



A Community of Learners

Superintendent's Perspective
August 28, 2007

Dear Staff, Students and Families:

Another year is upon us and before we know it the year 2010 will be here! This is an exciting time to be alive. We are moving forward more quickly than any generation before us, and the number of changes we will likely experience in the next few years will be exponential. Students, this will be invisible to you because you were born with it – the ability to respond rapidly to changes and to access information more quickly and with more depth than prior generations! As learners, the world is yours to explore and question. I hope this school year will bring you many opportunities to think and play creatively, analyze critically, solve problems together and honor and appreciate the things we share and the ways in which we are different. There is so much to learn about our world and it is all at your fingertips.

All around us the world is changing. We need to respond to global issues and do our part to assure a promising future for everyone. We are taking steps in the district to become more “green” and we are seeking technologies to help us be more efficient and effective at what we do, especially as these changes occur. Rapid communication becomes essential for two reasons: 1) our commitment to an inclusive education means we need to seek input before changes are implemented, and 2) we need to be able to assess the impact of the changes and how they add value to the educational process.

This year you will see some changes in how we communicate with you. You will see increased use of technology as we attempt to reduce paper outputs. Our sites will be using a new parent notification system to send out important messages – by phone and by e-mail – and you will be hearing from me as superintendent, in the same way. The blue Perspective will become smaller and smaller as we build other venues for communicating district-wide issues. The plan is to notify you by e-mail or phone when there is a communication for you to read and post that communication online. There may also be an occasional podcast and blog! The district website is undergoing a face lift right now so stay tuned for new links and opportunities to be informed and participate in district planning.

Our trustees have a communication plan they are working on as well. This year we are providing board meeting agendas and back up materials to public viewing online. These will typically be posted 72 hours in advance of a meeting. Meetings take place once a month (with occasional special and regular meetings added), almost always the fourth Wednesday of the month (see reverse side for dates), and agendas are posted Friday afternoon, the week before. Shortly after the meeting, we will post online “It Happened Wednesday”...a summary and highlights of board discussion and action on agenda items.

The most important communication of the week to students, parents and staff is that we hope your school year is fun-filled, exciting, challenging, rewarding and in every way extraordinary!

Yours in Education,

Dates to Remember
2007-08

Board of Trustees meetings*:

August 30	(5 th Thursday)
September 26	(4 th Wednesday)
October 24	(4 th Wednesday)
November 28	(4 th Wednesday)
December 19	(3 rd Wednesday)
January 23	(4 th Wednesday)
February 27	(4 th Wednesday)
March 26	(4 th Wednesday)
April 23	(4 th Wednesday)
May 28	(4 th Wednesday)
June 18	(3 rd Wednesday)

** These meetings are normally held in the Hall Middle School Library and Open Session begins at 6:00 p.m. On a rare occasion, however, the time, date and/or venue changes, so please be sure to double-check our website prior to the meetings – www.larkspurschools.org to be sure.*

Superintendent/Board Coffee Chats*:

September 20	(Thursday)
October 29	(Monday)
November 6	(Tuesday)
December 11	(Tuesday)
January 25	(Friday)
March 6	(Thursday)
April 18	(Friday)
June 3	(Tuesday)

** These are informal chats with the Superintendent and Trustees, held from 8:30 to 9:30 at Il Fornaio in Corte Madera. On a rare occasion, we need to change the date. Please double-check our website prior to the date if you plan to attend.*

District Advisory Council Meetings*:

October 30	(Tuesday)
December 6	(Thursday)
February and April meetings	- To be determined
May 30	(Friday)

** The District Advisory Council represents staff and parents and serves in an advisory capacity to the Superintendent for district categorical programs, curriculum and budget.*