

To: Parents, Teachers, Staff
From: Brett Matthews, Board President
Subject: Overview of Upcoming August 30th School Board Meeting

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a great summer. It was great to feel the energy and see lots of smiles at back to school day!

We are back to having our Board meetings after a summer break and this note provides an overview of the upcoming August 30th School Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

1. 2011-2012 Opening of School Report. Our current enrollment is at 455 students, the highest it has been in recent years. We will receive an enrollment and class size update. Over the summer, Superintendent Tammy Murphy has been watching enrollment, working with the administration and teachers on class sizes and informing the Board as to the status. Also, the staff has worked hard this summer and we will be briefed on the results of the summer projects, staff development training and recent hires.
2. After School Program Update: The fall program, led by Kathy Kelly, will continue to offer a robust set of 27 after school choices. We will also be briefed on the status of a committee that is set up and that will work this fall to help make the program more cost-effective, while maintaining the level of quality that we have. Regarding Homework Club, it will now be directed by Mr. Bruski and staffed by a credentialed teacher to ensure support for the students and be more integrated with the school program. Lastly, there will be some aftercare enhancements to help streamline payment and billing.
3. We will receive a budget update on 2011-2012. The belt-tightening we did last spring has been helpful given the cut backs we have received from the state, coupled with decreased assessed growth of property taxes and increased enrollment. We expect continued cost-cutting from Sacramento at their mid-year budget review and are monitoring local property taxes to determine any potential effects on MUS budget.
4. Strategic Plan Update: The Board is excited to get an update from Tammy Murphy regarding updating our Strategic Plan. She will describe a committee that will be formed that includes parents, community members, teachers, staff, and board representatives to review the current strategic initiatives and recommend an updated Strategic Plan for Board Approval. The Strategic Plan is a living document and guides the long-term planning, priorities and resource allocation of MUS, to benefit the students. If you are interested in learning more or participating on the committee, please contact tmurphy@montecitou.org.
5. The Superintendent's Report will highlight the status of choosing an architect to help with a master plan of the current property and facilities.

Again, welcome back and looking forward to a great year.