

## Superintendent's Message – March 1, 2011

"What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others." ~ Pericles, Ancient Greek Politician, General and Statesman

Recently, I notified the Board of Trustees that I intend to retire on June 30, 2011. The Board accepted my letter and has hired Leadership Associates to develop a profile for the next Superintendent of Moreland School District and lead the process. Employees, parents, and the community have provided input to identify the characteristics they feel represent the profile of the next Superintendent. We anticipate the new superintendent will be named in May.

I am excited about Moreland's growth and progress over the last five years while I have been Superintendent. Through our innovative programs, such as Academic Excellence for All, our schools are showing tremendous gains. With dedicated, highly educated and determined staff, our programs are continuing to grow and Moreland students will continue to make great strides toward closing the achievement gap. As I am poised to begin the next phase of my journey, I am pleased to leave the district knowing that the students and staff are on a great path to success.

The success of Moreland and all public schools in California is largely dependent upon funding from the State of California. In the news, we have heard the Governor say he is not going to cut funding for K-12 education. What does that really mean? The reality is that he can only do this if allowed to place a measure on the ballot that will extend the current state taxes. Without the measure, the district will have to cut between \$4 and \$5.3 million, or approximately 15% of our budget, between now and 2012-13. This is a significant loss to the district and will result in devastating cuts to our programs, staff, and services.

Our society depends on an educated population, and our schools cannot fail our students. Students will continue to come to school, and our dedicated teachers will continue to provide an excellent education. We need your help. We need our community to continue to stay informed and support public schools, especially in the coming weeks.

There are a variety of ways to stay up-to-date on what is happening in Moreland. In addition to updating our district website every few weeks, principals and teachers publish monthly newsletters and communicate with parents through School Loop, emails, voicemail, and Connect-Ed recorded messages. I am currently attending all Home & School meetings to discuss Moreland's State of the District presentation. You can also keep informed by attending Board meetings, Principals' Coffees, Community Board Advisory Meetings, school site council meetings, and neighborhood association meetings.

We need your input and invite you to respond to our communications survey, which is designed to determine how you would like to receive information from Moreland, what type of information, and how you rate Moreland's current communications efforts. If you have not already responded, please complete our survey online at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/8YMDX7G> or on the back of this page and return it to your school office.

Thank you,

Glen Ishiwata  
Superintendent

**Ensure Effective Communication  
Survey February/March 2011**

1. Please prioritize the ways in which you would like to receive information from Moreland School District.
  - a. I would prefer that the district post the Wednesday packet information on the school website. I will collect the information on my own.
  - b. I would prefer that you email a pdf of the Wednesday packet to me
  - c. No Change, I Like The Way It Is Done Now.

2. In the event of an emergency, would you like to be texted with information on the nature of the emergency and directed to a website with more information? If yes, please provide a telephone number to be texted and sign below. Your signature indicates that you recognize that standard messaging and texting rates may apply and that you will be responsible for payment of those rates.

- a. No
- b. Yes

Phone Number (\_\_\_\_).....

Name(s) of Child(ren) .....

School or Schools .....

Legibly Print Name .....

Signature: .....