

To the Aromas Learning Community--

We want to thank the Aromas community for voting to approve the Measure M reauthorization, which is allowing us to address safety issues and other capital projects at our school sites. In addition to the projects being funded through Measure M funds, the District is also moving forward with the implementation of a solar program with the Engie Services company.

The solar construction was initially planned to be installed in the Aromas School parking lot. Core testing revealed that there was liquefaction in the ground that prohibited the District from moving forward with that plan. Several other options were reviewed and researched prior to the final placement, along with much discussion at multiple Facility Committee meetings, Board meetings, and parent meetings. Through these discussions and meetings, it became evident that there was only one feasible solution for the installation of the solar panels, which necessitated the move of the playground to its current location.

We understand that there are questions surrounding the location and construction of the new playground. The progress of construction projects requires constant monitoring and may require adjustments along the way. Some of the questions that are coming forward in the community are also being asked of the contractor by the District and school administration, and staff. For example, the current position of the slide restricts the ability for children to use the equipment safely. The position of the slide is already being discussed with the contractor. In addition, District and school administration are discussing privacy and safety barriers.

Historically, children have always congregated and spent time in the location of the new playground structure. Aromas School staff has always been diligent in monitoring students in that location. Because of the changing social environment we are in, all staff goes through training regularly for various safety issues, as safety is one of the District's top priorities. Due to the location shift of the playground from the back of the field to the front, it will allow closer monitoring of students by adults in that area during their daily recess and lunchtimes.

The District and school administration has the best interests of our students in mind. We will continue to provide the safest environment possible, even while there are changes occurring to the Aromas School campus.

We invite you to attend our monthly Superintendent & Principal Coffee Hours listed on the school and District websites. We also encourage you to download the new District app, which can be configured to notify parents and community members when something is posted to the District and school websites. You can download the District app by going to the Apple App Store for iPhones and Google Play for Android phones.

As always, we are available for your questions at any time. You may contact us at [hhowell@asjUSD.k12.ca.us](mailto:hhowell@asjUSD.k12.ca.us) (831.726.5100) and [mhuntoon@asjUSD.k12.ca.us](mailto:mhuntoon@asjUSD.k12.ca.us) (831.623.4500).

Respectfully,

Heather Howell, Principal, Aromas School

Michele Huntoon, Superintendent, ASJUSD