



Larkspur School District *A Community of Learners*

LARKSPUR SCHOOL DISTRICT

Message sent - 6/9/2009

Superintendent's Perspective

Dear Students, Families and Staff:

It is hard to believe we are at the end of another school year! It has been an exciting, fun and productive year, and at the same time one filled with ambiguity and disappointment as the economy has taken its toll on educational programs. I hope that this summer provides you the needed relief from the stress of the school year. Be safe in your travels, enjoy time with your family, rest and relax!

During the summer we will be hard at work with our state fiscal analysts carving out a workable budget for the coming year. As you know, California continues to be faced with declining revenues and seemingly insurmountable budget problems. I want to assure you that while none of us will go untouched in the latest rounds of projected cuts, we will do all we can in the district to maintain the quality of our programs and provide a smooth transition into the 09-10 school year.

The Board of Trustees will meet several times over the summer (see already scheduled meeting dates below), and I will keep you abreast of changes in the budget and/or programs. Please look for communications via email and the website. We are currently facing uncharted waters as Basic Aid districts like ours expect to take our "fair share" of revenue reductions. These will come from both the current and next fiscal years. Our local revenues (CMLSF, Parcel Tax, Leases, Grants) will continue to play a major role in providing stability in revenue for us. We value our partnerships and the support we receive from all of you, and we will strive to leverage resources to prevent further loss of staff and programs.

We are required by the state to submit a three year balanced budget by June 30. Details relating to revenue reductions are coming in daily from Sacramento as the legislators attempt, once again, to balance the budget. Unfortunately, we still don't know exactly what our hit will be, and this lack of clarity in funding is preventing us from making some staffing decisions before the end of the year. Specialist programs in Science, PE and Technology are threatened, as is class size. Funding for length of school year and transportation are also at risk.

I appreciate the professional attitudes, dedication, patience and willingness of all of our staff to continue to plan and move forward even as our resources dwindle. I

also applaud the PTA's and Corte Madera Larkspur School Foundation for their unequivocal support. Education is without a doubt one of the most resilient of the public services, and we will survive and thrive during tough times. It takes a village.....

Yours in community,

Valerie

Upcoming Board Meeting Dates to Remember

June 12 at 8:00 a.m. (8:15 Open Session) – Special Board Meeting focused on the budget – Community Room, Larkspur Parks and Recreation Office

June 17 at 6:00 p.m. – Regular Board Meeting – Hall Middle School Library

July 22 at 6:00 p.m. – Regular Board Meeting – Hall Middle School Library

This e-mail has been sent to you by LARKSPUR SCHOOL DISTRICT. To maximize their communication with you, you may be receiving this e-mail in addition to a phone call with the same message. If you wish to discontinue this service, please inform LARKSPUR SCHOOL DISTRICT IN PERSON, by US MAIL, or by TELEPHONE at (415) 927-6960.

Copyright © 2008 Blackboard Connect Inc.
This e-mail has been sent from LARKSPUR SCHOOL DISTRICT through the **Connect-ED** service.
Connect-ED is a service of Blackboard Connect Inc.
All Rights Reserved Worldwide.