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MEMO

Date: 9/30/16
To: Nicasio Board of Trustees
From: Don Armstrong, Ed.D.
Subject: October Board Update

My Schedule

Beginning the week of September 26, Tom has asked that I go to three days a week to match what is in the budget (.6 fte). I am working Wed, Thurs and Fri this week and will do Tues, Thurs, Fri next week. We are attempting to discover where the gaps may exist in this plan.

Kiln

I am still waiting for the estimate from the electrician to make our kiln power into 3 phase power. This will mostly entail pulling a third wire to the box from the circuit panel. The kiln itself has been delivered to the vendor and they are waiting to hear when to bring it here. The cost for changing over the power is a bit steep. I will discuss this with Kate to see if there is a pocket of money we can use for this. We do have deferred maintenance funds that can be tapped.

The Deer

Perhaps your children have come home to tell you about the tame deer on campus. A deer with no fear of people came on campus and hung around, letting me approach her. We managed to get her off campus before most of the kids showed up. This happened a few days in a row. On one occasion she became pretty agitated but we managed to get her out one of the side gates. Fortunately, Robin Burton was here the last time she came and contacted the people up the hill that run a deer rehab center. The gentleman from the center came here, called the deer by name (Pepper) and she followed him back into the hills. Hopefully, that was the last we will see of her.

Pillars of Character

As I noted before, we began the Pillars of Character curriculum with the first pillar, Respect. After a month, we are giving an award for the student in each class that demonstrates respect. Our three honorees for September are Frankie Meckfessel in the K/1/2, Adrian Mercado in the 3/4/5, and Joya

Cote-Rabieh in the 6/7/8. Each will receive a certificate at the October 5th assembly. The next pillar is Citizenship, which we will introduce on the 5th as well.

Water

We have run out of irrigation water for the year. Our neighbor's well that supplies the water has run dry for the season. There is a forecast for rain next week, so keep your fingers crossed.

Field Trips

October 21, 2016 the entire school will be away on a field trip, albeit to different locations. The K-5 will be going to the LaFranchi pumpkin patch at 11:00 AM. I have contacted the school resource officer to facilitate the walk from campus and the crossing of Nicasio Valley Road at the patch. The 6/7/8 will be going to Petaluma and to the Tolay Regional Park. This will also include a walk at Scholenberger Park and a visit to Copperfield's in Petaluma.

Progress Reports

Progress Reports will go home this month.

Rabies Warning

The Humane Society and the Department of Health and Human Services has alerted us that a dead rabid bat was found adjacent to the school campus on September 24th. We have sent home and posted notices and I went from class to class warning the students to stay away from any dead or injured bat that they may come across. Tony and I did a sweep of the campus, but we found no evidence of unusual bat activity.