



"All Students... All Of Us –
Achieving Success Together!"

SOUTH BAY UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

601 Elm Avenue • Imperial Beach, California 91932-2098 • (619) 628-1600 • Fax: (619) 628-1608

CAROL A. PARISH, Ed.D
District Superintendent

January 15, 2009

SPECIAL MESSAGE TO WEST VIEW FAMILIES

**RE: RECOMMENDATION TO
RESTRUCTURE WEST VIEW SCHOOL BEGINNING IN 2010-11
TO BECOME AN EARLY LEARNING CENTER
AND
MOVE PROGRAMS FOR GRADES 1-6
TO IMPERIAL BEACH SCHOOL**

Dear West View Families and Staff,

Re-structuring West View School beginning in August 2010 is a recommendation that I make with the greatest acknowledgement of the 60-year history of this school and one that pulls at my heartstrings. I am so proud of West View in terms of the quality of teaching and learning, our students' accomplishments, the talents and dedication of the West View staff, and the unique & wonderful sense of community and pride that together students, parents and staff have created. I respect and admire the fact that West View School holds a special place in the minds and hearts of several generations of Imperial Beach citizens.

As you may recall, during 2005-06 a District Task Force was commissioned by the SBUSD Board of Trustees to study enrollment and facility use – due to lower enrollments in our west-side schools and a loss of revenue that now totals \$13 million annually in our district's general fund. In February 2006, the Board received a recommendation that included the possibility of closing West View School. The Board chose to delay that action until absolutely necessary. Staff has diligently re-examined the recommendations in that report every year since 2006 and each year have identified other ways to balance the budget. Now, with a \$3 million budget shortfall, the time has come.

The District plans to continue with the Proposition X improvements to the West View facility that you voted for as planned, and I am pleased about the new functions we are recommending for West View School to serve as an Early Learning Center for several preschool classes, full day kindergartens for West View & Imperial Beach students, and offices for our Extended Learning Programs. These changes will allow the District to save approximately \$300,000 annually in our general operating fund, which is the fund we use to hire all classroom teachers, principals, and support staff. This allows us to keep class sizes as low as possible and minimize the number of combination grade classrooms.

We look forward to working with you in making West View's last year as a K-6 school one we will all remember. We are confident that beginning in 2010 your children will flourish at Imperial Beach School.

Sincerely,

Carol A. Parish, Ed.D.
District Superintendent

Board of Trustees:

Elvia Aguilar • Chris Brown • Nick Inzunza • Althea F. Jones • David Lopez