



Banta Elementary School District

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Knowledge is power.
Information is liberating. Education is the premise of progress, in every society, in every family.
Kofi Annan, Former Secretary-General of the United Nations

Date: Friday, May 3, 2019

To: Parents and Community Members

RE: Update on Banta Elementary School District

Dear Parents and Community Members,

I want to take a few minutes to update you on what is happening in the Banta School District. We are excited to announce the hiring of Ann Jayne as the new principal of Banta Elementary School starting the 2019/2020 school year. Mrs. Jayne, who lives in Tracy, comes to BSD with many years of experience as a site administrator. Her love for children and student growth will be an asset to our school as we move forward with our vision to create an agricultural themed school. She has a history of partnering with the local community, and we look forward to her joining the Banta community. We will have a community "Meet and Greet" to introduce Mrs. Jayne to the school community on Tuesday, May 14, from 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm. All are welcome!

We would also like to inform you that at the next board meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, May 14th at 6:00 pm, there will be a Board Study Session to discuss the following items:

- The proposed creation of a new Charter Management Organization (CMO) named the "River Islands Academies," partnering with RiTechA Academy. The proposal sets forth a timeline and guidelines for forming a CMO with Banta, The STEAM Academy, and RiTechA Charter. The new CMO agreement will initially authorize four separate schools under its jurisdiction. The four schools are RiTechA, STEAM, the new K-8 school, and the new High School. Both new schools are currently in the design phase, with a team meeting biweekly. Last fall, the Banta Board of Education directed the school district to pursue a unification study to allow Banta Elementary School District to move from a K – 8 district to a K – High School District. We are currently in the unification process and a public election will happen later next year.
- Last fall, the Banta Board of Education directed all future schools in the district to be TK – 8 grade models instead of the TK -5th grade / middle school model. Since the district is in the process of building several more schools in the River Islands development, all schools will be in a TK through 8th grade school format. The mitigation agreement (the agreement that defines the developer fees that pay for new schools) needs to be updated to reflect this change.

We want to remind everyone that all board meetings are open to the public. With the end of the school year approaching rapidly, I want to wish everyone a wonderful and safe summer. We look forward to a brand new school year, filled with new possibilities!

Dan Moore
Superintendent
Banta Elementary School District