

Superintendent's Message February 4th, 2009

The close of 2008 saw Moreland staff and students reaching out to make significant differences in our community. Between the Thanksgiving and holiday breaks, the Moreland School District hosted a district-wide food drive to benefit the Second Harvest Food Bank. I am very pleased to report that the drive was a resounding success! The district donated **8,561 pounds** of food to the food bank, helping families in the Santa Clara and San Mateo counties enjoy a plentiful holiday. Counting both the district's staff and students, we had roughly 4,500 people participate in the district-wide drive. This means that Moreland collected almost 2 pounds of food per person. Incredible! I would like to personally thank all of the staff, students, parents, community members, and board members who supported this endeavor, and made Moreland's 2008 food drive so successful! If you would like more information on the Second Harvest Food Bank and how your donations will help fight hunger, visit <http://www.secondharvestfood.org/>.

As I look forward to the new experiences and challenges we are sure to face in 2009, I am reminded of all the changes that 2008 brought about for our Moreland families. We are fortunate to have experienced many accomplishments and accolades as a district due to the hard work of our staff, students, and parents. We have also faced challenges that have tested our strength, endurance, and purpose as a community. Many of you have experienced significant personal loss, while others have celebrated births, weddings, and other joyous occasions. I am reminded of President Barack Obama's victory speech given on November 5th, 2008, in which he said "The road ahead will be long. Our climb will be steep...but I have never been more hopeful than I am tonight that we will get there. I promise you: We as a people will get there."

The cyclical nature of life will always mean periods of both highs and lows, and keeping a sense of community and solidarity as a district will ensure our future success. I look forward to 2009 as a year of positive change, and look forward to all of us walking through it together.

Sincerely,

Glen Ishiwata
Superintendent, Moreland School District