



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Brian Matthews

Michael Parker

Andrew Stulbarg

Robert Tashjian

Cathy Wright

Dr. Emerita Orta-Camilleri

Superintendent

Penny Weaver

*Assistant Superintendent,
Educational Services and Personnel*

Nellie Hungerford

*Assistant Superintendent,
Business Services and Operations*

CENTRAL SCHOOL

Cori McKenzie, Principal

525 Middle Road, Belmont

650-637-4820

CIPRIANI SCHOOL

Maria Lang-Gavidia, Principal

2525 Buena Vista Avenue, Belmont

650-637-4840

FOX SCHOOL

Chris Marchetti, Principal

3100 St. James Road, Belmont

650-637-4850

NESBIT SCHOOL

Kathy Kelley, Principal

500 Biddulph Way, Belmont

650-637-4860

RALSTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Jennifer Kollmann, Principal

2675 Ralston Avenue, Belmont

650-637-4880

SANDPIPER SCHOOL

Linda McDaniel, Principal

801 Redwood Shores Parkway

Redwood City, CA 94065

650-631-5510

**Belmont-Redwood Shores
School District**

2960 Hallmark Drive

Belmont, CA 94002-2999

650-637-4800 - Main

650-637-4811 - Fax

<http://www.brssd.org>

Superintendent's Update

June 24, 2010

Dear Staff and Community Members:

I have always thought that our district motto, "Creating the Future," appropriately reflects our commitment to strong academic programs, innovative instruction and 21st century classrooms that prepare our students for future success.

I'm proud that our community has always supported our schools and shared our commitment to academic excellence. In 2005, the Shores area of our school community was experiencing dramatic enrollment growth. For this reason, the Shores community passed a bond to build their own neighborhood school. We're thrilled that Redwood Shores Elementary School will open its doors to students next school year. We are now experiencing similar and unanticipated growth in Belmont.

We want to ensure that all of our students have the ability to learn in safe and modern classrooms and continue to attend school in their own neighborhoods. That is why the Belmont-Redwood Shores School Board has been considering facilities bond measures to continue the process of upgrading and improving our classrooms to continue student success.

The Board and I have spent the past several months seeking community input and feedback. Through careful study of the best options to repair and upgrade our schools, we are exploring two potential bond measures.

Potential Ralston Middle School Repair Measure

Ralston Middle School, which serves students throughout our district, is in need of repairs, as well as additional classrooms to support a growing student enrollment. Leaky roofs, outdated plumbing and old classrooms must be repaired and brought up to current fire and safety codes. Additionally, with a growing student enrollment, we want to ensure that classrooms at Ralston do not become overcrowded and hinder the high-quality education our teachers are able to provide for local students. With additional classrooms for science, math, English and other academic subjects, our students can continue to succeed. The district-wide Ralston Middle School Repair Measure would cost property owners \$11 per \$100,000 of assessed property value. The assessed value of your home is based on the price you paid for the property, not its current market value.

Potential Local Elementary School Repair Measure

Additionally, many of our elementary schools that serve our students in Belmont are in need of repairs and upgrades, as well as additional classrooms for a growing student enrollment. Updated science classrooms will allow our teachers to provide improved science instruction. Leaky roofs, outdated electrical and plumbing, inefficient heating and ventilation, and security systems must be repaired or replaced for student safety. Additionally, older classrooms need upgrades and repairs, as well as improvements to provide access to students and teachers with disabilities. The Elementary School Repair Measure would cost property owners in the Belmont, San Carlos and San Mateo school attendance areas \$27 per \$100,000 of assessed property value.

Fiscal Accountability

All of the funds from these measures would stay here in our school district to complete repairs and upgrades—no funds could be taken away by the state. A citizen oversight committee and annual audits would help ensure that funds are used wisely for voter-approved projects in our schools. The measures would also allow our schools to qualify for state matching funds that would not otherwise be available. Not one penny of these funds could be spent on administrators' salaries.

The Board is still considering these measures and will make a decision at its July 29th meeting at 8:00 am. As we continue to explore these potential measures, we invite your comments, feedback and attendance at the July 29th meeting. Please feel free to contact me at 650-637-4800 x 1004 or EOrta-Camilleri@brssd.org.

Sincerely,



Dr. Emerita Orta-Camilleri
Superintendent