



**GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA ITEM
AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10**

DATE OF MEETING: February 7, 2012

TITLE: Recognition of Dr. Carroll Rinehart

BACKGROUND:

Dr. Carroll Rinehart has been highly involved volunteering his time and passion with our students. Dr. Rinehart is a fine arts educator and has been breaking ground with his innovative program to teach fine arts, language and creativity through the creation and production of operas in the classroom. He has been bringing his talents and wisdom to Amphitheater students in Rio Vista and Walker schools for the past ten years through his volunteer work in countless classrooms. Dr. Rinehart was instrumental in beginning the study and use of opera at Walker Elementary.

The opera process involves students making all decisions: writing or adapting a story, developing a script, composing the music (Dr. Rinehart scores the music), conducting auditions and casting parts, performing as solo voices or ensembles, and in the end, doing a critical review. The process brings about a very deep comprehension of music and language at an aesthetic level, which research suggests may lead to high achievement.

In addition to the opera production process itself, the program facilitates students' ability to learn to read and compose music, developing high levels of auditory memory and perception, which is essential to basic learning abilities. Currently we've begun a process in which third grade students will learn to score/write their own music. All processes are designed to connect with the inner energy of language and the arts which motivates a desire to learn and results in students assuming more responsibility for their own learning.

We are pleased to honor Dr. Rinehart for his amazing contributions to fine arts in our district!

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is presented for the Governing Board's information and recognition.

INITIATED BY:

Patrick Nelson, Associate Superintendent

Date: January 31, 2012

Vicki Balentine, Ph.D., Superintendent