



Speech to the Board

13 November 2013

By Amanda Fanning

Good evening, members of the Board. I would like to take just a minute to update you on the new ways the district and CUTA are working together to improve transparency and communication. Recently the state has allocated \$2.2 million to Carlsbad Unified, to be spent over the next two years to help with the implementation of Common Core State Standards. As a response, the District has formed a Common Core Expenditures Committee made up of teachers from different grade levels as well as site administrators and district officials. This group meets monthly to oversee how these funds are spent by evaluating and voting on requests that have been submitted to the Committee. From the moment this committee was formed, teachers began to believe their opinions were valued, allowing them a greater voice in determining how new money should be spent.

Additionally, we have created the CUTA Consultation Committee, a group of elementary, middle, high school, and Special Ed teachers who are working together with site and district administrators. The role of this committee is to discuss and problem solve issues within the district before they become too serious.

It is our sincere hope that the creation of these committees will allow for greater teacher involvement in regard to important decision making within the district. For too long, teachers have felt decisions were made without regard to their professional expertise. Now, finally, we can see a shift toward including teachers and utilizing the vast experience and knowledge they bring to this district. We are excited about the direction this new administration is taking as we work together to improve communication.