

# Nicasio School Board Meeting 2015-16

March 31, 2016

## Principal's Report

### WHAT'S NEW

#### School Events

##### Workshop Theatre K-8 (3/9)

Under the direction of Performing Arts Specialist **Monica Snell**, students in grades K-8 performed short skits based on Aesop's Fables and Greek Mythology. In spite of being taking place during the school, we had an excellent parent turnout and a full parking lot.

##### Farm Day Entries & Fieldtrip (3/17)

As is an annual tradition, the K/1/2 class participated in this year's Farm Day by submitting a class poster and individual posters. They earned 3<sup>rd</sup> place for their class poster and also earned a ribbon for a second poster. As a result the K/1/2 classroom received \$120 dollars for their classroom fund. They also took a fieldtrip to the event. This year, students in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades submitted original poems based on the theme "Culture in Agriculture". There were several students who earned 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place ribbons. In the end, they brought in \$200 for their classroom fund for their poetry contributions. Nicasio School tied with Lincoln School for earning the highest amount of money of all the schools that participated.

##### American Heroes and Leaders: The Doll Project (3/21)

The K/1/2 class has been studying heroes and leaders. Their teacher **Ellian Klein** and classroom assistant **Erica Sommers** worked together to bring "The Doll Project" to the students, an idea brought to Nicasio School by Ms. Erica. Her sister, **Geri Olson**, a professor of psychology at SSU, is also a member of the **Marin Needle Arts Guild (MNAG)**, which sponsored this project by covering costs for the dolls. Other MNAG volunteers, **Barsha Elzey** and **Loraine Hansen**, joined Ms. Olson and the K/1/2 class on doll-making day. Additional volunteers included staff member **Priscilla Troy** and parents **Alejandra Diaz**, **Melissa Silva**, and **Karen Taylor**. The American heroes and leaders created by our students will be on display at Open House.

#### Administration

##### LCAP Meeting (3/17)

Principal **Christy Stocker** attended this WestEd Presentation on Goals, Priorities, and Metrics.

##### Schools That Feed into Sir Francis Drake High School (3/23)

Principal **Christy Stocker** joined Lagunitas Principal **Laura Shain** and White Hill Middle School Principal **David Finnane** at Lagunitas School to learn about *Being Adept*, an evidence-based, alcohol and drug abuse prevention program for adolescents. Bolinas-Stinson Principal **Jason Richardson** was interested in attending, but was unable to join this session. The purpose of this meeting was to explore the possibility of providing all students that matriculate into Drake with a common education background regarding alcohol and drug prevention. A variety of schools in Marin County are already using this program, including Kent Middle School, Ross School, Davidson Middle School, Venetia Valley Middle School, Head-Royce School, Redwood Day

School, and more. The program is realistically cost prohibitive for small schools. In order for Nicasio School to participate, the organization would need to be willing to prorate the fee or bill several small schools together as a consortium. This is being explored.

#### Annual College of Marin Breakfast (3/29)

Principal **Christy Stocker** attended the 5<sup>th</sup> annual meeting for high school and middle school administrators. Presenters from College of Marin and local high schools shared information about different partnerships and programs taking place between K-12 and higher education in Marin County. The common goals include providing opportunities on high school campuses for students, especially those who are at risk of not seeking out a higher education, to learn about the college experience and make this concept more tangible to students. Some high schools now have college level courses on their campuses so that students can start earning college credits and increase confidence and build interest in college attendance. Math is also a strong focus since the majority of students entering the college are placing in math remedial level classes. A research team has been created to identify the trends and gaps so that the college and high schools can work together to align their curriculum and instructional strategies. There is interest in moving some opportunities for students to the middle school level as well, particularly the 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

### **Curriculum and Programs**

#### Puberty/Sexuality Health Program (3/28 – 4/1)

Jennifer Devine of Superstar Health Education has returned to Nicasio School to provide instruction to students in 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades relate puberty and sexuality health education. She also offered a parent workshop on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

### **Personnel**

#### Professional Development Day (3/14)

Nicasio School's teachers worked together to research strategies and curriculum ideas related to teasing, bullying and harassment. They also developed a detailed calendar for next school year that focuses on building a stronger sense of school community between the classrooms and between students. Scheduled events include regular monthly assemblies (to set the month's theme using the six Pillars of Character plus some additional concepts), monthly class meetings, monthly OWL mail (exchange of friendly letters between student buddies), and buddy activities.

#### Formal Observations (3/21 – 4/7)

Principal **Christy Stocker** is completing a second round of formal observations of both certificated and classified employees.

### **Facilities, Campus and Equipment**

#### Nicasio Disaster Council/Nicasio School District (3/14)

Principal **Christy Stocker** and Office Manager **Mikki McIntyre** met with **Eric Blantz**, Nicasio Fire Chief, and **Kirby Wilcox**, New Disaster Council chair met to discuss possible locations and needs related to installing a generator on campus in the event of a community-wide emergency. This was an exploratory meeting only at this point.

#### Repair Phone System (3/15)

A **Sound & Signal** technician made final repairs to the existing telephone system. One of two motherboards had failed. Since our current telephone system is obsolete, he had to locate a replacement on EBay. The District may want to consider exploring options for upgrading the telephone system before it fails completely. This will be costly.

#### School Construction Plaque (3/19)

Community members **John and Brenda Newcomb** generously donated and designed a plaque commemorating the construction of the modern campus and all those involved to make it happen. This has been a topic of conversation for over a decade and the District is very appreciative to the Newcomb family for their gift. The plaque has been installed at the north end of the multi-purpose room.

#### Library: Roof and Attic

On March 17<sup>th</sup>, **Brian Schultz** of **Falcon Services** inspected the library attic space to determine whether there was a re-infestation of bats responsible for a foul odor. Upon inspection, he discovered that the ridge cap on part of the building had become detached from the roof, which allowed bats to move into the attic space and water from recent rains to get in as well. He temporarily set the ridge cap in place and secured netting to allow bats to exit, but not re-enter. He will return to campus to clean up the guano in the attic once the roof has been repaired.

On March 21<sup>st</sup> **Don Brooks** of **Henris Roofing** inspected the roof of the library building and provided a proposal for repairs in the amount of \$1,200. The estimate for repair is early April.

#### Fire Alarm System (3/21)

**Protection One** sent a technician to repair the fire alarm system, which was sending a faulty signal to the monitoring office.

### **Coming Up**

- *BINGO Night, Nicasio School Foundation Fundraiser (4/1)*
- *Open House, 6pm – 7:30pm, (4/7)*
- *Spring Vacation (4/11 – 4/15)*
- *Facility Use, Parking Lot – Devil’s Gulch Educational Services (4/11 – 4/15)*
- *Facility Use, Parking Lot – AIDS/LifeCycle (4/17)*
- *Field & Track Event, Grades 6/7/8 (4/29)*
- *Facility Use, Parking Lot – Organs R Us (4/30)*
- *Educational Testing Services, Site Visit/Audit (5/5)*
- *Staff Appreciation Lunch, Parent Club (5/5)*
- *Nicasio School Board Meeting (5/5)*
- *Keenan Insurance, Annual Site Inspection (5/6)*