



June 9, 2010

Dear Emery USD Parent,

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of quality schools. I couldn't be more proud of the fact that our students' academic performance has improved more than any other School District in Alameda County. We must continue to build on this achievement by providing learning environments that meet student needs.

As you know, our school sites lack adequate science and computer labs, libraries, and technology and they no longer meet current seismic safety standards. In May, we conducted a community survey that shows Emeryville residents are extremely concerned about seismic safety and quality learning environments, and overwhelmingly support a local school bond to address these needs. I am humbled by this support.

Subsequently, Board of Trustee members have begun discussing whether to place a Proposition 39 School Bond Measure on the November 2010 ballot, which requires 55% voter approval. I anticipate that a final decision will be made during our summer break, and I will keep parents informed through updates on the District website.

Consistent with the Emeryville community's tradition of civic support for its schools, we are continuing to collaborate with the City of Emeryville on joint facilities that centralize and better coordinate services, and maximize cost efficiencies to ensure the best use of our precious resources. In addition to replacing aging schools that do not meet today's seismic safety requirements, our bond proposal will allow us to build a facility that supports high quality learning environments for our children and provides a range of essential services such as after-school activities, childcare, public health services, adult education, job training, and more -- all at the same location where schools are housed – to benefit all children and families.

Additional information is included with this letter, and I will be meeting with PTO and District staff leadership about these issues as well. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or to get more information, at 601-4906 or [john.sugiyama@emeryusd.org](mailto:john.sugiyama@emeryusd.org).

Sincerely,

John Sugiyama, Ed. D.  
Superintendent of Schools