

Hello All:

The first week of school has been a very peaceful event this year; much like most years! There is something very calming about getting back into the routine of school. Students, staff and families feel the comfort of knowing what each day will bring - friends, fun, new learning, afternoon and evening rituals we all look forward to. I hope this school year brings renewed excitement, engagement and extraordinary learning for all.

This perspective is filled with the have to's of some of our district policies. Rather than inundate you with paper copies of the policies, we are required to send to all parents at the beginning of the school year, this perspective contains the links to two policies. These are 1) Uniform Complaint Procedures - the district is required to annually notify parents, pupils, employees and district and school advisory committee members of its required Uniform Complaint Procedures. This notice can be found on our website under Annual Parent Notices at www.larkspurschools.org; and, 2) Annual Pesticide Notification - the district has a Least-Toxic Integrated Waste Management Policy that promotes the use of non-chemical methods for controlling pests. During the 2008-09 school year, the district has no plans to use pesticides. For more information, please refer to the notice that is found on our website, also under Annual Parent Notices.

Lastly, we would like to remind you about our district calendar and religious holiday guidelines. These can be found on the website under Calendar.

Board Meeting Highlights from last week's board meeting include:

Facilities Planning - Trustees continue to discuss the recommendation of the Facilities Master Plan committee and hope to reach a decision on new construction and modernization needs by the end of September. There are many considerations and trustees are taking each one seriously as they ensure the safety and well-being of your children. Board meetings are open to the public and we encourage your participation. The next regularly-scheduled meeting of the Larkspur School District Board of Trustees is September 24 in the Hall Middle School Library. A public hearing regarding facilities is tentatively scheduled for October 14 at the Neil Cummins Gym.

Trustees also approved new 2008-10 Strategic Priorities. The new priorities are prominently displayed on our website. Please take a look! Our next step in strategic planning is to complete measurable goals and activities. We hope to accomplish this, with input generated from last spring's planning sessions, by mid-October. Thanks to all of you who participated in this process!

I'll see you at Back-To-School Night. More important dates are listed below. Please don't hesitate to e-mail or call me with any comments, questions, kudos or concerns.