



The Inside Track

March, 2009

Superintendent's Message:

It is with mixed emotions that I have decided to retire at the end of this school year. After serving almost 30 years in the field of education, I am ready to slow down a little and move on to the next phase of my life. The twelve years that I have worked in North County have afforded me the opportunity to grow, to take on new challenges, and to be part of this amazing and close-knit community. I have appreciated the friendship and collegiality extended to me by so many in the school community and I will miss you.

The Board has hired Rudy and Judy Gatti to facilitate the process of searching for a new Superintendent. The Gattis will be in the district March 30 and 31 to meet with various constituent groups to secure feedback on the qualities and characteristics in a new Superintendent that the Board, staff, parents and community feel are important. All interested staff members are invited to attend a meeting on Monday, March 30 at 3PM at either the District Office Board Room or the High School Library. All parents and community members are invited to a meeting at 7PM on Monday, March 30. The meeting in the Echo Valley cafeteria will be conducted in English. The meeting at the High School library will be conducted in Spanish. The Board hopes to complete the interview process and select a new Superintendent by the end of the school year.

I would like to acknowledge and congratulate:

🍎 Castroville School 5th grader **Brenda Dominguez** for having her cartoon published in the March 8th Monterey County Herald!

🍎 The **Condor Boys Junior Varsity soccer team** for winning the Monterey Bay League (MBL) championship this season: The Boys and Girls Varsity basketball teams have made it to the first round of playoffs.

🍎 The **North Monterey County Middle School Phoenix 7th grade boy's basketball team** made it to the playoffs this year!

🍎 Teacher **Paul Karrer** for his public recognition in the Monterey County Herald as well as from our School Board for his faithfulness to a former student.

Sincerely,
Carolyn Post, Superintendent

Open House Schedule: It means a lot to your students for you to go to Open House and visit their classrooms, see their work, and talk with their teachers. **Please mark the Open House date for your student on the calendar.**

Castroville Elementary	April 1 st at 7PM
Echo Valley Elementary	March 31 st at 6PM
Elkhorn Elementary	May 20 th at 6PM
Prunedale Elementary	May 28 th at 7PM
North County Middle	May 14 th at 6:30PM

Graduation Schedule: Promotion and graduation celebrations are important family events. We wanted to get these dates out to you early so each family can plan accordingly. **We are looking forward to seeing you at graduation!!!**

Central Bay	May 28 th at 6PM at the High School Forum
Middle School	June 4 th at 5PM at the Middle School
High School	June 5 th at the Salinas Sports Complex

Special Recognition and Congratulations: We want to honor the efforts of **Richard Medrano** and **Albert Serrano** for completing the ASE (Automotive Service Excellence) Certification program! This is an outstanding achievement that supports our vehicle safety. Our vehicle maintenance mechanics service not only all our district school buses but also the North County Fire Protection District trucks. Thank you and congratulations to these two outstanding gentlemen.



Budget Update and Cuts : The State Legislature approved a 17-month budget on February 19th for the remainder of this fiscal year and the next fiscal year. Due to the financial setbacks in our state, the amount of funds going to schools and all public agencies has been reduced dramatically for the current school year as well as for next year.

The reduction in positions in our district for next year include work year reductions for some managers, some clerical positions and some preschool staff members, eliminating the 9th grade Class Size Reduction program, increasing class size in grades 2nd and 3rd from 20 to 24, reducing a counseling position at the middle school and the high school, reducing the elementary visual and performing arts position, and reducing the custodial staff at each school by total of 4 hours per day. Some classroom support staff also sustained reductions in overall hours. All of the staff reductions were directly linked to the program funding cuts passed down by the State. These are very difficult times for everyone and we look forward to the day when our economy begins to turn around again.

Community Partners: The Castroville Leadership Council has secured grant funding to sponsor a Girls Inc group at North County High School. The Community of Caring and the CAPC will be working with the Castroville Leadership Council to explore the formation of a Guys Inc group at North County Middle School. Girls Inc and Guys Inc provide mentoring and leadership development for young people.

Don't forget, you can find school Board meeting agendas and minutes as well as other school and district information on the website www.nmcusd.org

