

## **Meaningful Information Kindling Enlightenment's Message #9 – The End of the 2010-2011 Year**

There are only a few days left in the 2010-2011 school year, and I want to thank each of you for all you have done to make this an outstanding year for our district, our students, and our community. As I complete my first year with you, please know that I am honored to serve as your superintendent, and I am extremely proud of who we are and what we do.

Since each of us is an ambassador for our schools, I thought I would use this last communication with you to share just a few of the areas in which we excel:

- Forbes Magazine ranked MBUSD as the #6 school district in the nation – and the #1 district in the nation when compared to other affluent communities.
- Our 926 District API score ranks us #3 in the state of California when compared to other unified school districts.
- Bill Fauver (Mira Costa) was not only named the 2010-2011 MBUSD Teacher of the Year, he was honored as one of Los Angeles County's Teachers of the Year.
- Linda Okumura (Pacific) is the 2011-2012 MBUSD Teacher of the Year.
- We had our first ever STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) class – an all girls class at that – taught by Stacey Cooke in the middle school. They won a national award from NASA and their science game will be played by astronauts on the International Space Station this summer!
- Carey Sokol, the Occupational Therapist at Grand View Elementary, is the MBUSD Classified Employee of the Year.
- For the first time in years, the district offered a wide variety of professional development opportunities for teachers and other certificated staff.
- IXL Math was the District's first online math program. MBUSD elementary students were able to practice grade level math standards in an online format that is differentiated to meet their individual needs.
- Mira Costa High School was named a California Distinguished School
- The MBUSD budget, in spite of the continued state economic crisis, is in relatively good shape. There were no layoffs this year (Hooray!) and our district continues to be one of the few that has no furlough days.
- MBEF had another outstanding fundraising year. (Thank you!)

- MBUSD will be a leader with the 2011-2012 iPad Pilot.
- MBUSD has a new website – I hope you can check it out. The address is the same—[www.mbusd.org](http://www.mbusd.org). If you have suggestions for additions that would be helpful on the staff page or any other segment of the website, please let me know.
- Mira Costa’s Model United Nations team is regarded as the #1 team in the nation.
- ESPN ranks Mira Costa High School #15 in the nation in the high school “Fab 50” power rankings.
- We will save approximately \$250,000 in energy costs this year, thanks to the efforts of each employee and the leadership of Stacia Costa. We are becoming a very green place.

I want to especially thank the following MBUSD employees, who are retiring this year, for their amazing service to our students and our district:

- Marvin Choi, Operations Worker, 30 Years
- Dale Keldrauk, Principal, Pennekamp Elementary – 15 Years
- Miguel Kulczyski, Mira Costa Teacher, 35 Years
- Ann Meyers, Grand View Elementary Teacher, 38 Years
- Nelly Mracek, Robinson and Pennekamp Health Assistant, 27 Years
- Barbara Newton, Food Services, 27 Years
- Paula Sierad-Bozeman, Mira Costa Teacher, 20 Years.

Thanks for all you do, thanks for a great year, and for those of you going on summer break, have a wonderful summer. I am looking forward to an exceptional 2011-2012 school year!

Mike Matthews

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