

June 6, 2016

**Congratulations Graduates; Thank You Teachers and Staff;  
Board of Trustees – Coming Attractions**

By Michael Futterman, TUHSD Board President

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Staff:

CONGRATULATIONS and THANK YOU

We are pleased and proud to congratulate our Class of 2016 graduating students. A sea of robes, mortar boards and tassels began coursing through our District during last week's adult school graduation, and will continue to flow through our campuses this week, beginning tomorrow at Tamiscal, and continuing on Wednesday at San Andreas, Thursday at Redwood and Tamalpais, and Friday at Drake. As a school community, we rightly celebrate these accomplishments.

The Board of Trustees also wishes to thank each person who has contributed to development of our students. We have a fabulous group of teachers and support staff in our schools. Perhaps the "best" part of being a Trustee is the ability to spend time in our classrooms, observing our first-class teachers provide instruction to our students. Simply put, there is no end of vibrant, inspiring teaching and learning occurring in our classes. And our schools are equally fortunate to have our non-teaching staff, including professional staff at the District level, and support staff on each campus, whose primary and daily focus is on "what is best for our students." Lastly, we also thank our families, who continue to provide the support that our students need to thrive in school and beyond.

We wish each graduating student success in his or her pursuit of happiness.

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS – Tuesday, June 7 Board Meeting, regular meeting begins at 7 pm

This may be the end of high school for some (I hear cheering), and the beginning of summer vacation for others (more cheering), but the Board of Trustees and staff are busy preparing for next school year and beyond. The two primary areas of discussion at the Board meeting tomorrow evening will be on the District Budget and on our "Local Control Accountability Plan," or "LCAP" in the language of "Eduspeak" (a close, though unacknowledged relative of Esperanto).

Budget

Staff will present the 2016/17 Preliminary Budget for the District, which also includes projected budgets for the following two years. And we will hear the perspective of Marin County Office of Education Deputy Superintendent Terena Mares, who is responsible for budget and financial issues in Marin County school districts.

The primary driver of our budget remains enrollment growth in our schools, which will continue to rise over the next several years. Current estimates project that the number of students in our schools will grow by 35% for the seven-year period 2013/14 – 2020/21. During that period, enrollment at Tam is projected to grow 36% (to 1,748 students), enrollment at Drake is project to grow 40% (to 1,375 students), and enrollment at Redwood is projected to grow 33% (to 2,126 students). As I've said in earlier communications, as a "community-funded" (or "basic-aid") District, the state of California does not provide us with more money for each new student. Rather, we are funded primarily through local property taxes. Property tax revenues are growing, in fact at a rate greater than forecast, but they will not keep pace with the increased costs of educating more students.

Recognizing the importance of these fiscal issues, the Board of Trustees and the District will continue to focus on providing the best possible education for our students, while simultaneously working on the structural budgetary challenges that face us.

#### Local Control and Accountability Plan ("LCAP")

State law requires that each year school districts assess how well our schools are doing in meeting goals related to student leaning and well-being. The presentation at our Board meeting will help us to evaluate our progress in meeting the District's four "LCAP" goals, which are:

- Curriculum and Assessment System: *Guarantee that all students have access to rigorous, relevant and engaging curriculum in all areas.*
- Instructional Programs and Practices: *Ensure all students are demonstrating progress towards proficiency in identified learning goals.*
- Community Relations: *Improve communication and relationship with the community and stakeholder groups.*
- Student Wellness: *Support each student's emotional and social growth, and work towards a community where all students fill safe and valued, and develop a system to support the academic and behavioral success of all students.*

More information about the District's "LCAP" goals can be found on our website: [http://www.tamdistrict.org/cms/lib8/CA01000875/Centricity/Domain/1/lcap\\_2015-2016.pdf](http://www.tamdistrict.org/cms/lib8/CA01000875/Centricity/Domain/1/lcap_2015-2016.pdf)

The Board encourages the public to attend our meetings, and to continue to provide input, which helps the Trustees to make better, more well-informed decisions.

*Thank you for your continued support of our schools, and for helping us accomplish our mission of providing the best possible education for all of our students.*