

# NUSD NEWS

"Whatever the mind can conceive and believe ... it can achieve!" Napoleon Hill

Volume VI, Issue 11

**JUNE 2009**

## Novato Unified School District

1015 Seventh Street  
Novato, CA 94945  
(415) 897-4201

[WWW.NUSD.ORG](http://WWW.NUSD.ORG)

*Si usted desea este documento en español,  
por favor llame a la oficina de su escuela.*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### June 3

Marin Oaks Senior Awards/Open House –  
6:00 PM

San Marin Senior Awards – 6:30 PM

### June 4

Novato High Senior Awards – 5:30 PM

Adult Education Graduation – 6:30 PM

### June 5

School Fuel Talent Show / Telethon  
4:00 – 8:00 PM

### June 10

NOVA 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion – 11:00 AM

NOVA 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation – 6:00 PM

### June 10

Hill Middle School Promotion – 11:00 AM

Sinaloa Promotion – 11:30 AM

San Jose Promotion – 1:00 PM

### June 11

Marin Oaks Graduation – 6:00 PM

### June 12

Novato High 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation

5:00 PM

San Marin 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation

7:00 PM

### June 16

Board Meeting – District Office – 7:00 PM

### June 30

Special Board Meeting – District Office

5:00 PM

## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dr. Jan La Torre-Derby, Superintendent



Dear Parents, Colleagues and NUSD Community,

As you are painfully aware, with the failure of the propositions on May 19<sup>th</sup>, NUSD has an additional \$3.4 million in budget cuts. This is over and above the \$2.350 million already established as cuts. As expected, any stimulus one-time funds, will need to go toward reducing the deficit. There will be several difficult discussions and decisions between now and the June 16, 2009 Board Meeting when final cuts will be determined.

I am grateful to so many of your contributions to SCHOOL FUEL, participation in the PAN NOVATO bike race, and NUSD's "Novato Grows Talent" telethon talent extravaganza. School Fuel donated \$169,000 last year. PAN NOVATO is donating \$115,000 to our schools and we expect the telethon to be a rousing success. Local funding and control are critically important!

Special thanks to our Parcel Tax Co-Chairs, Leslie Benjamin, Sarah Sangster and Robin Rodi and the Advisory Committee; Pam Conklin, Mary Pritchard, Dale Kline, Sonia Tanner, Rey Mayoral, Alan Harris, Joe, Chuck Bennett, Martin Sleath, Joe Morgan, Alan Taggard, Debbie Butler and Susan Matthews who have been tireless in their enthusiasm and dedication to securing funds for our students. We anticipate \$1.7 million funds generated by the new parcel tax and expenditures securely aligned to the ballot language programs. Without the parcel tax, we would not be able to continue the outstanding programs offered to K-12 students. We are exceedingly grateful to everyone who participated in making the election a success on behalf of our students.

Respectfully,

Dr. Jan La Torre-Derby  
Superintendent

[WWW.NUSD.ORG](http://WWW.NUSD.ORG)

## NUSD BUDGET & FINANCE

Marla Blackledge , Chief Financial Officer

### 2008/09 and 2009/10 Budget

During the May 19, 2009 state-wide special election, Propositions 1A through 1E failed to be approved by the electorate. Since then, the Novato Unified School District has been informed that it can expect to receive at least \$225 per student less than planned in this current fiscal year (2008/09) and \$244 less per student in the 2009/10 fiscal year. These additional revenue reductions could be as high as \$3.4 million between the two fiscal years. In order to determine how these revenue reductions will further impact the district's already bare bones budget, staff is revising budgets for each year and the corresponding multi-year projections (MYP). The revised budgets and MYP will also include the estimated one-time federal stimulus funds and revised salary and benefit projections for 2009/10. The revised MYP were presented to the Board of Trustees on June 2<sup>nd</sup> with the knowledge that deeper expenditures reductions are necessary. The State reductions are occurring daily.



### NOVATO ROTARY HONOREES

*For the past 10 years, Novato Rotary has been honoring Teachers of the Year for each Public and Private school in Novato. This is a wonderful event and we all at NUSD greatly appreciate Rotary recognizing our extraordinary teachers. Each honoree receives certificates from the organization and elected officials, as well as \$200.00. Our Sincere Appreciation to all Rotarians for this special and generous event!*



Melissa Schaffer, Emily Cavallero, Caroline Perron, Alexandra Nelson, Vicki Brown, Virginia Saysette, Cathy Stanek, Karen Stypa, James Chester, Pete Stewart, Karen Kenyon, Mary Christensen, Marcelyn Smith, Beth Behrens & Gray Douglas

## 2009 HONOREES

Congratulations to All!



### GOLDEN BELL AWARDS

Candace Gratto, Julie Spaan, Peter Sehink, Karen Scheppke, Trisha Herndon, Angela Kriesler, Yvonne East-Jensen, Elizabeth Arnold, Robin Nosti, Clay Jones, Catherine Stanek, Karen Rayner, James Chester, Megan Snover, Karen Kenyon, Dana Tamura, Terry McBroom & Mary Holt



### VOLUNTEER AWARDS

Leslie Benjamin, Nanci Boyd, Sally Carbonaro, Laura Church, Kim Damico, Tim Davidson, Jennifer Gennari, Cammie Griffin, Dale, Kline, M.J. Lonson, Krista Peach, Linda Pickford, Robin, Rodi, Sarah Sangster, Mike Testa, Jane Thomer & Charlene Walas



### NISA STUDENT AWARDS

Chloe Pace, Eugene Peugh-Wade, Gabriella Servin, Robert Briggs, Idalmis Gramajo, Jose Rosales, Grace Lee, Romario Conrado, Tess O'Brien, Joseph Kakkis, Victoria Malatesta, Eric B. Cervantes, Meghan Dunn, Cooper Cone, Johanna Perez, Arturo Hernandez-Montiel, Lexi Omholt, Jeremy Leary, Lily Bryan, Forrest Smith, Alison Skidmore, Michael Stompe, Amanda Grimm, David Phan, Peyton Harvey, Austin Schafer, Juliana Polidor, Joshua Kinslow, Caroline Hoog, Nina LoCoco, Danny Jordan, Claudia Luna & Kyle DeLongh

No one can make any sense of the loss and life changing destruction that took the life of Melody Osherhoff on the evening of May 27<sup>th</sup> ... it breaks our hearts! The "NUSD Family" will be there for the Osherhoff Family every step of the way as they bravely face the future.



A memorial fund has been established for Melody's family. Donations can be made in person at any Wells Fargo branch in Marin, or mailed to

**The Osheroff Family Fund**  
c/o Wells Fargo Bank  
1590 Grant Ave., Novato, CA 94945

# INSTRUCTION DIVISION

*Kathy Marshall, Executive Director*

## 2009-2010 Minimum Day Schedules

### K-8 Minimum Day Schedule

Sites	Day	Date	Time
All	Wednesday	September 23	8:30-12:30
All	Monday-Friday	November 16-20	8:30-12:30
All	Wednesday	January 6	8:30-12:30
Lu Sutton Lynwood	Wednesday	August 26	8:30-12:30
Olive Rancho	Thursday	August 27	8:30-12:30
Hamilton San Ramon	Wednesday	September 2	8:30-12:30
Loma Verde Pleasant Valley	Thursday	September 3	8:30-12:30
Olive Rancho	Wednesday	March 31	8:30-12:30
Hamilton Lu Sutton	Thursday	April 1	8:30-12:30
Loma Verde Pleasant Valley	Wednesday	April 7	8:30-12:30
Lynwood San Ramon	Thursday	April 8	8:30-12:30
All	Thursday	June 10	8:30-11:30 am

The 2009-2010 regular school calendar is located on the NUSD website at [www.nusd.org](http://www.nusd.org).

The dates indicated represent minimum days at all K-12 schools next year. Please remember to mark your calendars.

For more information, please check your specific school calendar or contact the school office for exact dates and times.

### Secondary Minimum Day Schedule

All Middle Schools	Tuesday	October 13	<b>Check school for exact times</b>
All Middle Schools	Tuesday	March 16	
All Middle Schools NOVA	Wednesday	September 9	
Hill Middle San Jose Middle	Wednesday	March 24	
Sinaloa Middle	Thursday	April 1	
All Middle Schools NOVA	Thursday	June 10	
Novato High San Marin High	Thursday	September 10	7:40-12:25
San Marin High	Tuesday-Friday	December 15-18	7:40-12:25
Novato High San Marin High	Thursday	March 25	7:40-12:25
San Marin High	Monday-Thursday	June 7-10	7:40-12:25



# HUMAN RESOURCES

*Louise Koenig, Director*

<b>Louise Koenig</b>	39 Years	<b>Lucy Wheeler</b>	21 Years
<b>Barbara Fitzgerald</b>	39 Years	<b>Dale Ravazzini</b>	20 Years
<b>Frances Craig</b>	31 Years	<b>Susan Kruppa</b>	16 Years
<b>Jacqueline Corbett</b>	29 Years	<b>Carolyn Gerrans</b>	13 Years
<b>Jean Ramsey</b>	25 Years	<b>Karen Kenyon</b>	12 Years
<b>Carmen Salvestrin</b>	24 Years	<b>Janice Delabrandais</b>	11 Years
<b>Barbara Tjernell</b>	23 Years	<b>Elizabeth Ganz</b>	9 years
<b>Richard Pearlman</b>	22 Years	<b>Patricia Robinson</b>	3 Years

**Thank You to our Retirees!**

You have enriched the lives of Novato's School Children by providing a stronger environment for them to Learn, Grow and Develop!

## AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE (ADA)

Revenue Loss = \$ 1,229,710.22

8/20/08 – 3/27/09

The following amounts reflect the funding lost due to absences so far this year.

**PLEASE HELP US RESOLVE THIS ISSUE!**

Elementary Schools	\$ Lost	Attend Rate
Hamilton	\$105,282.17	96.54%
Loma Verde	\$35,395.81	97.37%
Lu Sutton	\$39,922.13	95.69%
Lynwood	\$36,889.50	95.90%
Olive	\$32,996.86	97.13%
Pleasant Valley	\$25,981.07	97.14%
Rancho	\$27,655.81	98.00%
San Ramon	\$27,836.86	96.13%

Secondary Schools	\$ Lost	Attend Rate
Hill MS	\$118,453.76	97.14%
San Jose MS	\$128,728.50	96.57%
Sinaloa MS	\$115,692.70	97.17%
Marin Oaks HS	\$14,936.85	99.98%
Novato HS	\$301,724.39	96.25%
San Marin HS	\$211,016.97	96.57%
NOVA	\$7,196.85	97.28%

## HEALTH & WELLNESS

*Miguel Villarreal*

*Director of Food and Nutritional Services (FANS)*



### NOVATO SCHOOLS TAKE THE SODA FREE SUMMER CHALLENGE

This summer, NUSD and the Novato Community join other counties in the Bay Area in reaching out to children ages 1- 18 (*and their families*) to educate them about the negative effects of soda and other sweetened beverages. The Food and Nutritional Services Department is sending out Challenge Flyers on the **Soda Free Summer**.

For more information or to

**JOIN THE CHALLENGE**

Visit Us Online

[www.nusd.org](http://www.nusd.org)

[www.sodafreesummer.org](http://www.sodafreesummer.org)

## SIMILAR SCHOOL RANK / STAR



On May 21, 2009, the State released similar school STAR results. This score reflects 100 similar schools to each of our schools with comparable socio economic levels, and sub-group identifiers. We are extremely proud of the following schools with scores that reflect high ratings.

The highest score possible is 10.

	School	Score	Ranking
K-5	Rancho	10	Highest Score
K-5	Hamilton	8	Top 20% of the State
K-5	Pleasant Valley	8	Top 20% of the State
K-5	Loma Verde	7	Top 30% of the State
6-8	Hill MS	9	Top 10% of the State
6-8	San Jose MS	8	Top 20% of the State
6-8	Sinaloa MS	7	Top 30% of the State

All of the schools listed above have met the state requirement of 800 API or above. We will all continue to work on our sub-groups and achievement for all students.

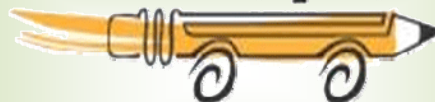
## MAINTENANCE & REPAIR

*Mark Silva, Director of Maintenance*

The NUSD Grounds teams are in the process of trimming and polishing the campus exteriors in preparation for upcoming end of year events. Five sites hosting eight events and regular maintenance are keeping the reduced staff extremely busy. In addition, the staff is refurbishing our newly acquired property from the Hamilton Base. Fire mitigation is underway and expected to be completed by the end of June.

The NUSD Operations team is also coordinating security improvements for the Hamilton K-8 Project. This includes the parking lot and campus lighting, as well as limiting access with gate and fencing.

## SCHOOL FUEL



Novato Foundation for Public Education

[WWW.NOVATOSCHOOLFUEL.ORG](http://WWW.NOVATOSCHOOLFUEL.ORG)