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May 7, 2020

Dear KSD Community,

Last night, the board was very pleased to have the opportunity to vote unanimously to rescind 2.5 layoff notices for the 2020-21 school year. Other reassignments occurred due to retirements and departures, but unfortunately, we were not able to rescind all layoff notices at this time and we feel profoundly saddened.

We also want to take the opportunity to clear up any potential misunderstanding on Bacich class size numbers for our 2020-21 school year based on an enrollment and staffing report provided by Superintendent Liz Schott during our [April 29th board meeting](#). During last week's meeting, staff presented class size numbers based on current enrollment, new registrations, teacher retirements, and layoffs made during our budget reductions.

In our board meeting last night, a 2020-21 Bacich class size [update](#) was presented with scenarios for adding back teachers (to replace departures and retirements) as well as the associated [costs](#). We anticipated that some layoff notices might be able to be rescinded based on retirements or other departures as was noted in our [February 13th letter to the community](#), and we were pleased this came to fruition. As the result of our Board vote last night, estimated class sizes at Bacich for the 2020-21 school year have been returned to more expected levels.

Given that enrollment is always in flux at this time of year, particularly with the COVID-19 pandemic at play, our school administrators at both Bacich and Kent are closely monitoring registrations. The board will continue to hear regular reports on enrollment and registrations, and will make further adjustments to school structures and class sizes as deemed necessary.

If you have any questions on this topic or any other district topics, please feel free to join Liz's virtual office hours on Thursdays from 4-5 PM. Info on how to join the regular calls will be emailed/texted out in advance and there are [recordings](#) available on our district website. You are also welcome to attend our [School Board meetings](#) and ask questions or [address us during Public Comment](#). If you cannot make the meetings live, you can listen to [recordings](#) and read our [Board Meeting Highlights](#).

Finally, as it is Teacher Appreciation Week, we want to honor and celebrate our extraordinary teachers and staff who continue to inspire our students and each of us with their commitment to providing a rich, high quality, and engaging education. It is particularly remarkable given this unprecedented and highly uncertain moment in history we are living. We are extremely grateful and appreciative for our dedicated team of teachers and staff, and feel confident that we will be even stronger as a school community on the other side of this pandemic.

If you have any questions or comments about any of these topics, please feel free to contact our Board President, Heather McPhail Sridharan, at hmcphailsridharan@kentfieldschools.org or our Superintendent Liz Schott at lschott@kentfieldschools.org. Feedback is always welcome and valued.

With gratitude,

Davina Goldwasser
Sarah Killingsworth
Heather McPhail Sridharan
David Riedel
Quoc Tran

The Board of Trustees, Kentfield School District