



SAUSALITO MARIN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Superintendent:
Board of Trustees:*

*Will McCoy
Joshua Barrow (President), Ida Green, Thomas Newmeyer
Debra Turner, and Caroline Van Alst*

1895 - 2017

April 7, 2017

Dear District Staff, Parents/Guardians, Community and Students:

Welcome Spring! Our last communication to you was during the middle of winter. Our work has never stopped nor has our focus on kids.

As promised, this update will become a part of regular series of communications you can expect over the coming months as we commit to and build a school that celebrates, lifts and empowers our children to become active, engaged and successful students and citizens. We believe in a better future for our students and this will be strengthened by our collective commitment to the Bayside/Martin Luther King Jr. Academy School and to the Sausalito Marin City School District.

The following items include several updates related to district and school operations.

Summer School and Freedom School

The Sausalito Marin City School District is partnering with the Hannah Project to operate a Freedom School at Bayside/MLK this summer from June 14th through July 28th. We're pleased to share this partnership extends to include Bridge the Gap and will include an activity-rich math program for next year's third through eighth grades. For students who enroll in this summer's Freedom School, the math program will be embedded into the Freedom School program. Over the month of April we will be reaching out to the families of next year's 3rd through 8th grade students to encourage participation in the Freedom School. We will also be reaching out to the families of next year's 8th graders to encourage their enrollment into the Tamalpais' Union High School District's summer program. More information will be provided to those families. Lastly, there will be a variety of summer programs offered to Kindergarten through 2nd graders. Administration is working closely with our community partners to coordinate all options for our students and more information will be shared in the coming weeks.

Saturday School

Many thanks to the Hannah Project for coordinating a tutoring and mentoring opportunity for 3rd through 8th grade students. Tutoring and mentoring is provided by students from the Dominican College Black Student Union. Students meet in the Library from 9:00 – 12:00 each Saturday.

10,000 Degrees®

We're pleased to share a renewed partnership with 10,000 Degrees®! Through this partnership, 10,000 Degrees® will place professional staff members on campus to promote and support college and career readiness. These individuals currently work within the Tamalpais Union High School campuses and at

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the Bayside/MLK campus they will serve to connect with and prepare our students for their college and career futures. These professionals come from the community and their experiences raise hopes and lend credibility within the community. We look forward to supporting them as they work with our students!

The 2017-18 School Year!

School Climate

Bayside MLK is currently exploring and implementing two highly recognized programs that support the social and emotional needs of our students. The Toolbox program is designed to provide clear expectations for students and a way to self-regulate how they engage with their world. By providing positive strategies for conflict resolution, the program teaches students about making positive choices. Recently staff participated in a training called Capturing Kids Hearts (CKH), which focuses on building and maintaining positive relationships throughout the school community. Many of our team members attended a training on March 21st and 22nd to learn about the power of connecting with and empowering students.

Individual Success Plans for Every Student

We continue to review and analyze multiple sources of data for every student, and are working toward the development of a strong Individual Success/Learning Plans (ISLP) model for our students. The purpose of the Individual Success Plans will be to provide teachers, students, and families with a customized set of goals, data and action items related to the education of each child. The ISLPs will become a cornerstone for a successful educational program at Bayside MLK.

Bayside/MLK Teaching Staff

There are changes in staffing that will take place for the next school year. We have received resignations from a few staff members, and we thank them for their contributions to this school year and we wish them well in their future endeavors. We are currently seeking outstanding individuals (teachers and staff) to welcome to our campus next year. We will be working to ensure a respectful transition so that students and families can say goodbye. Please help us give a warm thanks to those that are leaving, and a heart-felt welcome to those that will become part of the Bayside MLK staff. We commit to keeping our entire school community, students, staff and families, apprised of staffing transitions as they become known.

Administrative Staffing

At a February board meeting, the district learned through an annual audit that the district is being assessed a penalty by the California Department of Education for an excessive administrator to teacher ratio. The cause of the approximately \$50,000 penalty is due to a high number of administrators when compared to the number of teachers. The number of teachers is tied to the number of grades and the number of students. In order to avoid this penalty in the future, and to still manage the district's budget, the district needs to reduce the number of administrators. The administrative staffing level for 2017-18 has not yet been determined. However, Superintendent McCoy will be inviting members of the community to meet with him to hear input and to dialogue on how to best fill the administrative needs of the school and district beginning in 2017-18. Please be on the lookout for this invitation in the next few weeks.

Visitations to Model Schools

As we continue to pursue the Community School Model for Bayside MLK, we will be visiting successful community schools and Freedom Schools to learn how best to incorporate proven approaches into Bayside/MLK. We commit to creating an amazing program for students that integrates best practices with the important consideration of how it would work best in our community. We would also like to thank the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) for their contributions to the work of creating a Community School at Bayside MLK. The CAC build from and renew the work created by the Community Action Team (A Team) in 2013.

Board of Trustees

The Board held a Governance Workshop on Monday, March 27th. The purpose of the workshop was to clarify the roles and responsibilities of Board Members, as well as the important relationship between the Board and Superintendent. At the workshop, Board Members were provided the opportunity to ask questions of the facilitator regarding recent challenges faced by the Board.

We understand that the community has concerns and questions about the actions and recusals of Board Members during meetings. These actions are part of a series of challenges being faced by the Board.

Community and Parents/Guardians

We would like to thank the many parents and community members that are involved in the committee work of the district. The School Site Council, English Learner Advisory Committee, Parent Advisory Committee, Parent Round Table, Budget Advisory Committee, and Community Advisory Committee all have several members that are dedicated to the success of the school and district. We extend our many thanks for your hard work and dedication to our school community.

Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

Beginning in February, the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence (CCEE) created a Community Advisory Committee (CAC). As a reminder, the CCEE selected the Sausalito Marin City School District as one of its pilot districts. The CCEE designed its pilot program to deliver deep, multiyear technical assistance with a small number of LEAs that will assist long-term efforts in advising and assisting school districts in improving pupil outcomes, closing the achievement gap and establishing a system of continuous improvement. In creating the CAC, the CCEE's role is to facilitate the work of the CAC. The CAC includes members from the Marin City Community, Bayside/MLK staff, Bayside/MLK parents, the Marin County Office of Education and other community agencies. The CAC has identified their purpose as supporting the goals of the district as described in the district's LCAP and in building a strong model of what success for Bayside MLK students will look like. The CAC is focused on what is in the best interest of the school community while focusing on clear communication and direct engagement with school community stakeholders. Stay tuned for more information from the CAC directly.

Budget Advisory Committee (BAC)

In February the Board of Trustees established a Budget Advisory Committee to provide the board with budget solutions related to the fiscal health of the district. The BAC is working in tandem with the LCAP PAC to coordinate budget considerations with the Budget approval and LCAP approval process. Actionable and advisory items will be brought to the board on April 25th.

Local Control and Accountability Parent Advisory Committee (LCAP PAC)

The LCAP PAC scheduled two sessions to solicit input and to provide information for the LCAP annual update on March 29th and April 11th. The March 29th session focused on reviewing the State's new dashboard that shows how our students are performing. The April 11th session will cover improvement to services and resources identified in the district's LCAP. For more information on these input sessions, please go to the district website at smcsd.org.

Parent Liaison Position

Applications closed on March 31st for the Parent Liaison Position for Bayside/MLK. We plan to fill this position in the coming weeks as this position will play a critical role in helping to coordinate the activities of the school in support of our Bayside/MLK families.

Consolidation Feasibility Study

The Marin County Office of Education has commissioned a feasibility study regarding the possibility of consolidating the Sausalito Marin City School District with the Mill Valley School District. The study will take place over a six to nine months and will take a variety of factors into account regarding the possible combining of the districts. The study is advisory only, and has no power to actually combine the two districts. Any consolidation would have to be placed on the ballot and be approved by the residents of both districts.

Inventory of Corrective Actions

In order to provide the district with a tool to organize the many actions that are currently underway in our district, a document has been developed called the Inventory of Corrective Actions. This inventory captures the recommendations, findings and complaints filed against the district from a variety of agencies and community voices. The purpose of the document is to provide a way to track the work and to show progress toward completion of the many items.

Sincerely,

Josh Barrow, President, Sausalito Marin City School District

Will McCoy, Superintendent

Terena Mares, Deputy Superintendent, Marin County Office of Education