



# MAKING MOMENTS IN FLOWING WELLS

*We Appreciate our Teachers!*

MAY 10, 2019

## A LETTER FROM DR. BAKER

As we prepare for the many celebrations and traditions when the school year comes to an end, I want to share some information affecting many employees. Due to some unusual circumstances, the Governing Board accepted a recommendation, reviewed by the District Benefits Committee, to set the 2019-2020 **district healthcare** contribution rate separate from other salary and benefits decisions. The increased district contribution of \$285 was to help mitigate the premium increase, averaging 8.2% across plans. Healthcare benefits are 12 months beginning on July 1 for continuing employees and the renewal window is April 24 to May 13th. In order allow employees to enroll in healthcare, we needed final rates, plan designs, providers, and the district health contribution to be firmly established in time for the renewal window. Understanding the state budget process is running well beyond the typical ending date, and the enrollment window can not be altered, all decisions had to be finalized. To support employees in making benefits decisions, Elaine Kimbler held informational forums at every site. Thank you to Elaine and the entire Human Resource Department for all of your work.

**21st Century Grants** funding for after school Skills for Success programs at Davis, Richardson, Centennial and Laguna are expiring on June 30. The State Department of Education had frozen new grant applications for the past two years, but has opened a new application cycle to begin October 1, 2019. The new application process is highly competitive and ADE indicates that funding may be awarded to only 30% of applicant submissions. Dr. Parkinson has coordinated the grant writing process and applications have been submitted for Davis, Centennial, Laguna and the Junior High. Under the new grant guidelines, Richardson did not meet the

## A LETTER FROM DR. BAKER (continued)

Even if we are successful, grant funding will not be available until October 1. As a result, the District is working with Flowing Wells Extension Programs to create capacity for families interested in the YES program for after school care. Skills for Success programs will continue at Douglas and Hendricks because the funding was established on a different grant calendar.

The District is establishing an **elementary substitute teacher committee** to review the ongoing challenge of covering elementary classrooms when substitutes are not available. We will be reviewing substitute data, absences and current practices to create a set of guidelines in establishing coverage and compensation. We are looking for representation from all six elementary schools and a commitment to attend two meetings during the week of July 29th. If you are interested in participating, please email Dr. Kim Parkinson before you leave on summer vacation.

During this busy time, I hope you have time to pause and reflect upon the memorable moments created with our incredible students.

Sincerely,  
David Baker, Ed.D.



## OPEN ENROLLMENT WINDOW ENDING SOON

Thank you to everyone who has turned in open enrollment paperwork. For those of you still thinking about your benefits, you have until this **Monday, May 13** to turn in the paperwork. And don't forget... for turning it in, you will receive a \$5 Target gift card and be entered into a drawing for a \$50 Target gift card! As a reminder, if you have a qualifying event during the year, for example marriage, divorce, birth of a child, turning 26 and losing insurance through your parents, or losing your spouse's insurance, you have 30 days from the event to enroll in or term our insurance. If you have any questions about benefits, please call Elaine Kimbler at 8825.

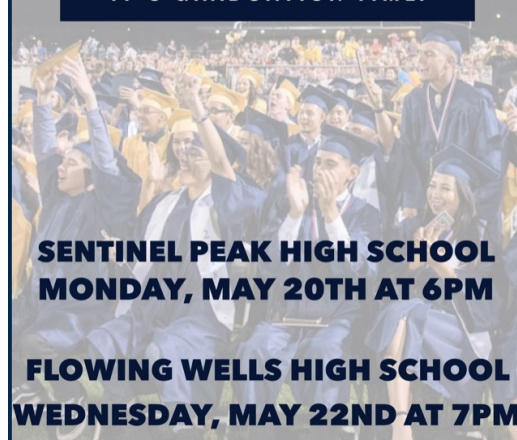
## SPARS AVAILABLE NEXT WEEK

The legislative budget process is continuing and may not conclude before the school year ends. As a result, the District will be providing SPARS for all returning support staff next week. The SPARS will list the current year's salary and have contingency language to allow the District to increase compensation once the state budget is finalized. It is unfortunate the state budget is not adopted to allow for final salary decisions to be included before the year ends.

## CONGRATULATIONS 2019-2020 FW TEACHERS OF THE YEAR!

Ben Collinsworth — EMELC  
Lindsay Dauenhauer — Centennial  
Will Roberts — Homer Davis  
Kelsi Strickland — Walter Douglas  
Susanne Segroves — Hendricks  
Marta Herrera — Laguna  
Meg Visconti — Richardson  
John Leigh — Flowing Wells Junior High  
Nate Rios — Flowing Wells High School

## IT'S GRADUATION TIME!



#gofdub