



NORTH MONTEREY COUNTY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

DISTRICT OFFICE • 8142 MOSS LANDING ROAD • MOSS LANDING, CALIFORNIA 95039-9617 • (831) 633-3343

August 31, 2010

Dear NMCUSD Community,

Like many families of North County, our district has had to tighten its belt due to a reduction in our income. Our State Revenue has been cut over 22% resulting in a need to reduce our expenses an additional \$2.75 million per year. Rather than focusing solely on where to cut the 2.75 million dollars necessary, I posed two important questions and embarked on a process to discover answers.

Those questions were:

- ✓ In your capacity as a stakeholder, what do you see as critical in maintaining a high level of performance in our school/department?
- ✓ What creative solutions could be utilized to maintain this high level of performance at our school/department?

Last fall stakeholder groups from each of the four elementary schools, North Monterey County Middle School, North County High School, Central Bay—in all 50 community groups and 500 people—gathered to discuss the values of our district, what we hold important, and what we hold most critical to the education of our communities' children.

The school board and I formed the Revenue Enhancement Committee to review the input from those community groups and identify previously untapped revenue streams. That committee was charged with analyzing the many creative ideas given by participants and recommending those that were the most promising. Although our original goal was to identify viable ideas for bringing new money into the district, we received many sensible and ingenious submissions for ways to conserve current funding.

I want to share a few of the suggestions that have been implemented at this point:

- ✓ We retained an outside consultant, Total School Solutions, to audit and analyze our district office practices. Their suggestions have so far resulted in \$55,000 savings.
- ✓ We have successfully negotiated furlough days for the 2010 – 2011 and 2011 – 2012 school years, with the classified, certificated, and management groups, which realized \$700,000 in savings per year.
- ✓ We began to develop a Long Range Funding and Asset Management Profile for Capital Facilities projects, with the assistance of California Financial Services.
- ✓ As we move forward with school facility improvement projects we are meeting with energy experts to incorporate green money saving options.
- ✓ Received and funded a \$10 million Qualified School Construction Bond for facility improvements.

As we continue planning for the future we will be forming a Budget Advisory Committee beginning in Fall 2010. I want to personally thank everyone for their initial involvement in the above stated initiatives and look forward to expanding our Revenue Enhancement concepts.

Sincerely,

Sergio Montenegro

Superintendent