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COMMUNITY UPDATE



Damaged rooftop at Strawberry Elementary School



Aging portables at Old Mill Elementary School



**EDNA MAGUIRE
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**



**OLD MILL
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**



**PARK
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**



**STRAWBERRY POINT
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**



**TAM VALLEY
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**



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Photo Credit: Emily Hagopian Photography



An Update from Mill Valley School District

Dear Neighbor,



As we navigate these challenging times, I am proud to report that Mill Valley students are back in the classroom — learning, thriving and staying healthy. Our students and teachers are again enjoying full day, in-person learning, and we are continuing our focus on ensuring that every district student makes significant academic growth, receives social-emotional support, and feels engaged, included and valued.

We have also returned our attention to another challenge facing our schools: updating our classrooms, labs and school facilities to ensure they are safe, modern and meet current learning standards. The need for these updates became particularly clear during the recent storm, when Mill Valley schools suffered extensive water intrusion and damage resulting in school closures.

Planning for the Future of Local Schools

Most of our Mill Valley School District schools were built over 40 years ago. School health, safety and instructional standards have changed significantly over the last decades and our facilities, particularly the middle school, have not kept pace, and are not designed for 21st century teaching and learning.

Recently, the District conducted an extensive Facility Needs Assessment on all District buildings and grounds. Through this process we have identified a comprehensive list of repairs and improvements needed in our schools to provide a safe and modern learning environment for our students.

Some of the projects identified include critical repairs to aging infrastructure, upgrading safety systems, improving accessibility, and enhancing educational spaces to enable collaboration, project-based learning, and high levels of student support.

Upgrading Mill Valley Schools

While the District continuously addresses maintenance issues, the upgrades identified in recent assessments are far beyond what can be funded from our regular operating budget. Our Board of Trustees is currently exploring possible local funding options to address facilities needs. To learn more about our facilities needs and our educational goals for the year, visit www.mvschools.org. Thank you for your continued support of Mill Valley schools and students.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kimberly Berman

Kimberly Berman, Ph.D.

Superintendent, Mill Valley School District



Ceiling damage from recent storm at Mill Valley Middle School

QUALITY EDUCATION IN MILL VALLEY SCHOOLS

The Mill Valley School District provides a well-balanced, rigorous education for local elementary and middle school students, preparing them for success throughout their education and into college and future careers. High-achieving schools improve the quality of life in our community and protect the property value of our homes.

AGING SCHOOLS REQUIRE SYSTEM UPGRADES & MODERNIZATION

While our students continue to achieve at high levels, most of our schools were built for a different era of education and are in need of repairs and upgrades. Recent assessments performed by our facility experts identified the following high priority needs in our schools:

- Keep schools clean, safe and well-maintained
- Improve accessibility for students and others with disabilities
- Replace leaky roofs, rusty plumbing and outdated electrical systems
- Improve school safety and security with upgraded fire alarms, communication systems, security cameras and controlled access points
- Retrofit older school buildings for earthquake safety
- Improve energy efficiency
- Upgrade learning spaces to support modern educational methods and practices, including spaces for collaborative and project-based learning

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE OF MILL VALLEY SCHOOLS

The facility improvements identified at local schools are beyond the scope of the District's current maintenance budget and District leaders are currently evaluating options for funding these improvements. One option under consideration is a school improvement bond measure to provide dedicated, voter-approved, local funding for repairs and upgrades that could only be used for Mill Valley School District facilities.

We welcome your feedback and questions as we consider our options to meet current facility needs. To share your opinions, priorities, or to ask questions, please visit www.mvschools.org or contact Beth Fogel at bfogel@mvschools.org.



Deteriorating roof at Tam Valley Elementary School



Water damaged siding at Mill Valley Middle School



Outdated science classroom at Mill Valley Middle School