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MEMO

Date: 10/28/2016

To: Nicasio Board of Trustees

From: Don Armstrong, Ed.D.
Interim Principal

Subject: November Board Report

Bats

As has been earlier reported, we have found a dead bat on campus that was infected with rabies. The Marin Humane Society and Marin County Health and Human Services were both contacted and new warning signs have been posted. We asked our bat expert, who has assisted the school in the past to come by and it was discovered that there are bats in the ceiling above the library. While our expert assures us that finding a rabid bat is not that strange and not an indication that the entire colony is infected, he has begun the process of removing the bats. He should be done by next week. Additional measures will be discussed at the meeting.

Kiln

This kiln thing continues to be complicated. The electrician completed the conversion of the electrical to 3 phase wiring under his estimate. We will have the exact cost next week. However, the electrician, who happens to be a ceramicist himself, tells me that the current enclosure will need to be expanded to hold the new kiln. Due to the location, this may be problematic. The cheapest solution would probably be to install a ready built metal shed, but since the current shed is crammed between a drainage pipe and a window it may be challenging to find an appropriate size.

The Walk a Thon

The Walk a Thon was a great success despite the rain. Monica and Colin set up an obstacle course in the MPR and everyone had a great time. My understanding is that \$6300 was raised.

Field Trips

Last Friday, the k/1/2 and the 3/4/5 went to the pumpkin patch down the street and enjoyed a hay ride and picked out pumpkins. It was the clearest day of the week, so everything went fine. The 6/7/8 went to Tolay Regional Park, as well as Schollenberger Park in Petaluma on the same day.

CELDT

The annual testing of our English Learners was completed and scores for the students have been received by the teachers. It appears that most of our students have made good progress in learning English and accessing the curriculum.

Emergency Preparedness

On October 17 the staff reviewed the emergency plans with School Resource Officer Deputy Sheriff Josie Sanguinetti. We reviewed all procedures and went through all of the emergency backpacks and the disaster supplies in the MPR. We made a list of expired materials and we are in the process of replacing those items.

On October 19 and 26, Nicasio parent and Marin County Fire Paramedic Mike Seybold gave a first aid class and certified all of our staff for First Aid along with the CPR certifications they earned in August.

On November 2 we will conduct a lockdown drill and practice of the emergency student dismissal process. Parents have been notified.

Schools Rule

A representative of the Foundation went to MCOE Thursday to pick up a check for \$821.57 from School Rules. Schools Rule is a Marin County organization that fundraises for schools in the county.

Immunizations

All reports to the State regarding immunizations have been completed and submitted.

Grand Jury

We received a response from the Grand Jury regarding our response that was submitted in September. They gave us a "C" for our efforts. They wanted us to be a B-. They reported that we did not have biographies for our board members (a quick check of other district websites only found 2 that did), a link to our 2015-16 audit (which we have not yet received) and a report on our salaries with a link to Transparent California (missing from their own website). Since they never included a rubric for their grades, this lifelong educator does not quite know how to respond.

Septic

We received a notice from the County calling our attention to the apparent fact that our septic system is unpermitted. I went searching through various archives of the construction and I did find the proposal to build the system, but no communication with County Environmental Health regarding permits. I called the county but will not be hearing back from them until Wednesday. I will report what I learned at the meeting.

My Schedule

I have been working three days a week since the end of September per Tom's request. I am varying it from week to week to accommodate IEP meetings, staff member schedules and my own responsibilities.