



Office of the Superintendent – 760 Magnolia Avenue – Piedmont, CA 94611 – 510.594.2614

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Education

From: Randall Booker, Superintendent

Date: January 8, 2016

Subject: **Superintendent's Announcements**

Facilities Master Planning – Community Engagement

The Facilities Master Plan process combines the goals of PUSD's Education Specifications and the information collected by the design team (including facility assessments) into a comprehensive plan for the schools of the Piedmont Unified School District. The main product of the facility needs assessment and Facilities Master Plan is a detailed proposal for renovations and/or additions to be made at each school campus.

The facilities master planning process takes into account all of the information on the District's facilities, the needs and desires of faculty, staff and the community and projections about future District needs and creates a comprehensive plan for each campus that addresses these issues. The plan looks at issues holistically and creatively to find unique and inventive solutions that fit the specific needs of each campus and community. The final Facilities Master Plan document provides a clear narrative and graphic summary of the proposed facilities improvements for each campus and also provides the detailed information necessary to successfully plan and implement the improvements.

PUSD will host *Community Outreach Meetings* to solicit additional input. These meetings will occur in the PHS Student Center on:

January 12th – 7:00pm – 8:30pm, and

January 19th – 7:00pm – 8:30pm

The final PUSD Facilities Master Plan is scheduled to be presented at the February 10, 2016 Board of Education Meeting.

PUSD Readmont 2016: *The Martian*

We are pleased to announce the official launch of Readmont 2016, Piedmont's "one city, one book" project, now in its sixth year! All Piedmonters are encouraged to read *The Martian* by Andy Weir. In this work of science fiction, an American astronaut is left

behind on Mars and must rely on his knowledge of botany and engineering to stay alive on a frigid, hostile planet. Weir has crafted a dramatic yet funny survival story, rich with the science of chemistry, physics and astronomy. A N.Y. Times best-seller, the book is now a movie starring Matt Damon. It is very popular among high school students and is an excellent vehicle for showcasing STEM concepts (science, technology, engineering and math). This book contains adult language so may not be appropriate for younger students.

All readers are welcome to attend our community discussion and science demo scheduled for the evening of Wednesday, February 10th at the Piedmont Center for the Arts! More information on this event will be forthcoming.

A limited number of books will be available (by November) in each school library and A Great Good Place for Books in Montclair is offering a 20% discount. We hope this common reading experience will forge positive connections among students, staff, parents and community members and encourage reading as a medium of collaboration.

For more information, please contact Susan Stutzman, PHS Librarian at sstutzman@piedmont.k12.ca.us or Beth Black, PHS English Dept. Chair at bblack@piedmont.k12.ca.us

PADC Hosts MLK Day Celebration

The Piedmont Appreciating Diversity Committee and the City of Piedmont will host the 19th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration on Monday, January 18th (1pm – 3pm) in the Piedmont Veteran’s Hall.

Guest speakers will include Rep. Barbara Lee, State Assembly member Tony Thurmond, and Piedmont Mayor Margaret Fujioka.

PEF Welcomes New Executive Director, Susan Terrill

The Piedmont Education Foundation is pleased to announce the appointment of Susan Terrill to the position of Executive Director. An extensive search this past fall by the Search Committee Task Force, made up of PEF Board members and community members, culminated in the recommendation of Susan for the position. “We spoke to many talented applicants, and found that Susan’s commitment, background and skill set make her a great fit for PEF and our community. We give her an enthusiastic ‘thumbs up’ and wholeheartedly welcome her aboard,” says Molly Ashford, Search Committee Task Force member.

Susan brings leadership and valuable fundraising experience to her new role. Her background includes business development, non-profit fundraising, and marketing management in several industries, including arts, education, finance and healthcare. Most recently, she was the Director of Education and Visitor Experience at the Chabot Space and Science Center in Oakland. Before that, she held management positions in marketing and event production at Kaiser Permanente and Charles Schwab & Co., and development positions at the Commonwealth Club of California and the San Francisco Ballet. During her career, Susan has successfully managed diverse teams, developed innovative marketing programs, secured sponsorships for international conferences, and produced prestigious fundraising events.

Her interest in PEF and the Piedmont schools goes back even farther however – as a Piedmont native, both she and her brother were educated here. She is pleased her son,

now in sixth grade at Piedmont Middle School, will have the opportunity to be likewise. “Having grown up in the PUSD system, I am intimately familiar with the quality of our schools – and the benefits that come from the amazing work of the Piedmont Education Foundation. I am honored to build on PEF’s long tradition of supporting our outstanding schools and am thrilled to contribute to my community in such an impactful way,” says Susan. “We are excited to welcome Susan to the PEF team and I’m confident she’ll help us achieve our fundraising and program goals,” says Christine Wente von Metzsch, PEF Board Chair.

The Piedmont community is invited to meet and welcome Susan at a reception on Thursday, January 28 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at the home of Christine and Roland von Metzsch, 125 Wildwood Gardens. RSVP to communications@piedmontedfoundation.org.

2nd Annual City/School Holiday Book Drive

In partnership with the City of Piedmont, PUSD held its 2nd annual City/School Holiday Book Drive. Benefiting the East Bay Children’s Book Project and Oakland Rotary’s Kinder Prep program, Piedmont donated 2,267 books.

These organizations put books in the hands of East Bay children who have little or no access to books. They also give children’s books to adults, who work in schools or other non-profit organizations—handing-out about 3000 books a week!

Our goal for the future is for Piedmont students to take an active role in collecting and donating the books over the holiday season.