



FUSD Highlights

BOARD MEETING

MARCH 4, 2009

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Laura Abernathy-Mancha, President
Henry (Gus) Hawthorn, Clerk
Julie A. Ramos, Alternate Clerk
Kathleen (Kathy) Binks, Member
Barbara L. Chavez, Member

ADMINISTRATION

Cali L. Olsen-Binks
Superintendent

Richard A. Stedry, Ed.D.
Deputy Superintendent
Business Services

Oscar Dueñas
Interim Associate Superintendent
Instructional Services

Yolanda Mendoza
Associate Superintendent
Human Resources

Robert P. Ratcliffe
School Police Chief
School Police Services

BOARD MEETINGS

Wednesday, March 18, 2009
6 pm Regular Board Meeting
John D. Piazza Center

Wednesday, April 1, 2009
6 pm Regular Board Meeting
John D. Piazza Center

Board Bullets

- A Public Hearing was held on the 2008-09 Fontana SELPA Annual Service and Budget Plans. No comments were made and the plans were adopted by the Board.
- The Board adopted Resolution No. 09-17 recognizing March as National Women's History Month.
- A Public Hearing was held on the proposed new attendance boundary changes for the 2010-11 school year. No comments were made. A final recommendation will be brought to the Board on 3/18 for adoption.
- The Board adopted a Supplemental Employee Retirement Plan (SERP) for 2009-10 for classified personnel who are at least 60 years of age with a minimum of four fulltime years of employment at FUSD.
- Dr. Stedry presented further information on the 2008-09 and 2009-10 budgets.
- The Board of Education voted to elect Charles Uhalley, Kathy Thompson, Karen Morgan, Barbara Flores, Tommy Courtney, and Sue Brown to the California School Boards Association (CSBA) Delegate Assembly.

Good Things

Grant Elementary School Hits 800!

The Board was proud to recognize Grant Elementary School, FUSD's second school to reach 800 on the Academic Performance Index (API). When the District received the revised API figures, we were happy to find that Grant had received one additional point which brought their total score up to 800. This additional point was given for close attention to enrollment data and updating attendance. Said Principal Chris Ridge, "We have an incredible level of commitment that has come together to make this result possible. I stand before you honored and proud because it is the work of the staff members, the community, and the students at Grant Elementary that made this incredible accomplishment possible. I just feel so proud to be able to come and celebrate in this particular success right now." Accompanying Mr. Ridge were representatives from Grant Elementary School's leadership, including: School Site Council President Keith McCarter, Kindergarten Teacher Becky Braband, 4th Grade Teacher Louise Soto, Instructional Support Teacher, Marie Belt, the school's namesake Mrs. Dorothy Grant, 4th Grade Teacher Sara Johangiry, 2nd Grade Teacher Sally Shorts, and School Psychologist Brad Updike. Congratulations to Grant Elementary School's students and staff!



Artist Reception at the Art Association's Koehler Gallery

Janie Burgo thanked the Board of Education for their confidence in appointing her to the City of Fontana Park and Community Services Commission. Said Mrs. Burgo, "I hope I do you proud." She wanted to remind everyone that the Fontana Art Association will host its first Artist Reception at the Koehler Gallery (8536 Sierra Avenue) on Saturday, March 7, 2009 from 5-9 pm. She invited everyone to come by and see the newly remodeled gallery.



Fohi Presents "Into the Woods, Jr."

Fontana High School will be presenting their annual spring musical "Into the Woods, Jr." on March 5-8, 2009. Performance will be at 3:30 pm on Thursday, 7:00 pm on Friday and Saturday, and a matinee performance at 2:30 pm on Sunday. Tickets are \$10 general admission and \$8 for students and senior citizens. Dr. Wayne Ruble, retired FUSD Board Member, wanted to remind everyone that Fontana High School has been producing high quality spring musicals since the 1960's when the school's Theodore Auditorium was built. He encouraged everyone to come out and see the play.

"Buzz, Buzz, Buzz" Goes the Spelling Bee

Congratulations to Joshua Waite of Ruble Middle School. Joshua won the school spelling bee and was invited to participate in the Inland Valley Regional Spelling Bee. There will be 52 "spellers" in a preliminary contest on Saturday, March 7, and the top 30 will be brought back to participate in the finals. The finals will be held on Saturday, March 14, at 1 pm at Diamond Bar High School and Performing Arts Center. The winner will go on to compete in Washington. Superintendent Cali Olsen-Binks said, "Hip, Hip, Hooray to Joshua and we wish him all the spelling luck in the world!"

FUSD Awarded \$10 Million in E-Rate Funds

Dr. Stedry announced that FUSD has been awarded \$10 million in E-Rate funds from the Federal Government for technology starting next year. Said Dr. Stedry, "E-Rate funds can only be used for technology, not employees or staff. What it will pay for is for 21 schools to be totally rewired and go wireless and to buy new servers for those 21 schools."

Science Fair

The District Science Fair was held at Truman Middle School on Saturday, February 28th. Said Oscar Dueñas, Interim Associate Superintendent of Instructional Services, "We had the largest participation ever and 38 district champions will be going on to the County Science Fair competition. There was standing room only at the Awards Ceremony - it was packed!" Congratulations to all the Science Fair participants and good luck to the students who will be competing at the County competition.



Safety Assembly at Chaparral Elementary School

Chief Bob Ratcliffe announced that School Police, in conjunction with Fontana Police Department and San Bernardino County Fire Department, will be holding a public safety assembly for the students at Chaparral Elementary School as a reward for collecting the most pop tops in the district's recent fundraiser. The assembly will take place on Friday, March 6, 2009 at 12 noon, and will consist of demonstrations from the School Police Parrot Patrol, School Police K9 (Copper), fire department, Fontana Police K9, SWAT and air support!