

PRESS RELEASE

Manhattan Beach Unified School District

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ellen Rosenberg Elected New MBUSD Board President

Manhattan Beach, CA, December 19, 2011

On December 14, 2011, the Manhattan Beach Unified School District Board of Trustees held its annual Organizational Board Meeting. The first order of business was the swearing in of Board Members Bill Fournell and Karen Komatinsky to new four-year terms. MBUSD Trustee Ida VanderPoorte officiated.

The second order of business was the election of a new Board President. Ellen Rosenberg was the unanimous choice of the Board of Trustees. Mrs. Rosenberg served as the Board Vice President in 2011. She stated, "In the two years that I have been in office, I have experienced excellent Board leadership by Ida VanderPoorte and Bill Fournell. We are focused on our District goals and use them to inform our decisions. We are dedicated to our local public schools, and we enjoy working together. That dynamic makes serving on this Board very rewarding, and I look forward to leading the Board in the coming year."

Mrs. Rosenberg appointed Penny Bordokas as the Vice President, and the Board unanimously elected Karen Komatinsky as the Board Clerk.

Outgoing Board President Bill Fournell was very enthusiastic about the honor of serving the Manhattan Beach community as President of the MBUSD Board of Trustees in 2011. He reflected, "My year as President of our Board has been amazing. In the early months, we held our breath concerning the fiscal news coming out of Sacramento. Thankfully, this was my first year in four on the Board without layoffs! With that beginning, it really felt like we were able to accelerate the positive momentum we have in this District. Launching the iPad pilot at all our schools generated incredible enthusiasm in our students, teachers, and parents. Combined with our new Mandarin language program at MBMS, our new writing program, and further expansion of our focus on science and technology we increased the academic offerings that are available to our students. Another enormous highlight for me was finally breaking ground on our near \$50M modernization of Mira Costa High School. It's been a four year journey, and I can't wait to see it take shape. But what I am most grateful for this past year has been the amazing group of people on this Board with whom I have been fortunate to serve. My fellow

Board members, our Superintendent Mike Matthews, and the entire District administration are such a great team. It may seem strange to say, but I have always looked forward to our Board meetings because it has been a joy to come together to collaborate on improving our District. Finally, what has truly made this such a rewarding experience has been the support we have received from the community through our fantastic Education Foundation, Athletic Foundation, PTAs, and all the parent and community volunteers who make MBUSD successful."

Superintendent Dr. Michael Matthews added, "This is an amazing group of leaders who serve our students and our community on the MBUSD Board of Trustees. If you watch our Board in action, you know that they are thoughtful, forward thinking, and that they genuinely care about the students, employees, and parents of our community. It is an honor to serve as their Superintendent. I thank Mr. Fournell for his strong leadership, and I look forward to the presidency of Mrs. Rosenberg."

The next meeting of the MBUSD Board of Trustees will be on January 18, 2012.

About the Manhattan Beach Unified School District

Manhattan Beach Unified School District ranks as the third highest performing unified school district in the State of California with a 2011 Growth Academic Performance Index (API) of 932. MBUSD serves nearly 7,000 students from preschool to twelfth grade at eight school campuses—one preschool, five elementary schools, one middle school, and one high school. Mira Costa High School's API of 911 places it in the top 1.3% of public high schools in California, and it was named number fifteen in ESPN's "Fab 50" High Schools in the Unified States in 2010 for its superior athletic programs. In addition to outstanding students and excellent teachers, MBUSD is extremely fortunate to have a high level of parental involvement in the schools and very strong partnerships with the Manhattan Beach Education and Athletic Foundations, the City of Manhattan Beach, Chevron, Northrop Grumman, Continental Development, the Manhattan Beach Chamber of Commerce and other local organizations and businesses. More information about MBUSD is available at www.mbusd.org.