

Nicasio School Board Meeting 2015-16

December 3, 2015

Principal's Report

WHAT'S NEW

School Activities and Events

End of 1st Trimester – Report Cards, 11/6

Nicasio School launched new report cards based on Common Core standards for grades K-8 at the start of the 2014-15 school year. As of Fall 2015, we are pleased to announce that all grade-level report cards are available in Spanish as well thanks to many translation hours from Spanish Specialist **Judith Kirkland** and to the **Nicasio School Foundation** for providing essential funding for the translation services that the school provides to Spanish-speaking parents.

Parent-Teacher Conferences, 11/18 – 11/20

Administration

Committee Interviews for Accountant (Payroll/Accounts Payable) Position, 11/13

*Bolinas-Stinson & Nicasio Chief Business Official **Cheryl Robbins***

From Bolinas-Stinson: *Superintendent **John Carroll**; Business Manager **Margie Bonardi**; School Board Trustee **Ariane Dar***

From Nicasio: *Principal **Christy Stocker**; Office Manager **Mikki McIntyre***

Middle School Principal Network Meeting at MCOE, 11/17

Principal **Christy Stocker** attended this meeting along with several other principals from Marin County. The primary focus of this meeting was to discuss standards-based report cards at the middle school level and the value/authenticity of grades reflected on report cards.

Personnel

Art Program – Vacant Position

Art Specialist **Jill Tisdale** has submitted her letter of resignation for personal reasons. Her last day at Nicasio School will be December 17, 2015. We are advertising for a long-term substitute to fill this position through the end of the school year. Job postings are listed on Edjoin and Craigslist. Information has been forwarded to the Marin County Principal Network as well.

Curriculum and Programs

Special Education Programs and Services

The district is facing significant needs in the area of special education this year that were not anticipated when the budget was approved in June 2015. Additional expenses new this fall are predominately related to student evaluations/assessments, transportation, the hire of additional personnel to support students' needs in the areas of counseling and occupational therapy and to support teachers in implementing students' special education plans.

Facilities, Campus and Equipment

Campus Drill: Emergency Lockdown and Student Release, 11/18

Teachers, staff, students, and parents all participated in this emergency drill between 11:15am and 12pm. Teachers, staff, and students locked down their classrooms until 11:30pm. During this 15-minute window, the Office Manager checked in with teachers to verify status and obtain headcounts in the various classrooms. The Principal and Deputy Sheriff Domenick Yazzolino walked through campus and checked on classroom and building security. Classrooms were dismissed at 11:30am to the multi-purpose room where teachers/staff set up various stations and prepared students for release. As parents arrived between 11:30am and 12pm, they participated in the process of the school releasing students to parents in an emergency situation. Overall, the drill ran very smoothly. All classrooms with personnel and/or students were locked down securely. There were, however, some unoccupied buildings/classrooms that were not secure, either because the door had not latched tightly the last time it had been used or because the door was left unlocked by the previous user. Deputy Sheriff Domenick Yazzolino pointed out the concern in these instances that an intruder would have access to the phone and intercom system and also the classroom emergency packs, which include Walkie-talkies; this could interfere with emergency communications in a real event. Actions are being taken by administration and staff to address this issue.

Small Field – Additional Fence Repair, 11/25

During the summer, **Coggins Fencing** repaired the south fence of the small field. After the school year began, it was discovered that the west fence of the small field also needed to be addressed for the same issue (the original installation of the fence did not include a metal horizontal bar along the bottom of the fence, which has caused the bottom of the fence to curl upward over time). This west fence line was repaired over Thanksgiving break.

Coming Up

- Winter Holiday Craft Fair, a fundraising event for Nicasio School Parent Club, 12/8 – 12/9
Parents will set up booths on the mornings of 12/8 and 12/9 to sell a variety of homemade wares and goodies between 8:15am and 9am.
- Annual Winter Holiday Program, 12/10
This year's program celebrates comedy. Join us at 6pm for *'Tis the Season for Laughter*, directed by Performing Arts Specialist **Monica Snell**; several songs in the program performed by students have been written by Nicasio resident **Mike Duke**.