Dear Parents and Guardians,

The following is an update on some of the on-going work to provide more choice and improve our AUSD schools. At a special Board of Education meeting on November 15, the Board heard an extensive report on progress towards the possible implementation of innovative programs and/or magnet schools in AUSD.

Teams will submit their final proposals on Thursday, December 1, which marks the end of this development period (Phase II). On January 10, 2012 AUSD staff will make recommendations to the Board on each of these proposals based on a detailed scoring rubric. Following the public discussion of those recommendations on January 10, at its meeting on January 24 the Board will decide which of these proposals, if any, should move ahead with planning for implementation (Phase III).

Below is a brief summary of the proposals that will be considered by the Board:

- **21st Century Learning at Bay Farm Elementary (Innovative Program Proposal)**
  - 21st Century Learning at Bay Farm will equip students with the skills necessary to be successful in the digital and global societies. Students will be fully engaged, enabled, and empowered to actively accept their roles and responsibilities for their own learning and global citizenship. 21st Century Learning at Bay Farm will provide opportunities for students to succeed academically and socially through inquiry-based, interest-based, and project-based learning experiences.

- **Earhart Math, Science, Technology with Integration of Music (Innovative Program Proposal)**
  - Math, science, and technology are critical pathways to develop learners who can solve problems in a flexible manner. Earhart Math, Science, Technology with Integration of Music students will develop the foundational skills to compete in a global society. Students will receive robust instruction in math and science with the infusion of technology and music to develop and refine the skills necessary for critical thinking and learning.

- **Encinal 6-12 School (Magnet Proposal)**
  - Encinal High School welcomes its family the Next Generation of Jets. Encinal’s Junior Jets Program for 6-8 graders will provide articulated opportunities for high school readiness with an “eye on the prize” of college and career; will develop creative and critical thinking skills; will build long-term, meaningful relationships between students, mentors, and adults; and will eliminate the transition from middle to high school.

- **Global Education through the Arts (Magnet Proposal, K-5)**
  - Global Education through the Arts will be a theme-based arts integrated program designed to teach each child the academic and social emotional skills necessary to be a contributing member of a global society. Global Education through the Arts students will be smart, creative thinkers who love art and understand they can do anything.

- **School of Science, Art, and Sustainability (Magnet Proposal, 6-8)**
  - The School of Science, Art, and Sustainability meets the educational needs of youth in the 21st century through engaging students in rigorous academic instruction, providing an integrated understanding of core subject matter, and applying classroom knowledge to real-life challenges.

The Board’s decisions in January will mark an important step in a long process that began in 2010. The Master Plan adopted by the Board of Education in February 2010 provided for the establishment of “attractive school options to provide desirable choices and deepen student, family, and community engagement in the youth’s lives and education.” To meet this goal, groups of teachers and administrators were encouraged to form proposal teams in an effort to create innovative programs or magnet schools.

For more information, please visit AUSD’s website at [http://www.alameda.k12.ca.us/](http://www.alameda.k12.ca.us/) and follow the “Master Plan: Moving Forward” link to the “Attractive School Options” page or contact Sandy Wong at 510-337-7027 or via email at swong@alameda.k12.ca.us.