

# BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Feb 4, 2015



## ASSESSMENT & ACCOUNTABILITY WORKSHOP

1. Deborah Sigman, Deputy Superintendent Educational Services and Chair of the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium Executive Committee, shared with the Board of Trustees that the state of California is undergoing unprecedented changes in the areas of assessment and accountability. More rigorous standards for college and career readiness are demanding a different approach to teaching and learning including assessments, and in response, different approaches are required to determine the effectiveness of programs and accountability. Rocklin Unified is at the forefront of these changes and is taking advantage of opportunities to prepare our students with college and career readiness. The **workshop focused on systems of assessment and accountability** – past, present and future, including key shifts in standards and expectations, having significant policy and practical implications for RUSD. The workshop also provided information on the shifts in instruction, assessment methodology, and accountability measures. The key shift in RUSD and California will be that of moving to a growth centered culture and one of multiple measures regarding overall school effectiveness.

## ACTION ITEMS

1. The Board of Trustees **approved the Rocklin Academy Turnstone Petition for renewal.**

## INFORMATION ITEMS

1. WestEd, a research, development, and service agency, that works with education and other communities to promote excellence, achieve equity, and improve learning for children, youth, and adults, shared with the Board of Trustees information regarding an ongoing **study of the RUSD Special Education Department's policies, procedures, organizational structure and staffing.** The principle investigator(s) provided an update to the Board regarding the processes and methodologies being used in the study as well as the current status of the components of the study. It is anticipated that the completed study will be presented to the Board at the April 15, 2015 meeting.
2. Deborah Sigman, Deputy Superintendent Educational Services, and Karen Huffines, Director Elementary Programs and School Leadership presented a report to the Board of Trustees on RUSDs current **Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten programs** along with proposed changes for the 2015-16 school year. Currently, the District has five Transitional Kindergarten programs located at Rock Creek, Parker Whitney and Antelope Creek Elementary Schools. All five programs offer an extended day model with current enrollment at 120 students, with the Parker Whitney TK program being new this year. The District will be adding on additional programs at Rocklin Elementary and reduce class size to 20 to 1 in TK using federal categorical Title I funding. In addition to the District's Transitional Kindergarten programs, RUSD has over 30 Kindergarten classes with a variety of models including extended day, traditional morning/afternoon and K/1 programs. Five schools will pilot full day kindergarten in 2015-16: Sierra, Ruhkala, Rocklin, Sunset Ranch and Cobblestone.