

Portola Valley School District

School Board Update

School Facilities Bond

Community Engagement & Listening Effort

May 16, 2018

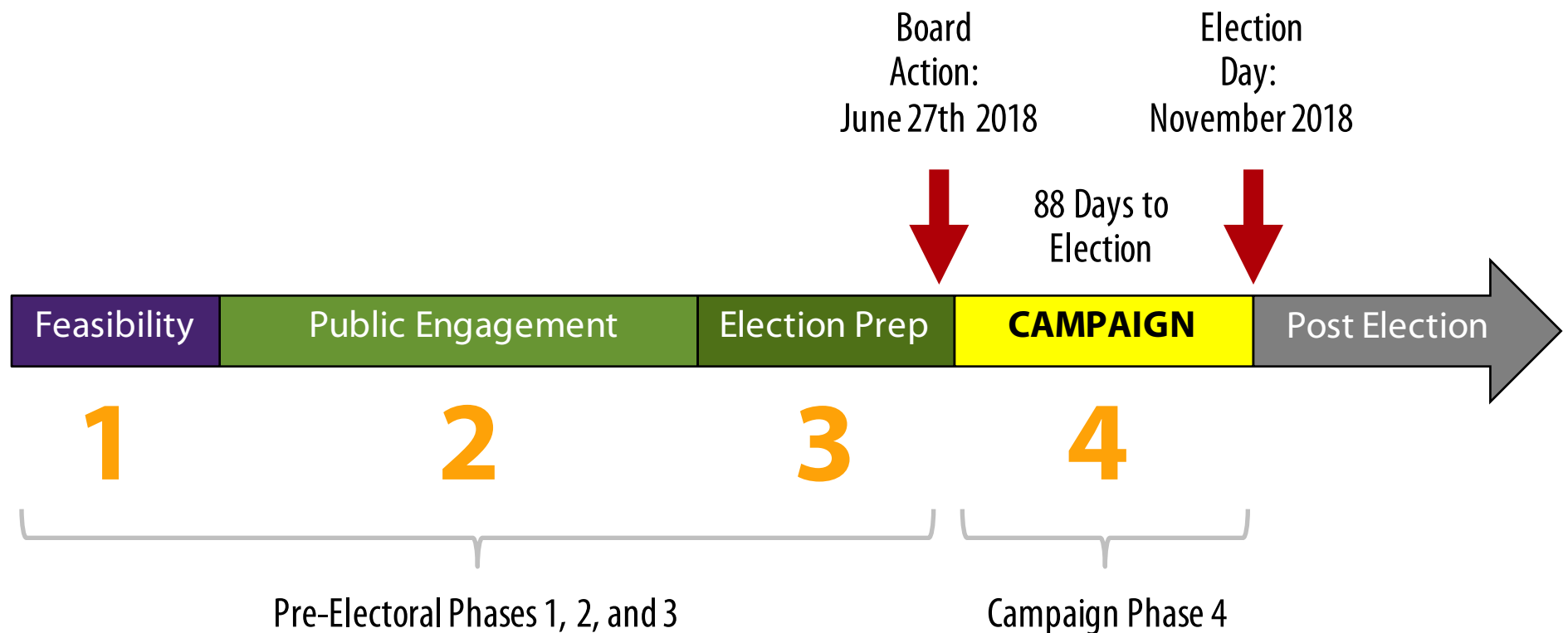
CliffordMoss.

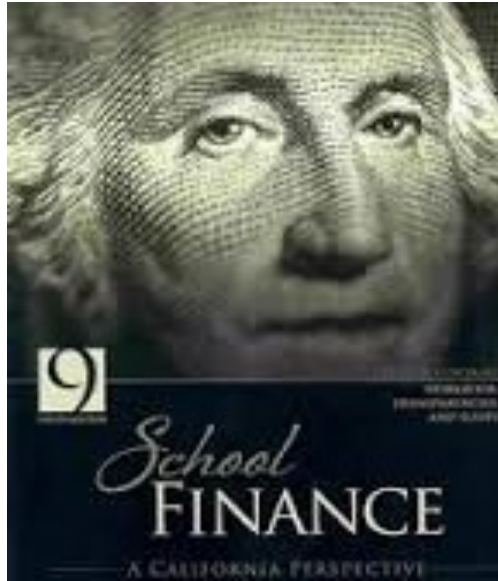
Presentation Objectives

- ▶ Overview / Context
- ▶ Facilities Needs Journey
- ▶ "Listening" Overview & Results
- ▶ Board Q&A. / Discussion

This is an information item. No Board action is requested.

Time is your most valuable resource!





Navigating in the Public Arena

- ▶ MORE Accessible and Widely Interpreted (*because information is abundant/instant*).
- ▶ MORE Complex and Organic– at ALL Levels.
- ▶ MORE Demanding of School Leaders in Virtually Every Way.

Approach

Track 1

District Due Diligence

Facilities, Technology, FMP, Finance, Legal, Logistics etc...

Track 2

BOARD Engagement & Education

NEED, Process, Info/Data/Research, Consensus, etc...

Track 3

Stakeholder & Opinion Leader Engagement

"People Support What They Help Create."



November 2018 Timeline

➤ **March – May**

Listening/Engagement Work

Planning / Community Outreach / Early Opinion Leader & Stakeholder Work

➤ **Early April**

Two-way Informational Mailer / Video

➤ **Early May**

Letter from Superintendent – Online and Mail

➤ **Mid May**

Evaluate Early Listening Work/Feasibility

➤ **Mid May**

Tracking Survey

➤ **Early June**

Core ballot measure package defined

Ballot Measure Prep / Bond Plan Shared Broadly
Informed by opinion research + needs + community input & consensus

➤ **May 30 & June 6**

Board Workshop(s) – Ballot Package Review

➤ **June 27**

Board Action – Calling for an Election

➤ **Aug 10**

Filing Deadline for Nov 2018 Election

CAMPAIGN WINDOW

➤ **Aug/Sept/Oct/Nov 6**

Campaign Window

➤ **Nov 6, 2018**

ELECTION DAY!

Public Engagement

People support
what they help create.



Portola Valley School District 2017-2018 School Facilities Improvement Project Opinion Leader & Stakeholder Meeting Facilitator's Guide/Packet

Goal:

1. To provide information and raise awareness about the School Facilities Improvement Project and technology NEEDS and Disposition.
2. To seek and obtain feedback from our stakeholders.

Attendance:

Optimal

- Opinion Leader Scenario: 1:1
- Stakeholder Meeting Scenario: 1:1

Who = High credibility, influential groups, residents, stakeholders

Reminder:

People support what they help create.

Action Steps:

#	Action Step	By When
1.	SCHEDULE your "Strategic Conversations"	By May 15
2.	CONDUCT your "Strategic Conversations"	By May 22
3.	LISTEN and RECORD feedback.	By May 29
4.	REPORT results.	By June 5

Portola Valley School District Fact Sheet

PVSD Facilities Improvement Project

PVSD Schools Serve an Essential Community Need.

Portola Valley School District is committed to protecting the high quality of our neighborhood schools serving children in transitional kindergarten through eighth grade (TK-8). As the local provider of TK-8 public education, we believe all students deserve to learn in quality classrooms and school facilities. We have two key goals: first, to ensure academic, social, and emotional success for student attending one of our schools; and second, to make our school facilities and school grounds safe, secure, and equipped to provide a quality educational environment for Portola Valley students.



Quality School Facilities are Essential to a Quality Education

Corte Madera and Ormondale are both award-winning schools. Although well maintained, our facilities and classrooms built 30 to 60 years ago are in need of critical repairs. While neighboring communities have steadily invested in school infrastructure — we have not. We need to invest in public schools in order to continue providing a quality environment for exceptional instruction. The current scope of needs, including classroom air conditioning, replacing leaking roofs, plumbing, and outdated fire alarm systems; and modernizing aging classrooms, science labs, and technology infrastructure to keep pace with 21st century teaching far exceeds our available allotment for school facilities. If we want our kids to succeed in high school, we need safe, modern school facilities.

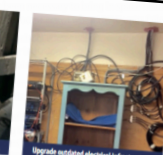
Our Needs are Real

Despite our best efforts to maintain our aging facilities, we've experienced several major system failures at our schools, including:

- ▶ Water intrusion into numerous classrooms is causing mold and rot.
- ▶ Fire alarm systems at both schools need to be replaced.
- ▶ A burst water main beneath the Corte Madera School multi-use room/gymnasium will require the gym to be completely out of service for at least 10 weeks.



Reinforce deteriorated classroom buildings.



Upgrade outdated electrical infrastructure.



Replace leaking roofs, ceilings & aging plumbing.



Outdated classrooms need modernization.

Critical Needs Identified Include:

- ▶ **REPAIR/REPLACE** leaking roofs, aging plumbing, electrical, heating, air conditioning systems and restroom facilities.
- ▶ **UPDATE/MODERNIZE** aging classroom technology, wiring and infrastructure to protect the quality of academic instruction in core subjects like math, science, reading, writing and the arts.
- ▶ **UPGRADE** outdated security alarms, cameras, classroom locks, fencing and exterior lighting to improve campus security and meet current health and safety codes.
- ▶ **RENOVATE** existing multi-use facilities, kitchens, physical education areas, play fields and play equipment for student health and safety.
- ▶ **MODERNIZE** aging classrooms, science labs, and technology infrastructure to keep pace with 21st century teaching and learning.

Educating Students for Success in the New Global Economy.

Modern classrooms and technology will help ensure that our local TK-8 school students are prepared to function at the highest technological level so they can achieve success as they continue in school, college, jobs and careers that drive our future global economy.

Protecting the Local Quality of Education is a Smart Investment.

Whether you have school-age children or not, good schools protect property values. Home resale values will benefit as our neighborhood schools are improved. The longer we wait to complete needed upgrades, the more expensive it will be.

Community Input is Welcome.

Portola Valley School District welcomes input from community stakeholders in our study process. We are working hard to educate our community on exactly what is at stake to ensure quality TK-8 schools for the future. Please refer to contact information below.

For more information, please contact:

Superintendent Eric Hartwig via email: ehartwig@pvsd.net, by phone: 650-851-1777, or visit our website at:

www.PVSD.net

1. ENGAGE
Tell Our Story!

2. LISTEN!

3. TRACK

Opinion Leader & Stakeholder Conversations

Including leadership from the following categories:

- Education Leaders
- Business Leaders
- Youth Sports Leaders
- City Elected Leaders
- Civic Leaders
- Special District Leaders
- Faith Leaders
- Senior Leaders
- Former Board Members
- Local Media
- Parents Leaders
- Engaged Neighbors
- Public Safety Leaders
- Neighborhood Associations/HOAs

Hundreds of conversations...

Public Engagement

Our Needs

We've been able to maintain the quality of education in the Portola Valley School District, but to continue to ensure safe modern school facilities district-wide, we need to:

- ▲ Renovate deteriorated classroom buildings.
- ▲ Remove asbestos flooring.
- ▲ Upgrade outdated electrical infrastructure.
- ▲ Repair leaking roofs, ceilings and aging plumbing.
- ▲ Update classrooms and technology.

Our Needs are Real:

Despite our best efforts to maintain our aging facilities, we've experienced several major system failures at our schools, including:

- Water intrusion into numerous classrooms is causing mold and rot.
- Fire alarm systems at both schools need to be replaced.
- A burst water main beneath the Corte Madera School multi-use room/gymnasium will require **at least 10 weeks**.
- Nearly all HVAC units at both schools need to be replaced. It has been in space heaters to keep so warm when HVAC units fail.

These conditions create a far from optimal educational setting for our students and teachers. An important part of an excellent education is having quality school facilities. Studies show that students and teachers perform better in safe, modern classrooms and school facilities. Accordingly, our students and teachers

Critical Needs Include:

- **REPAIR/REPLACE** leaking roofs, aging plumbing, electrical, heating, air conditioning systems, and restroom facilities.

SURVEY:

Please tell us what you think!

You can complete this survey online: www.PVSD.net

Please rank these school priorities in their importance to you (H = high, M = medium, L = low).

- **REPAIR/REPLACE** leaking roofs, aging plumbing, electrical, heating, air conditioning systems and restroom facilities. ☐
- **UPGRADE** outdated security alarms, cameras, classroom locks, fencing and exterior lighting to improve campus security and meet current health and safety codes. ☐
- **MODERNIZE** aging classrooms, science labs and technology infrastructure to keep pace with other local public schools and 21st century teaching and learning. ☐
- **RENOVATE** existing multi-use facilities, kitchens, physical education areas, play fields and play equipment for student health and safety. ☐
- **UPDATE** electrical wiring and wireless networks to support new classroom computers and instructional technology. ☐
- **BUILD** new music and art classrooms/facilities. ☐

Comments or questions:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

SCHOOLS MY CHILDREN ATTEND/ATTENDED _____

Aging Facilities

ORMONDALE SCHOOL
Buildings built in 1961, 1976 and 1988 have critical needs.

CORTE MADERA SCHOOL
Buildings built in 1958, 1960 and 1964 have critical needs.

April 2018
Dear Parents and Neighbors:
Corte Madera and Ormondale are both award winning schools, but our basic infrastructure is crumbling. Our challenge is this: although well maintained, our facilities and classrooms that were built 30 to 60 years ago are in need of critical repairs and upgrades. While neighboring communities have steadily invested in their school infrastructure — we have not. We need to invest in our local public schools in order to continue providing a quality academic environment for exceptional instruction.

The current scope of needs, including classroom and facility repairs replacing leaking roofs and plumbing, outdated fire alarm and safety systems, and modernizing aging classrooms, science labs and technology infrastructure to keep pace with 21st century teaching and learning, far exceeds our available allotment for school facilities maintenance.

If we want our kids to succeed in high school, college and careers, they need safe, modern school facilities.

As we continue to evaluate our needs, I want to make sure we include our community. What are your opinions? There's a lot at stake. Academic standards are rising. PVSD students need (and deserve) the same educational opportunities as students at neighboring public schools. We need to prepare our students for success.

Please complete the attached response card and mail it back to us, or respond online at www.PVSD.net. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Eric Hartwig
Eric Hartwig
Superintendent, Portola Valley School District

School Facilities Improvement Plan UPDATE

Portola Valley School District

Corte Madera School
4th through 8th grade

Ormondale School
Transitional kindergarten through 3rd grade

"Portola Valley Schools are award winning, but our basic infrastructure is crumbling. We need to invest in our schools now or the quality of our students' education will suffer."
— Eric Hartwig, Superintendent

Parents and Neighbors PLEASE READ: Your input is critical for our local schools.

Reply Mailer –
2,564 Households

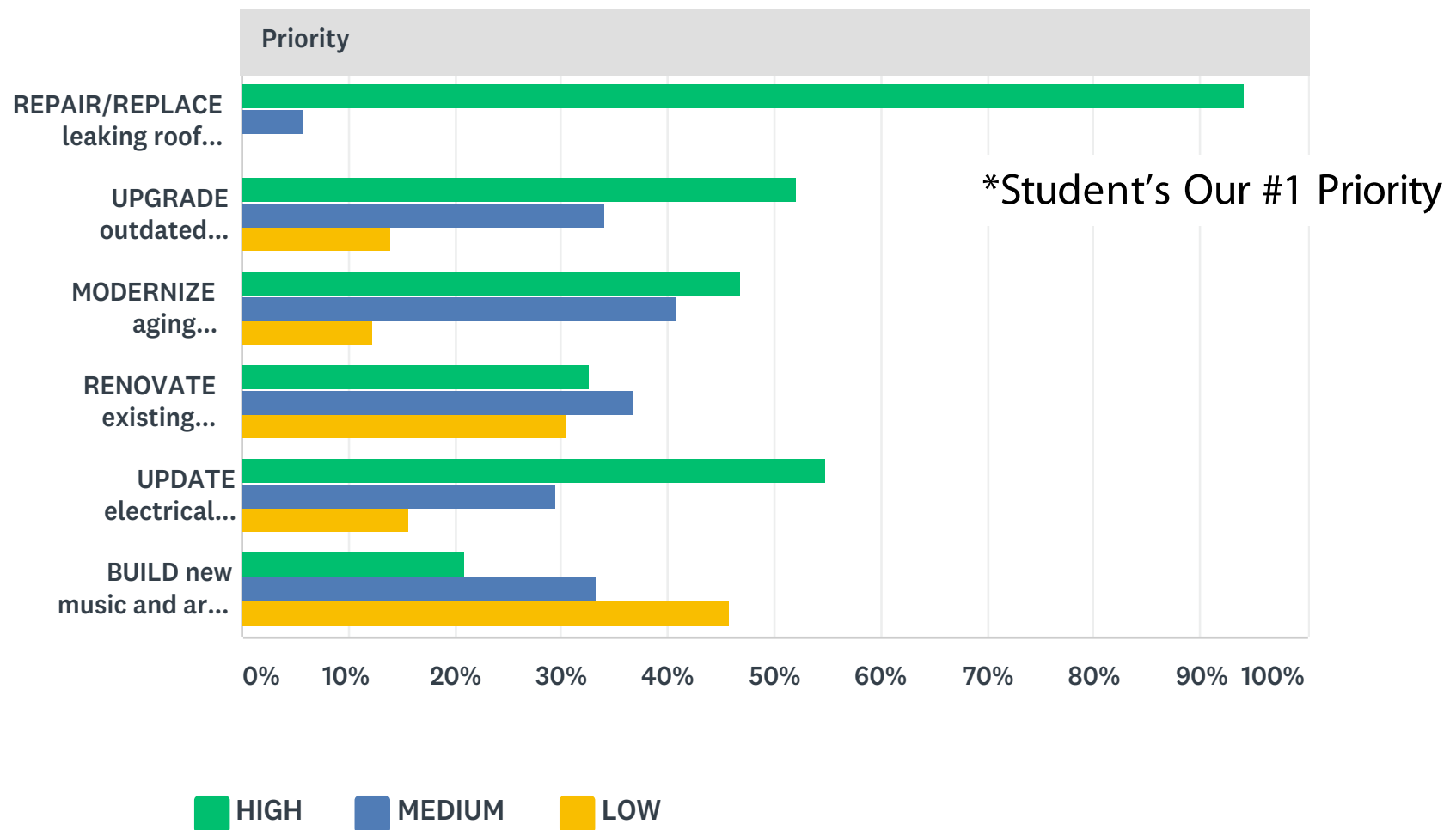
Response –
Online: 23
Mail: 32

What We Heard



Online & Postcard Reply Survey Results:

Please rank these Portola Valley School District priorities in order of their importance to you? (High, Medium or Low)



Public Engagement



Video – **Views to date: 162** Emailed: **700 + Community Members**

Public Engagement

Letter From Superintendent Hartwig – 2,564 Households

Portola Valley School District Ormondale School (K-3) • Corte Madera School (4-8)

Board of Trustees: Karyn Bechtel, Brooke Day, Jeff Kugman, Gulliver La Valle, Mike Maffa
Eric Hartwig, Superintendent

May 2018

Dear Parents and Neighbors,

As Superintendent of Portola Valley School District (PVSD), it is my job to ensure that all students achieve their full academic potential. Quality facilities are part of the equation. In that spirit, I hope you will take a few minutes to read this important update on your Portola Valley schools.

When I came into the District in October of 2015, I was already aware of the District's stellar academic reputation. As a former administrator in the Sequoia High School District, I had become quite familiar with the energy and vision that Portola Valley families brought with them into high school life. During my five years as Superintendent of the Las Lomas District I came to understand the aspirations of Menlo Park and Ladera parents. And, as a 25-year resident of Woodside, I became intimately aware of that district's history and evolution.

Thus, after a few months in our district I readily saw that we had very hard-working teachers who didn't shy away from challenges or collaboration, that we were blessed with generous and creative parents, that our students were polite, energetic, and curious... and... that our facilities were... well... tired. Although both schools received some new classrooms and other buildings in 1996 and 2006, the other half of our facilities date back to 1958, 1960, 1961, 1964, 1976, 1981 and 1988. Some of our older buildings are definitely beyond their useful life. Some have actually failed, while some of our newer ones are in need of upgrades that would keep us current with modern developments in the learning and work environments.

For more detail about the current and desired state of our facilities, read below, and feel free to share with me any thoughts that you may have by email: ehartwig@pvsd.net, or by phone: (650) 851-1777. Visit the PVSD website at: www.pvsn.net.

Infrastructure: At Ormondale School we have eight classrooms in use that were built 57 years ago, six that were built 42 years ago, and two "portable classrooms" that are 30 years old. These buildings were built to outdated standards and require excessive attention. Drainage, flashing, and glazing are inadequate. Lighting and electrical service in these and other rooms are adequate but by no means optimal. Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) units are 17+ years old and are beginning to fail. That these classrooms are safe and cheery is testimony to the teachers' dedication and artfulness.

Some of the newer facilities at Ormondale need serious attention also: The Multi-Use Room/Gymnasium (MUR) has fold-out tables that are no longer operable, lighting that needs replacing, roofs that need repair, and glazing that is discolored and unattractive. Last year, one of our kindergarten classrooms had to be closed for major repairs due to water damage. The fire alarm system is plagued by shorts and needs replacement.

4575 Alpine Road, Portola Valley, CA 94028 • Telephone: (650) 851-1777
www.pvsn.net

At Corte Madera School, we have 15 classrooms that are 44 to 50 years old, and here the situation is more troubling. Just this year we have had to close eight classrooms, two bathrooms, the library, and the Multi-Use Room/Gymnasium (MUR) for repairs. To review:

- Soon after the start of school, Room 501 was suspected to have mold, so we brought in an industrial hygienist who confirmed that mold was present behind the vinyl wallpaper and in some of the ducting in all three rooms of that wing. We removed and cleaned all furnishings, relocated the students, and had the rooms brought back to a safe and clean condition. This involved removing and replacing drywall, HVAC units, windows and flashing, and siding.
- Due to the problems in the 500 wing, we had the entire school inspected and found similar problems in the 700 wing and its bathrooms, and, to a lesser extent, some classrooms in the 600 and 1000 wing. We took all necessary steps to remedy these situations. Last year we had to rebuild Room 604 due to water intrusion.
- The library has suffered from various water intrusion problems over recent years, but this year we may have solved it after extensive analysis and remediation.
- Ten weeks ago a water main burst underneath the foundation of the MUR. Water accumulated undetected for several days before percolating above the foundations and onto the slab that supports the sub-flooring. The leak was readily fixed, but the gym floor was ruined and we have closed the facility for over eight weeks while a new floor is installed.

One might think, "But if you took better care of your buildings, this wouldn't happen." For the most part, the issues I've mentioned are not maintenance related. The 500 and 700 wings at Corte Madera suffered from outmoded design and construction where the absence of flashing around the windows and gutters too close to the siding permitted water intrusion for decades. Add to that the fact that one building is in perpetual shade and subject to pine tree litter year round and the other faces the sun and wind of the western hills for every daylight hour and it's a miracle that these buildings have lasted for 44 years. The plumbing that failed under the MUR was a galvanized stub that was part of a never-realized locker room that was planned in the 1970s. And bathrooms that are used by hundreds of children several times a day for several decades... at some point even the best maintenance has to give way to renovation.

Aesthetics: So far, I've only been mentioning issues that fall under the category of "basic infrastructure," and when I came into the district I could see that the facilities are in major need of attention. The infrastructure issues are a must-do-as-soon-as-possible, but there is another category of concerns that I also have and I'll call this the general realm of aesthetics.

From afar, say from the street, our schools blend in quite well with the Portola Valley aesthetic. They appear up to the task of housing and supporting the education of our children. But from within, our schools are definitely old-school. The design of the classrooms does little to complement the natural beauty of Portola Valley; opportunities for light and fresh air to embrace the rooms are scant. The options for students, volunteers, and teachers to take advantage of our splendid climate are hampered by 1950s concepts of circulation and outdoor space.

4575 Alpine Road, Portola Valley, CA 94028 • Telephone: (650) 851-1777
www.pvsn.net

Why should concerns of aesthetics trouble us? First off, schools should be a prominent source of community pride. Whether it's adolescents engaging in athletics, parents attending science exhibitions, the community participating in "farmers' markets" hosted by primary school students, or the rituals of graduation exercises, our schools amplify and frame these activities. Students and teachers spend a huge part of their lives at our schools, and they note and absorb the aesthetics of their surroundings.

As we move ahead with upgrading, replacing, and modernizing our classrooms, we will devote the utmost care to preserving the feel of Portola Valley while also capitalizing on the natural beauty of our environment.

Modernity: Over the past decade I have had many opportunities to visit neighboring public schools as well as several distinguished private schools that Portola Valley students either attend or visit. In these schools I have seen several trends take root that reflect the ethos that partly defines Silicon Valley.

Modern classrooms are becoming more like the workplaces at Apple, Google, LinkedIn, and Facebook. Gone are the tidy rows of desks with the "teacher on the stage" concept. Modern classrooms are more open, more configurable, more conducive to collaboration. Just as modern workplaces eschew cubicles and alleys of numerous small private offices, modern classrooms encourage group work, problem solving, and ready access to resources and breakout spaces.

Our country's world-leading and accessible system of higher education has fueled a massive global shift in manufacturing and innovation. Every industry imaginable has found solid footing around the globe, creating wealth as well as formidable competition for the United States. While our country is no longer a singular leader in many manufacturing or technological fields, there are many, many areas where we continue to lead the way – biotechnology, AI, nanotechnology, entertainment, medicine all come to mind... fields that require creativity, imagination, collaboration, and risk-taking.

Today's classrooms should acclimate students to today's modes of being productive. The design thinking approach that propelled Apple to worldwide dominance has been adopted a thousand-fold in today's workplaces, and many schools are adapting their curricula and their instructional spaces to encourage this shift. I have visited schools that have created "Maker Spaces" (or "Tinker Spaces," or "Design Labs") that have work benches, tool racks, materials and project storage, computer stations, "writing walls," interactive screens, "wet benches," and outdoor "messy spaces" all rolled into one purpose-designed room. In some respects, it's the return of the wood shop and the welding classroom and the homemaking classroom, redesigned for the world we now compete in.

Similarly, a typical classroom, one used for foreign language instruction, or for social studies, can become more modern and supportive of today's working and learning environments. The thoughtful implementation of technology, modifications that encourage collaboration and breakout opportunities, and improvements to natural lighting and air circulation are approaches that schools have adopted.

4575 Alpine Road, Portola Valley, CA 94028 • Telephone: (650) 851-1777
www.pvsn.net


How we are approaching these challenges: Nearly two years ago we began a formal assessment of our district's physical needs by setting out to create a comprehensive Facilities Master Plan. We formed committees, hired consultants, met with stakeholders, and conducted surveys and polls. We have been visiting schools and refining our ideas to achieve the most "bang for the buck" should we ask our voters to support a school construction bond. Our Board of Trustees is currently considering proposals that would improve our district's infrastructure, aesthetics, and modernity. During two meetings in June, the 6th and 27th, our Trustees will decide whether and how to accomplish the improvements I've described.

We have two fantastic schools in our district, schools that, for many decades, have prepared our students for the rigors of high school and college life. Our teachers and support staff have not shied away from modernizing and enhancing their instructional programs. Our parents and residents have been extraordinarily generous in providing resources through fundraisers, passing of parcel taxes or construction bonds, donations, and contributions of their time and energy.

I am confident that, should we take up the task, our school community and larger Portola Valley community will rise to the occasion should our Board of Trustees decide that now is the time.

As we continue to evaluate our needs, I want to make sure we include our community. What are your opinions? There's a lot at stake. Academic standards are rising. PVSD students need and deserve the same educational opportunities as students at neighboring public schools. We need to prepare our students for success. Share with me any thoughts that you may have by email: ehartwig@pvsd.net, or by phone: (650) 851-1777.

Sincerely,



Eric Hartwig
Superintendent, Portola Valley School District

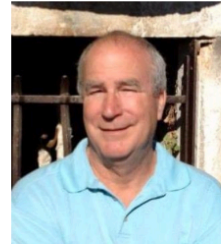
4575 Alpine Road, Portola Valley, CA 94028 • Telephone: (650) 851-1777
www.pvsn.net

News & Views from the Superintendent

Portola Valley School District

News & Views

Eric Hartwig, Superintendent



BOARD:

el

n

alle

S:

ol

ool

D)

ools

C)

age

ters

ear



In This Issue

[From the Superintendent](#)

[The State Of Our Facilities](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[Crossing Guards Needed](#)

4575 Alpine Road
Portola Valley, CA 94028
(650) 851-1777
www.pvsd.net

Eric Hartwig
Superintendent
ehartwig@pvsd.net

Monday, April 16, 2018

Dear PVSD Families,

Welcome back from your spring break. I hope that you had time to do some of things you cherish and that everybody is ready for school to resume. This edition of my newsletter is devoted to one topic: the condition of our schools and what we're doing about it.

When I came into the district in October of 2015, I was already aware of the District's stellar academic reputation. As a former administrator in the Sequoia High School District, I had become quite familiar with the energy and vision that Portola Valley families brought with them into high school life. During my five years as Superintendent of the Las Lomas District I came to understand the aspirations of Menlo Park and Ladera parents. And, as a 25-year resident of Woodside, I became intimately aware of that district's history and evolution.

Thus, after a few months in our district I readily saw that we had very hard working teachers who didn't shy away from challenges or collaboration...that we were blessed with generous and creative parents...that our students were polite, energetic, and curious...and...that our facilities were...well...tired. Although both schools received some new classrooms and other buildings in 1996 and 2000, the other half of our facilities date back to 1958, 1960, 1961, 1964, 1976, 1981 and 1988. Some of our older buildings are definitely beyond their useful life -- and some have actually failed -- while some of our newer ones are in need of upgrades that would keep us current with modern developments in the learning and work environments.

For more detail about the current and desired state of our facilities, read below, and feel free to share with me any thoughts that you may have by [clicking here and leaving me a note](#).

Best,
Eric

The State Of Our Facilities

Infrastructure: At Ormondale School we have eight classrooms in use that were built 57 years ago, six that were built 42 years ago, and two "portable classrooms" that are 30 years old. These buildings were built to outdated standards and require excessive attention. Drainage, flashing, and glazing are inadequate. Lighting and electrical service in these and other rooms are adequate but by no means optimal. HVAC units are 17+ years old and are beginning to fail. That these classrooms are safe and cheery is testimony to the teachers' dedication and artfulness.

Some of the newer facilities at Ormondale need serious attention also: The MUR has fold-out tables that are no longer operable, lighting that needs

What We Heard

We Can Do Better

- Our community should have the wealth to support better school facilities.
- Teachers are not coming here when there are better school facilities they can teach at
- Need educational buildings that match the excellent teachers
- Work with the town to provide teacher housing
- We have deferred maintenance and repairs for too long

Repair and Modernize Facilities

- Classrooms are crumbling and flooding
- Would like classrooms and school buildings to be in good condition
- Labs and classes need upgraded equipment
- Fix vs. rebuild where possible

Planning

- How much will it cost?
- How will it be phased?
- What's the plan for the 4th & 5th classes/spaces?

21st Century Learning

- Would hope bonds would be used for refreshed STEM LAB
- Support the arts, MUR/Theater
- Kids need 21st century learning environments and technology to make innovation and creativity possible
- Need outside learning and breakout spaces

Be Prudent

- Need to carefully consider all options.
- How do we know bond money will be use efficiently?
- Cost of construction is on the raise.
- Fiscal Responsibility
- Tax sensitivity

Safety

- With recent events, safe campuses are important
- Pick-up and drop-off areas need improvement
- Athletic and play fields are a hazard...need to be fixed
- Security and health issues are most important

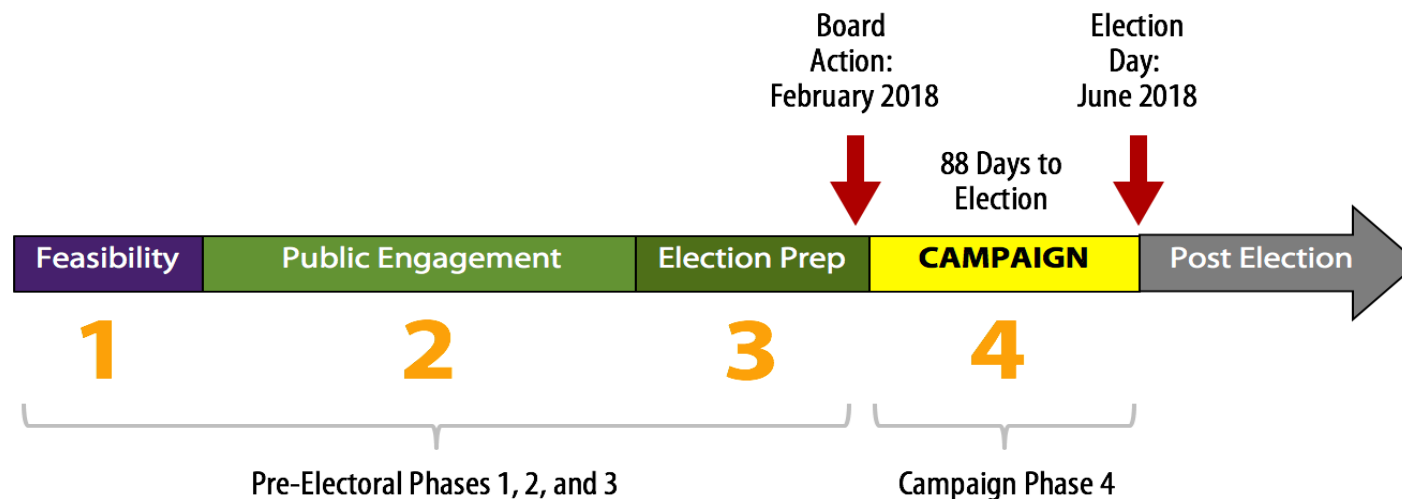
CliffordMoss.

Takeaways

- This is a small town, we've spoken with hundreds of residents directly, and thousands via the mailer, online survey, video and more. Pushing out our message of need is hard work, and it's clear that we need to keep talking with folks all the way through this process.
- This community supports the local public schools. That said, they expect you to focus on what you actually need and propose a prudent package.
- We need to be diligent with tax rate, bond size and other sources of revenue to fund this program.

Now – June 2018

- Continue Community Engagement and Listening
- Conduct Tracking Poll
- Finalize Facilities Master Plan (FMP)
- Board Workshop to Review Poll Results and Bond Package
- Board Vote on Bond Resolution





CliffordMoss.

5111 Telegraph Ave. #307
Oakland, CA 94609

www.cliffordmoss.com
Phone: (510) 907-3195