham said Families Forward is now seeking gift cards for its annual Thanksgiving distribution, which will take place Nov. 20 and Nov. 21. To make a donation, or to find more information, visit www.families-forward.org.

The Irvine Company donates latest installment of \$20 million pledge

The Irvine Company presented IUSD with the latest installment of its pledge of \$20 million over 10 years for enriched curriculum in art, science and music.

Robin Leftwich, vice president of Community Affairs for the Irvine Company, presented a check for \$2 million following a special musical performance by Northwood High School violinist Winnie Wang, who was accompanied by her mother, Rebecca.

Now in its fourth year, the Irvine Company's Excellence in Education Enrichment Fund



The Irvine Company presents the latest installment of its pledge of \$20 million over 10 years for art, music and science. Pictured, from left, are: Brad Van Patten, IUSD's visual and performing arts coordinator; Mark Sontag, math and science coordinator; Robin Leftwich, vice president of Community Affairs for the Irvine Company; Northwood High musician Winnie Wang; and IUSD Board President Gavin Huntley-Fenner.

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More highlights from the Nov. 3 Board of Education meeting

generously pays for art, music and science specialists in IUSD's fourth-, fifth- and sixth-grade classrooms.

Board votes to refinance bonds and issue new bonds

The Board voted on a resolution to refinance Communities Facilities District (CFD) No. 86-1 bonds and issue new bonds to build an IUSD middle school in the region known as Planning Area 40.

CFDs help pay for the construction of schools and other educational facilities. Under this system, the Board is authorized to levy special taxes to pay for capital projects and issue bonds payable from those special taxes.

In 1986, IUSD formed CFD No. 86-1 as a result of mitigation agreements with the Irvine Company. Several series of special tax bonds have since been issued. Currently the 1997, 1998 and 1999 bonds remain outstanding.

The resolution approved by Board members authorized the issuance of fixed rate bonds, not to exceed \$108 million. That amount includes approximately \$83 million worth of refinanced bonds – potentially generating significant savings for IUSD – and approximately \$25 million worth of new bonds that will be used to fund the new middle school.

Board member nominated for CSBA's Delegate Assembly

Board member Sharon Wallin was unanimously nominated for the Delegate Assembly of the California School Boards Association (CSBA), a collaborative organization that brings together more than 1,000 school districts and county offices of education on behalf of students in California.

As members of CSBA's primary policy-making body, delegates adopt the association's legislative platform, take positions on critical issues, elect officers and directors and adopt changes to bylaws.

Delegates also serve as liaisons between board members and regional directors. If elected by local boards of education within Orange County's Region 15, Wallin would begin a fourth two-year term on April 1.

Coming Up...

Regular Meetings:

Tuesday, November 17, 2009 in the Board Room

Tuesday, December 8, 2009 in the Board Room (Organizational meeting)

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.