



Manhattan Beach Unified School District

Superintendent's Newsletter

May 25, 2017

Dr. Michael D. Matthews, Superintendent



2017 Classified Employees of the Year

I loved the classified employee recognition at our May 17 Board meeting! These outstanding employees were acknowledged for the behind the scenes efforts they put forth each day to keep our schools open,

high-functioning, caring, and safe. I enjoyed each moment of applause from the honorees' families and co-workers. For a complete list of honorees, please click [here](#).



What would we do without our PTAs?! The extraordinary amount of time, work, and dedication from our parent volunteers is what makes our great District even better. At our May 3 Board meeting, the Board of Trustees and I had the opportunity to thank our PTA leaders for everything they do. For a list of these amazing women, please click [here](#).

MBUSD Teachers of the Year

Eight amazing schools; eight amazing teachers! We will be recognizing these fine people who were selected by their peers as outstanding educators in Manhattan Beach at our June 7 regular board meeting. Click the button to see who they are!

[Meet our Teachers of the Year](#)

Butts in Seats

No, it's not a new band or a new series on Netflix. Rather, it's a blunt term for Average Daily Attendance, which is crucial for our students and our budget. Let our friendly Bot explain in this 1-minute video:

[Got Butts in Seats?](#)

MBUSD Appointment to Parks & Recreation Commission



The Parks and Recreation Commission consists of seven (7) members: five (5) at large members, one representative from Manhattan Beach USD, and one high school student, who meet on the 4th Monday of every month at 6:00 PM. Kathleen Paralusz, current MBUSD Parks & Rec Commission appointee, began her term June 1, 2014. That term will expire May 31, 2017. Applications are due June 7; if you are interested in applying, please see our [website announcement](#).

Elementary Minimum Days

I know that our elementary parents need to plan out the year ahead. One of the questions I have been getting is, "When are we going to know about elementary minimum days next year?" Our teachers use these minimum days to meet with parents, assess students, and more. To see a list of the planned minimum days for 2017-18, please click [here](#).



Planning for 2017-18

As this school year winds to a close, we are in full swing for planning the 2017-18 school year. One of our key planning tools is the Board Goals that we set each summer. The Board Goals determine where we put our emphasis for each year, and they are essential in the work that we do. You can see our Board Goals [here](#). We measure our progress toward the Board goals in many ways, but one clear way is our LCAP. You can see our LCAP progress [here](#).

If you have any suggestions for new goals, goals that we should strengthen, or goals that we should move from, please send me an email with your thoughts. I will pass along all comments to the Board for their consideration. Thanks for taking the time to review and think about our goals.

Are our students getting enough sleep?

Science and our own data tell us that the answer is a resounding "No." How that affects our students' health and performance is the force that drives AB 328, the California bill supported by the [MBUSD Board of Trustees](#) that would start school later for middle and especially high school students throughout the state of California. Click [HERE](#) to see the November TEDxMB talk by Wendy Troxel on the teen sleep crisis, currently featured on the global TED homepage! And just for kicks, for more on how a bill becomes a law, and for a trip down memory lane to my Saturday mornings as a kid, [click here](#).



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Thanks for all you do to support our students and our schools. And thank you for striving for great attendance rates through June 15!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mike Matthews'.

Mike Matthews

MBUSD Superintendent



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