

### **Budget News**

The Governor's May revise of the proposed budget, due for release on May 14<sup>th</sup> has much to consider: significant declines in General Fund and local property tax revenues below January estimates, a higher K-14 cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) , and increased fiscal demands from other areas of the Budget. This month, it was announced that the COLA of 4.94% in the Governor's January budget has increased to 5.66%. The deficit factor proposed in the January budget was 6.99% which effectively eliminated the 4.94% COLA and left districts with a 2.4% COLA. We anticipate with the increase in COLA to 5.66%, that the deficit factor will increase to 7.63%. It is possible that the deficit would increase beyond 7.63%. This would mean a further reduction in revenue for school districts in the 2008-2009 school year.

Our Chief Business Officer, Kathleen Clow, will attend the May revise workshop to bring us an analysis of what the May Revise will mean for the Ross Valley School District.

The Budget Advisory Committee will meet May 22, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. to finalize their recommendation to the board for restoration of programs and services should funds become available. They will also discuss additional revenue sources.

### **Highlights of the Upcoming Board Meeting, May 8, 2008**

- **Sale of Red Hill Field** The board will consider a proposal from the Tamalpais Union High School District to purchase Red Hill Field. TUHSD would like to complete the Red Hill Community Park using their remaining bond funds in addition to public and privately donated funds. They propose purchasing the field for \$1. If the district reopens Red Hill as a school, TUHSD would sell the field back to Ross Valley for the same price. Please see the FAQ sheet attached to this newsletter for further information.
- The Math Adoption Committee will present the process they are using to review, evaluate and recommend a textbook for adoption. The state board of education has approved 46 publishers from which to choose. The Math Adoption Committee's report can be viewed at <http://rvsd.csbaagendaonline.org>.
- The trustees will begin discussing district Goals for the 2008-2009 school year. This will be the first brainstorming session, with reports, review of parent, student and staff data, and further discussion scheduled at the next three board meetings.

*If you have any questions, please contact the Superintendent's Office.  
Thank you for your continued support of the District.*