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Moreland School District Annual Report

Quality Education Since 1851
www.moreland.org

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Superintendent's Message

Dear Parents, Students, and Neighbors,

The Moreland School District continues to be an exciting place to be a student. From rising test scores to new technology and more modern classrooms, Moreland students are receiving a 21st Century education that will prepare them for success in high school and for becoming caring and contributing citizens in our local community.

Our success is made possible by the collective efforts of an entire community: supportive parents with high expectations for their children and their schools; a community willing to support public schools; highly qualified teachers who continue to improve their skills; a support staff who care about children; administrators who hire and support the development of quality teachers; and a Board of Trustees that has set high performance standards for the school system and supports the efforts of the staff and administrators. As a result, the students of Moreland now have the opportunity to work with state of the art technology, such as iPads, LCD projectors and Chromebooks. Students learn in newly upgraded classrooms, taught by highly qualified teachers seeking to get better.

Recent tragic events in Connecticut have made safety a concern for schools and parents across the country, and Moreland has been diligent about safety. This has been an opportune time to review our current policies and procedures on school security. District staff and the Principals at each school site work closely together to regularly practice school-wide drills for a wide variety of potential emergencies. We also maintain an emergency communication system and work closely with law enforcement officers to make sure that our plans are in keeping with best practice. We are all responsible for the safety and well-being of our students and staff.

As we enter the second half of the school year, I'm excited about the many district-wide events ahead. From science fairs to science camps, from music concerts to after-school sports, there's a lot going on around Moreland. Our District Calendar can be found on our website www.moreland.org. We've also launched into social media this past summer, and we'd love to connect with you. Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MorelandSchoolDistrict or follow us on Twitter at @MorelandSupt.

Thanks again for your ongoing support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Barmore".

Mark Barmore
Superintendent

Moreland School District
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We appreciate...

our community

We treasure...

our students

We value...

our staff

Academic Excellence for All

One of the District's Strategic Plan goals is to close the achievement gap while raising the achievement of all students. With rising API scores, the District provides academic excellence for all, remains regionally competitive, and ensures the continued success of our students.

2009-2012 API Comparison			
SCHOOL	Base API 2009	Growth API 2012	Change
Anderson	810	817	+7
Baker	901	929	+28
Country Lane	918	949	+31
Easterbrook Discovery	849	875	+26
Payne	818	897	+79
Moreland Middle	768	865	+97
District	830	885	+55

New State Standards Coming

Through a state-led effort to establish consistent and clear education standards for English language arts and mathematics, California is adopting the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). The initiative was launched and supported by the Council of Chief State School Officers and the National Governors Association, with 45 states adopting the standards. California will begin testing students on the new standards in 2-3 years, and Moreland is beginning the transition now.



The Common Core adds strength to the existing California standards by including additional standards for vocabulary and new ones for collaborative discussions. Literacy standards that focus on reading and writing instruction during history/social studies, as well as science and technology, are also included. In mathematics, standards were added to place a greater emphasis on number sense and algebraic thinking. In addition to bolstering content standards, the new Common Core is designed to further reinforce critical thinking skills.

As we embark upon this multi-year transition to the CCSS, Moreland will continue to focus on the knowledge and skill-sets our students need for success in high school, college, and beyond.

Growing by Leaps and Bounds

As Moreland continues to reach for excellence with its staff and students, the surrounding community has taken notice. For the 2012/2013 school year, Moreland enrollment is the highest it's been in nine years. Serving approximately 4,440 students in six schools, we have reached capacity at many of our sites.

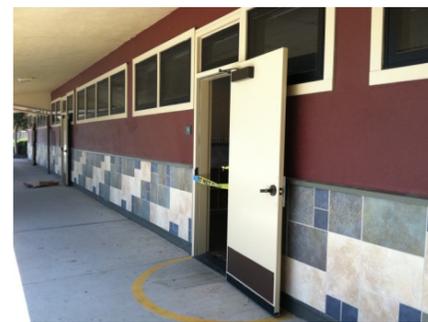
Capacity Options

Enrollment is projected to increase for the next two years, and the District has begun looking at various alternatives for expansion. At the moment, many of the District's schools are at or near full capacity.

In an effort to help brainstorm solutions, a Capacity Committee was formed in the fall of 2011 and a Program Committee was formed in the summer of 2012. Various long-term capacity opportunities are currently being researched and considered. The District and the Board of Trustees will work together toward the most beneficial solution for the District.

Technology & Site Modernizations

Thank you for your continued support of Measure K



As our community continues to grow so do our expectations. Moreland School District intends to provide students with more modern facilities for their 21st century education. Our modernization work, which began in the summer of 2011, included, among other things, new flooring, cabinetry, exterior tile wainscoting, and painting. In each classroom, we installed technology centers and solar tubes. Additionally, the District pursued greater energy efficiency

by installing solar panels on several campuses, aimed at driving down our energy costs by up to 80%. Similar solar projects at our remaining sites will take place next summer.

The District is further modernizing our technology infrastructure. With the addition of a voice over Internet protocol system (VOIP) and the wiring infrastructure to support a wireless network throughout the entire school district, work is underway to create this exciting gateway to more technological tools to improve learning for our students and enhance efficiency for our staff.

Proposition 30 & the Effect on Moreland

With the passage of California's Proposition 30 in this past November's election, the immediate impact is to prevent further cuts from the state of approximately \$450 per student, or \$1.9 million. The tax measures are designed to provide education with flat funding in the current year, and eliminate some of the cash deferrals which have created cash flow challenges for school districts across the state.



The District understands that this Proposition still leaves us far behind the funding levels we reached in 2007-2008, but we also appreciate that the dire state economy has left many public institutions and individuals in worse shape than we were many years ago.

The passage of Proposition 30 enables us to maintain our focus on students, and our efforts to provide every child with a rich and challenging education which prepares them for the 21st century.

Transitional Kindergarten

As part of a statewide reform to shift the kindergarten entry date, Moreland opened two Transitional Kindergarten (TK) classes to all children whose 5th birthday fell between November 2 and December 2 and need more time to be socially and/or academically ready for a traditional kindergarten classroom. It gives young learners an additional year to learn and grow in an environment that is tailored to meet their academic, social, emotional, and language needs.

With classes at Country Lane and Anderson Elementary, a unique, specialized program based on kindergarten standards was developed. Providing TK to our youngest kindergarteners helps children get the best start possible, with curriculum that is designed just for them.

TK will be expanded in the 2013/2014 school year, and within two years will be available for all children whose birthdays fall between September 2nd and December 2nd. The District is expecting TK to be offered at several of our sites in the upcoming year.



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