

Earhart PTA Legislative Newsletter

Winter 2013

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Earhart School Site Meeting to Discuss Facility Needs

This November, AUSD plans to put a bond on the ballot. Money raised by the bond would focus on repairing and modernizing many of Alameda's schools. Starting this January, parents, teachers, staff, students, and neighbors can meet with architects and talk about their ideas for site improvements. The architects will then create individual campus plans based on the community's needs and concerns.

The first meeting at Earhart is scheduled on Thursday, January 9 at 3:30 PM. AUSD asks that each school have a panel of representatives to provide initial input. AUSD will also gather input from others after speaking with the panel. Principal Dean is still looking for a few more people to join as a member of the Earhart panel.

For those interested in providing feedback, it is important to consider not only the immediate needs, but also the future needs of Earhart. Amongst things to consider include how an "up to date" neighborhood elementary will improve or sustain neighborhood property values while continuing to provide a quality facility for future students.

Those interested in participating as a member of the panel are asked to contact Principal Dean at the administrative office or via email jdean@alameda.k12.ca.us.

Dates to Remember

- ◆ Thursday, Jan 9, Earhart School Site Facilities Meeting 1, 3:30-5:30pm.
- ◆ Thursday, Jan 30, Earhart School Site Facilities Meeting 2, 6:00-8:00pm.

Sign up for AUSD Email Newsletter

The best place to go for information about what is happening with the Board of Education and the District is the AUSD website. Those interested in receiving Community Bulletins and other updates should enter an email address in the lower right corner of the home page of AUSD's website under "Sign Up for Our Email Newsletter" here: <http://www.alameda.k12.ca.us/>.

Websites for News on Education

Alameda Unified School District:
www.alameda.k12.ca.us

California State PTA:
www.capta.org

California Department of Education:
www.cde.ca.gov

Common Core State Standards

American education has always been run at the state and local level. Historically, this has left teachers and districts to pick and choose what to teach. This is about to end, with the majority of American public school children working to master the same set of rigorous skills in math and English. These new targets, known as the Common Core State Standards, have been adopted by 46 states, including California. These targets are designed to emphasize depth over breadth, critical thinking over rote memorization and test taking, and team-building projects over individual

work. The idea is to allow teachers to focus on fewer topics and apply the knowledge to solve real-world problems.

To learn more, please visit these websites:

<http://www.capta.org/sections/programs/e-standards.cfm>

http://www.alameda.k12.ca.us/cms/page_view?d=x&piid=&vpid=1360235287958#ResourcesParents

Quick Glimpse into Events Impacting California Public Education

- According to estimates made in February by the California Department of Finance, Alameda Unified School District will receive \$9,379 per student in 2020 compared to the \$6,578 the district was scheduled to receive from the state this school year. In July 2013, Gov. Jerry Brown's signs education legislation which changes the funding formula for California state funding formula for K-12 schools. For more information, please visit these websites:
<http://edsources.org/today/wp-content/uploads/10-questions.pdf?q=10-questions>
<http://downloads.capta.org/edu/e-school-finance/LCFF.pdf>