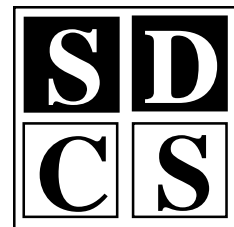


Staff Bulletin

For the employees of San Diego City Schools



Vol. 76

Jan. 31, 2002

No. 10

Deficit Reduction Funds Employee Groups Choose How To Apply Remainder

All employee groups within the district are being asked to consider how they want to apply the remaining dollars from the 2000-2001 deficit reduction money.

Last year, all district employees received a 3% salary increase as the result of agreements negotiated three years ago. On top of that 3%, employees received an estimated 5% increase funded from the deficit reduction money received from the state. Thus, the total salary increase last year was 8%.

"At that time, we stated that if the actual deficit reduction amount turned out to be greater than the estimated 5%, then we would give that additional money to the employee groups in whatever form they chose," said Deberie Gomez, deputy administrative officer.

"Since we do not know the actual amount of deficit reduction money until the district closes its books in August, we agreed to make available to every employee group an additional amount if the 5% estimate was low," she said.

"After the books were closed, we determined that there was an additional .092% available for each employee group. We have informed each group and asked them to tell us whether they wanted to apply this to the salary schedule for the group, or

(Continued on Page 4)

In this issue.....

- M&O On The Go!
- Deficit Reduction Funds Being Applied
- SDCS Police Lieutenant Runs Olympic Torch Relay
- Scenes From Our Schools

On The Go With M&O



Vacation? Who's on vacation? Not the Maintenance and Operations team. Larry Wilkes, above, inspects plumbing at Hancock Elementary. Dave Cale and John Warren, left, remove and replace bathroom fixtures to support terrazzo resurfacing.

Proposition MM activities have been receiving some much deserved recognition of late as district staff and a host of local consultants and contractors are getting on with the business of improving San Diego schools.

Much less visible but no less important are the many activities of the district's Maintenance and Operations (M&O) Department. With many school sites operating year-round and 6-to-6 programs as the norm, scheduling critical repairs while minimizing the impact on teaching and learning is a significant challenge to M&O staff.

"Over the recent winter break, M&O workers and support contractors initiated over \$7 million worth of critical facilities maintenance, repair and improvements projects," said Maintenance and Operations director Bill Dos Santos.

"Many of these projects, such as repairs to the electrical systems at Henry and Morse High Schools, needed to be done while the school was shut down. Others were started during the break in order to efficiently minimize disruption at the sites."

Among the 62 projects started (and completed in many cases) during the break:

- Paving at Adams, Holmes, Lee and Whitman elementary schools
- Fencing at Audubon, Sherman and Silvergate elementary and Marshall middle schools
- Irrigation improvements at Bay Park, Boone, Freese and Pershing elementary, Roosevelt middle and Gompers high schools.
- Playground Equipment installations at Brooklyn, Chavez, Kimbrough, Lafayette and Sunset View elementary schools
- Electrical upgrades at Rowan elementary, the Language Academy and Gompers and Henry high schools.
- Roofing replacements at Ocean Beach, Silvergate and Wedgeforth elementary schools.
- Heating and gas systems upgrades at Central, Franklin, Mission Bay, Ocean Beach and Walker elementary schools.

For the latest construction and renovation schedule, check out the Proposition MM page on the district's website at <http://www2.sandi.net/repairs/>.

Student Salutes

Mira Mesa High School student **Luis Valenzuela** has been honored for an essay and presentation in "The True North Video (When Not To Keep A Secret)" contest. He's been invited to attend the American Psychiatric Foundation meeting in Philadelphia, PA. Other Marauders being recognized recently include sophomore **Maiya Tanaka**, who has been invited to participate in the TransPacific Cup golf tournament in Taipei, Taiwan, where the San Diego team will play a match against juniors representing the Golf Association of the Republic of China. Maiya recently placed 12th in the State CIF Championships. Additionally, wrestler **Leonard Smith** was named *UnionTribune* Athlete of the Week for the week of January 1, 2002.

Hoover High School's Virtual Enterprise class received 2nd place in salesmanship at the California Trade Fair in Bakersfield last month. More than 60 schools participated. **Morse High School students Jessica Hunt, Linda Le and Encia Smith** recently received \$1,000 Jackie Robinson Scholarships.

Several students from **Burbank Elementary** were recognized and awarded U.S. Savings Bonds and other prizes for outstanding submissions in the "Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Living His Dream in 2002" essay contest. Honorees included kindergartners **Danny Alvarez** and **Daneiry Garcia**, 1st grader **Deidra Brown** and 3rd graders **Monique Mejia** and **Francisco Salas**.

Marston Middle School 8th grader Nicholas Carlson has one generous grandma in **Eudora Carlson**. She recently arranged for the San Diego Opera Ensemble to perform "The Barber of Seville" for students, who say it helped them better appreciate opera.

La Jolla High School is noting several student accomplishments. The **Speech and Debate team** set records at the Christmas Classic Tournament. Of 16 finalists chosen from a field of 145 debaters, four of them were from La Jolla. Congratulations to **David Cohn, John Griffin, Justin Glavis-Blom** and **Michael Shih**. Other debate team members performing well in recent tournaments include **Michael Lee, Dariush Nohaft, Albert Wu** and **Yuanxin Zhou**. Wu was also a winner and Shih a finalist in the Aztec Invitational Tournament. Other finalists included **Nick Ande, David Cohen, Nikhil Cooper, Ashley Fox, Yunna Mirolyan** and **Alex Smith**.

Look What's Been Happening At School!



A WALL OF PEACE, KINDNESS AND JUSTICE was created by Serra High School students as part of the Kindness and Justice Challenge in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. More than 100 students helped create 21 different panels depicting the civil rights leader's ideals such as tolerance. The idea came from a letter by Martin Luther King III in an Ann Landers column.



UP, UP AND AWAY! Students and staff at Miramar Ranch Elementary recently held their annual Hot Air Balloon Festival. Students created balloons out of paper and other materials, and parents helped with launching.



A TRIBUTE TO PATRIOTISM - The color guard from the Inspector Instructor Staff San Diego and personnel from Marine Corps Air Station Miramar participated in a special patriotic assembly at Miramar Ranch Elementary. The school holds regular flag assemblies which include a "character building" theme. This twist included singing of the national anthem and releasing red, white and blue balloons.

Third Party Validates Assessments

Dr. Andrew Porter, Director of the Wisconsin Center for Education Research at the University of Wisconsin, presented his third party review and interpretation of SDCS student achievement data at the January 22 Board of Education meeting.

Dr. Porter was asked to examine the district's methods of data reporting and to determine if district achievement reports and displays are accurate. In his analysis, he complimented the district for testing "multiple subjects at multiple grade levels" and for its "emphasis on breaking data out by ethnicity and economic status," and found the district's reports and displays of data to be appropriate and consistent with good practice. His full report can be found on the Board of Education page on the district's website, www.sandi.net.

Latest API Reports On The Web

The California Department of Education has publicly released the 2001 Academic Performance Index (API) baseline reports for each district and school in the state. These reports provide the 2001 baseline API scores, the associated statewide and similar school ranks, and the 2001-02 growth targets.

Some of the summary results for San Diego City Schools show the district had 169 schools with valid API baseline scores. This represents 18 additional schools with a Base API in 2001 that did not have a Base API in 2000. Sixteen schools improved their statewide API rank from 2000 to 2001. It should be noted that schools in each category are the not the same schools year after year. Schools may move among categories depending on their performance and the performance of schools throughout the state.

The complete report is available on the district's website at www.sandi.net.

Looking Ahead

Scripps Ranch High School will be presenting a special "field trip performance" of the musical "**Once Upon A Mattress**" on Tuesday, February 12, at 9:45 a.m. Tickets for this matinee are \$3 for students, no charge for adults accompanying a class. For additional information, email Elissa Barber at ebarber@mail.sandi.net.

The University City Foundation for Public Schools is presenting its Spring "Friendraiser," showcasing the five University City-area schools on Saturday, February 2, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at University City High School, 6949 Genesee Avenue. The event showcases University City High, Standley Middle School, and Curie, Doyle and Spreckels elementary schools. The festival will include student performances, interactive activities, displays and sales of student art work, demonstrations of student literacy work, games and activities for all ages and a special performance by the principals of all five schools. Proceeds from the event benefit EDUCATE!, the University City Foundation for Public Schools. For more information, contact any participating school.

Fulton Elementary School welcomes author Larry Dane Brimmer today for a special visit. Brimmer is the author of 80 picture, chapter and nonfiction books for children. In addition to talking about his books, he will discuss the writing process and will answer questions the students have concerning his life as an author.

Children's author Pam Munoz-Ryan will be spending February 20th with the students of **Loma Portal Elementary**. Munoz-Ryan has written several award-winning books, including the 2001 American Library Association Notable Book winner "*Esperanza Rising*."

Virtual Enterprise of California is hosting its first San Diego Area Trade Fair on Monday, February 11, from 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Scottish Rite Center in Mission Valley. The program supports high school students as they learn the concepts of business and free enterprise. All fair visitors will be given \$10,000 in virtual money to spend at the booths. For more information, contact Brenda Nason at Hoover High School at (619) 594-3208 or bnason@mail.sandi.net.

Community Service Officer Carries A Torch

Knox Elementary School's Patrick Wafer has been leading a double life. By day, he's a Community Service Officer. After hours, he's been carrying a torch – for the 2002 Summer Olympics! Wafer recently participated in the Olympic Torch Relay, an experience that he says has made his whole year.

"I was blessed and honored to have carried the Olympic flame, and I feel like it resides in me now," said Wafer.

Wafer has been with the district 19 years, 15 as a community service officer at Knox. "I almost didn't participate in the run, but once I was in there, and carrying the torch I couldn't believe the feeling it gave me and the response people have along the way. It's a true sense of community," he said.

"It made me thankful for the life I have right now. I'm thankful for School Police and Knox for giving me an opportunity to share a common goal of helping our kids through education and life."

As a token of his moment in the "flame," Wafer has a special torch runner's jacket and a modified souvenir version of the torch, which he is happy to take around to school sites to share with students. If you are interested in having Wafer bring the torch story to your site, you can email him at pwafer@mail.sandi.net.



CLASSIFIEDS

Ads run on a space available basis. Send to Communications Office, Room 2145, Eugene Brucker Education Center. **Limit to 10 words** (not including phone) or ad not accepted. Include work location and phone (for ID purposes only).

FOR SALE: '96 Saturn SC1- 4cyl, auto, excellent condition, 50K, plum, \$6,250. (858) 270-2443. **'93 Ford Thunderbird LX-** auto, V6, great shape, 96K miles, \$3,795/obo. (619) 265-8113. **'92 Toyota Corolla DX,** 5-spd, many extras, very reliable, \$2,500/obo. (858) 496-0472. **'91 Eddie Bauer Explorer,** ABS 4-wheel, \$4,400/obo. (858) 748-3310. **Ship's Wheel-** 45", painted black, \$35. (619) 523-5044. **Whiteboard Chartholder-** 53 X 33, \$60, can email photo. (619) 546-0878. bgreenwo@sdcoe.k12.ca.us, **Electric Cart Scooter-** new battery Legend Pride \$1000 (858) 483-3162. **Sofa & Loveseat,** plum, excellent quality and condition. \$500. **All leather recliner-** cream \$100. (858) 459-1617. **Sofa,** yellow botanical plaid, stain-safe protection, \$300 (619) 448-9978. **Two burgundy chairs,** mahogany tables, electric hurricane lamps, sofa. (858) 587-1492. **White daybed,** w/ Sealy Posturepedic mattress, \$300. (619) 889-6691. **Portable dishwasher,** \$195. (619) 275-6113. **Kohler-Campbell console piano,** in perfect condition, \$1995. (619) 222-1395. **Large terrarium,** w/ accessories, \$50. **Iguana sun cage,** large, \$100. (619) 284-9279. **FOR RENT: Bay Park Condo-** 1500 sq. ft., 1 bd, 1 1/2 ba, fireplace, 2 decks w/ view. **South Ocean Beach-** Master room for rent, \$725 includes utilities, w/d, month to month lease. (619) 226-7706.

The next *Staff Bulletin* will appear Feb. 13. **Deadline for submissions is Feb. 4.** Please note all deadlines are final and cannot be extended. *Staff Bulletin* is on the web site.

Staff Bulletin

Published for employees of San Diego City Schools twice monthly except during school holidays, and monthly in July.

Send news items and classified ads to:
Ursula Kroemer, Editor of Staff Bulletin
Education Center, Room 2145
phone: (619) 725-5578; fax: (619) 725-5576
e-mail: communications@mail.sandi.net

Board of Education

Ron Ottinger, *President*
Edward Lopez, *Vice President*
John de Beck
Sue Braun
Frances O'Neill Zimmerman
Superintendent of Public Education
Alan D. Bersin

District News



It's officially dedicated! Ellen Browning Scripps Elementary, the first new school built as Proposition MM, held its school dedication ceremony January 17. During the presentation, a portrait of Miss Scripps was unveiled by Doug Dawson, executive director of the Ellen Browning Scripps Foundation, and Dr. Rich Cansdale, principal of Scripps Elementary. The school serves 311 students in kindergarten through grade four.

Up to \$7,500 in funding for tuition and books is available through the AB496 California Mathematics Initiative to teachers who are working toward or wish to obtain mathematics credentials. The program is open to credentialed teachers, interns and pre-interns. For more information and application forms, see Administrative Circular #33 on the district's website, or contact Marty Stultz in Institute Support and Professional Development at (858) 496-1875 or mstultz@mail.sandi.net. The deadline for 2001-2002 coursework reimbursement is March 4, 2002.

San Diego has been selected as one of the survey locations for the **National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey**, conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics. The survey is being conducted through March 29 and interviewers will be calling on more than 500 designated households throughout the county. The NCHS has notified the district about these planned activities so staff is aware and is able to respond to any inquiries. For more information about the survey, you may visit the NHANES web site at www.cdc.gov/nhanes or call Dr. Kathryn Porter, Director of Health Examination Studies for NCHS, at 1-800-452-6115.

Deficit Reduction Funds

(Continued from Page One)

whether they wanted to use it in some other way, such as adding into their Benefits Retirement account," she said.

The first of the employee groups has made its wishes known, with the Administrators' Association of San Diego (AASD) and the Confidentials requesting the .092% be directly applied to their salary schedules.

"Human Resources will immediately begin the task of preparing the new salary schedules for Board approval. Once the Board has approved them, they will be implemented. In addition, Payroll and IT will begin the task of preparing paychecks retroactive to July 1, 2001 for management employees. This is a complicated process so we are unable to provide a timeframe for those checks at this time," said Gomez.

No other bargaining unit has given the district final, formal instructions for the use of those funds.