

Earhart PTA Legislative Newsletter

Fall 2013

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Dates to Remember

- ◆ Regular Board Meetings are held the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm, 3rd Floor City Hall

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

AUSD's Measure A Oversight Committee

In March 2011, the Alameda community passed Measure A – a parcel tax to benefit the local public schools.

One of AUSD's commitments is to maintain accountability and transparency with all expenditures of Measure A dollars. A key component of that commitment is maintaining an 11-member Oversight Committee, made up of local community members, to review the district's compliance with the terms of Measure A

Applications for the 2013-14 Measure A Oversight Committee (which will begin meeting in January 2014) are now available.

This committee meets three to six times, for two to three hours at a time, between January and December of each year. The committee's work culminates in an annual report that is presented to the Board of Education in December.

If you are interested in serving on the Oversight Committee, please visit http://www.alameda.k12.ca.us/cms/page_view?d=x&piid=&vpid=1377162063860

Applicants can also call (510-337-7187) or stop by the district's office at 2060 Challenger Dr., Alameda. Applications are due September 20, 2013 at 5pm.

Facilities Issues Facing AUSD Board of Education

While most of the trustees seem to agree that bond money is needed, board members have been unable to agree on the scope of a bond or series of bond, with Board Member McMahan advocating for an initial bond focused on the high schools and Board Member Sherratt saying additional schools should be considered. And they are struggling to decide whether to engage a consultant to create a plan that will detail the district's future demographic educational needs and the facilities needed to support those or to give the community a broader hand in that

decision-making process.

The board will need to have a plan for moving forward on a bond for the November 2014 ballot by May. The AUSD Board has been discussing the future of the seismically unsafe Historic Alameda High School, decisions on purchasing versus leasing District Office space, and many big questions on the long term facilities issues facing our schools and community. For more information go to:

<http://www.thealamedan.org/news/board-considers-broader-focus-schools-bond>

Quick Glimpse into Events Impacting California Public Education

- May 29 – The Assembly approved the State Superintendent's new statewide school testing system. As a result, the superintendent plans to suspend STAR Program assessments in the 2013-2014 school year unless mandated by federal requirements. For more info: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/nr/ne/yr13/yr13rel61.asp>
- July 1 - Gov. Jerry Brown's signs education legislation which changes the funding formula for California state funding formula for K-12 schools: <http://abclocal.go.com/kfsn/story?id=9159067>

For more on the impact to AUSD please go to:

<http://alameda.patch.com/articles/a-look-at-what-gov-browns-new-school-funding-proposal-means-for-alameda-schools?ncid=newsltuspatc0000001>