

Spotlight on the Board

Notes from the District 15 School Board Meeting

January 25th, 2005

Spotlight on the Board is a collection of notes taken at the District 15 School Board meetings by Pleasant Hill PTAs' District 15 liaison, Susan Quinn. They are meant to help parents and staff who are unable to attend the Board meetings on a regular basis to keep informed about the issues and plans affecting the district. Below are the highlights from the January "Committee of the Whole" meeting, which is designed for discussion only, with no votes or decisions.

- Palatine Firefighters advocate for return of 5th grade Fire Safety field trip
 - McKanna asks firefighters to come to schools instead
 - Rowden asks that adding back the field trip be put on next meetings agenda
- McKanna proposes several issues for the Board to give direction on:
 - 2006-07 Class Size: decrease 2 students per class (cost:\$1.4M) for average class size of 26
 - Rowden proposes differentiating between grades K-3 (24 kids/class) and grades 4-6 (26 kids/class)
 - Learning Resource Center: add back full-time LRC instructor (cost:\$0.95M)
 - LRC clerical would return to the front office
 - Buses: replace 15 buses (cost:\$1.05M)
 - Rowden, Keenan want to see ages of buses
 - Technology: Replace servers (\$141k), 200 computers/software (\$170k), 840 computers/labs (\$714k)
 - Millar said Tech Committee working on 5 year plan to replace all technology (6000 computers in district)
 - Asst Principals: Return to full-time asst principals at 4 elem schools (\$180k)
 - School Advisors: Restore Jr. High student advisors (\$380k)
 - New Teacher Employment: hire experienced as well as new teachers
- New Soc Studies and Math (gr 4-6) curriculum will be presented at next meeting
 - Materials available for parents to view

Full January 25th meeting notes, as well as previous *Spotlight on the Board* meeting notes, can be found at Pleasant Hill PTA's web site: www.phpta.org. Next Board meeting is Wednesday, February 8th, 2005, 7 pm at Sundling Jr. High. Email questions directly to Board members (see www.phpta.org for email addresses) or to Superintendent McKanna (McKannaR@ccsd15.net).