

# Nicasio School Board Meeting 2015-16

May 5, 2016

## Principal's Report

### WHAT'S NEW

#### School Events

##### Open House (4/7)

This year's annual event did not include a student performance. Instead, the main campus remained open for casual viewing of the classrooms and student work for an extended period of time. We enjoyed a large turnout of current parents and students that also included a few prospective families.

##### Annual BINGO Fundraiser (4/1)

Many thanks to veteran parent volunteer **Leanne Greentree** for training new parent volunteer **Annadel Dong** to take the lead on this annual event. As always, this proved to be a fun-filled, lively community event, bringing in \$845 to Nicasio School Foundation.

##### School Assembly (4/26)

Guests at the assembly included **Catherine Porter**, executive director of the **West Marin Fund**, along with the entire team representing **Giving Through Youth** and photographer **Carlos Porrata**. Also in attendance were **Steve Siegel**, executive director of **Coastal Health Alliance**, and **Rosie Barry**, executive director of **Friends of Sam's House**; each of these two nonprofit organizations that benefit West Marin communities received a **\$1,000 check** from the West Marin Fund as the finalists selected by **Nicasio School's 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts students**.

##### Marin County Track Meet (4/29)

Thanks to PE Specialist **David Barni**, all of our middle school students attended this track meet for the second year in a row. Although Nicasio School's students competed against other student athletes with significantly more experience in track and field, we had five students qualify for the Championship Meet this coming Friday (5/6) at San Marin High School: **Ellierose J.** (1<sup>st</sup> place, high jump), **London M.** (5<sup>th</sup> place, shot put), **Elly P.** (4<sup>th</sup> place, shot put), **Trystan S.** (5<sup>th</sup> place, long jump), and **Ashley W.** (3<sup>rd</sup> place, shot put).

##### Statewide Assessments (5/3 – 5/5)

Students have completed the ELA portions of Smarter Balanced and part one of CST Science. Testing resumes next week for Math and part two of Science.

##### Staff Appreciation Luncheon (5/5)

Organized by Parent Club Chair **Tory Grady**, the teachers and staff were once again treated to a special home-cooked meal in honor of Teacher Appreciation Day. Many thanks to **Gisela Alvarado**, **Maria Mora**, and **Laura Ramirez** for treating everyone to freshly made tortillas, guacamole, and other fixings. A delicious raspberry almond tart from Bovine Bakery was provided by **Maricela Perdomo**. Each employee also walked away his/her very own Zulu glass water bottle and gift certificate to the Nicasio Valley Cheese Factory, both provided by the **Parent Club**, and a certificate to Toby's Coffee Bar, donated by **Sharron Drake**. All employees were able to participate and have an extended lunch thanks to **Teresa Dallara** and **Karen Taylor** providing supervision on the playground. **Marnie Jackson** and **Annadel Dong** were instrumental in setting up and cleaning up.

## Administration

LCAP Meetings: Teachers and Staff (4/5, 4/20, 4/26)

Audit: Educational Testing Service (5/5)

A representative of ETS visited campus to audit our testing procedures and practices. An initial verbal report from the auditor indicated that there were no findings.

## Facilities, Campus and Equipment

Playground Swing Repairs (4/2)

Last spring's annual site inspection by Keenan & Associates identified a safety concern related to a couple of brackets on the swing sets. Parent volunteer **Robert Meckfessel** took all of the swings apart to inspect the safety of the chains and all brackets/attachments. This revealed significant wear and tear not visible when swings were attached. As a result, the district has replaced all of the chains and brackets, which were researched to ensure that they met code for school playgrounds and installed by Robert.

Telephone System Repairs (4/4)

After a power outage on 4/3, the school's telephone system once again lost all of its programming. A technician from **Sound and Signal** returned to investigate the issue. He discovered that there was a loose wire connected to the new backup battery that he had recently installed. The new battery should have prevented the loss of programming, but the loose wire prevented that. This was repaired and the system was reprogrammed free of charge.

Annual Fire Inspection (4/6)

**Marin County Fire Department** inspected the facility. The Department noted that we need to place a sign above the door to the main electric panel to identify it. We also needed to replace an emergency exit lighting unit in the library that was determined not to be functioning.

Facility Use (4/11 – 4/15)

**Devil's Gulch Educational Services** rented the parking lot to provide a drop-off and pick-up location for students enjoying their educational camp during spring break.

Facility Use (4/17)

**Aids/LifeCycle** rented the parking lot for a 1-day, 70-mile training ride. This was to prepare approximately 650 participants for a 7-day fundraising ride in June.

Roof Repair (4/19)

**Henris Roofing** repaired the roof ridge cap over the library annex.

Fire Drill (4/19) Unannounced

Emergency Lighting Units Repaired (4/20)

**Anchor Lighting** replaced the non-functioning emergency lighting unit in the library that had been identified during the annual inspection by Marin County Fire Department. In addition, an emergency exit lighting unit in the MPR was repaired.

#### School Mural Project (4/20)

Former student **Angelina Vicencio** and two of her classmates in the ROCK program at Drake High School asked permission to paint a mural on the Nicasio School campus as part of their year-end class project. Excited by the idea, teachers and staff identified the wall on the back of the K/1/2 building for this art project.

#### Real Property Appraisal (4/25)

A representative from AssetWorks performed a site inspection for a property insurance appraisal on behalf of Marin SIA.

#### MPR Kitchen Inspection (4/27)

During an unannounced visit, **Marin County Health Department** determined that the kitchen in the MPR met all health and safety requirements; there were no findings.

#### Exterior Lighting (4/29)

In preparation for a scheduled facility use on 4/30, the exterior lighting was tested a couple of days prior. Once again, the exterior lights were not functioning properly. The overhead lights in the parking lot did not turn on. On Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, a technician from **Electrix** returned to campus and it was determined that the control panel had failed. To ensure lighting availability for the facility use event on Saturday, the technician installed a bypass switch until it can be resolved appropriately.

#### Facility Use (4/30)

**Organs R Us** rented the parking lot for its annual Golden Gate Relay, which promotes organ donation. Over 150 walkers and runners participate in either the 125-mile walk or 190-mile run.

#### Copy Machine Repair (5/5)

May 5<sup>th</sup> marked the end of a long two-week period of being without the school's primary copy machine after four separate service calls.

### **Coming Up**

- *Championship Track Meet (5/5)*
- *Keenan Insurance, Site Inspection (5/6)*
- *Statewide Assessments: Smarter Balanced, Math (Gr. 3-8); CST, Science (Gr. 5 & 8), (5/10-5/12)*
- *School Assembly – National Mythology Exam Results (5/11)*
- *Nicasio School Foundation Spring Fundraiser – “Spring Luau” (5/14)*
- *Facility Use – Rancho Santa Margarita Property Association Meeting (5/21)*
- *Year-End Fieldtrip Grades 3/4/5, Nature Bridge at Marin Headlands (5/23 – 5/25)*
- *Golden Bell Awards Ceremony (5/26)*
- *Year-End Fieldtrip Grades 6/7/8, Yosemite National Park (5/31 – 6/3)*
- *Regular School Board Meeting (6/2)*
- *8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation Ceremony (6/9)*