

## On Becoming a Trustee...

The Larkspur School District is currently seeking a Trustee with the skills and qualifications necessary to work as a member of the school district governance team in furthering the vision, mission and strategic priorities of our District.

Citizen oversight of local government is the cornerstone of democracy in the United States. It is a solid foundation that has been in existence since our nation came into being. Every government entity is staffed by experts and governed by civilians. It is appropriate and necessary that we entrust the governance of our schools to citizens elected by their communities to oversee the districts. School Board Members are the largest category of elected public officials in the United States; over 100,000 citizens in our country serve as Trustees.

Governing Boards provide direction and oversight for the professionals who manage the day-to-day operations of schools. School Board Members provide accountability to the community. School Boards are the only locally-elected officials chosen solely to represent the interests of children. They have a profound responsibility to build and maintain community support for school programs and policies being used to achieve the shared expectations in the District's vision and for public education and children. Trustees also speak out on behalf of the schools and children in the community to a larger audience.

School district governance is the act of transforming the needs, wishes and desires of the community into policies that direct the community's schools. Working as a team, Board Members and the Superintendent leverage the efforts of professional staff and create a climate of excellence in which students thrive by setting a direction for the District reflective of the community's wishes for its children, holding the system accountable, providing support to students and staff through behaviors and action, and demonstrating community leadership.

Trustees Bonny, Friedrichs, Mangan and Mowbray encourage you to consider becoming a part the Board of Trustees. While not a simple task, it is fulfilling and rewarding and an excellent way to serve the community. The vacancy is for a term ending in November 2009 and will be appointed by the current Board. Please contact Valerie Pitts, Superintendent, or Monica Bonny, Board President, if we can answer questions you might have about the position. Applications are due February 12 and are available on our website ([www.larkpurschools.org](http://www.larkpurschools.org)) or at the Larkspur School District Office at 230 Doherty Drive, Larkspur.

Trustees have added two meetings to their 2008 calendar to accommodate the selection and appointment process. Please see the schedule of meetings below, as well as other dates of importance to our District.

## Upcoming Dates of Interest

School Board Meetings (all at 6:00 p.m. in the Hall Library):

January 29 – Begin Budget Discussions and Board Vacancy Interview Questions.

February 13 – Deliberate, vote and appoint successful applicant

February 27 – New Trustee sworn in

March 12 – Additional Board Meeting

March 26 – Regularly-scheduled Board Meeting

Superintendent/Board Coffee Chats (all at Il Fornaio):

February 4 at 5:30 p.m. and February 8 at 8:30 a.m.

Facilities Master Plan Committee Meetings (all at 6:00 p.m. in the Hall Library):

February 11 and February 25

District Advisory Council – February 13 at 12:30 p.m. in the Community Room

Kindergarten Registration – February 13 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. – Neil Cummins Gym