



KEEP

Keep Excellent Education Programs

2005 KEEP Campaign Endorsed by:
Loma Public Education Fund
Loma Prieta Elementary H&S Club
CT English H&S Club
Loma School Site Council
CT English School Site Council

Loma and CT English Teachers
District Employees
Superintendent Henry Castaniada
Principal Diana Hallock
Chief Business Official Don Fox

KEEP Steering Committee:
Henry Castaniada
Lydia Dobyns
Diana Hallock
Angela Keller
Pat McGrath
Leslie O'Malley
Diane Matlock
Tricia Rasmussen
Jeri Tjon
Lauri Vaughan

March 20, 2005

Dear Loma Prieta and CT English Parents:

The mountain children need our help! We're writing to ask you to join with other parents to KEEP what makes Loma and CTE great schools for our children. Working together we can save and strengthen our children's education. For the past few years, the school district has faced unprecedented financial challenges as a result of steadily declining enrollment and the state's fiscal crisis. In response, the District made a commitment to maintain small class sizes and keep excellent student programs utilizing current year funds, money raised from fundraisers and available financial reserves.

At the conclusion of the current year all available reserves will have been spent. Superintendent Henry Castaniada convened a Budget Advisory Committee in January that began developing responses to the drastic cuts in teaching positions and programs necessary for next year.

Demonstrating an unprecedented commitment to unite in support of our wonderful teachers and to protect what makes Loma and CTE outstanding schools, the Budget Advisory Committee has launched the KEEP campaign to raise \$280,000. Without reaching our goal we will lose 5 teachers next year, CTE Electives will be reduced 50% and developmental PE, MVP, library services and student counseling will be eliminated.

That's right, we are asking you to make the donation you would normally make in September by May 1 to rescind teacher layoff notices and retain program staff for the next school year. **We request that each family give what they are able to give.** A suggested minimum family donation is \$600 for one child and \$900 for families with two or more children. If you pledge at least \$600 (and pay with a credit card) you may make two payments. We will charge half your pledge now and the balance in September 2005.

You will not be asked to contribute to sponsorship or pledge drives in the fall. The KEEP campaign replaces the Back-to-School pledge and sponsorship drives held by LPEF and the Loma and CTE Home and School Clubs.

We know we can't answer all your questions in this letter so we have developed extensive information, including a Q&A document on KEEP that can be found at: www.lpef.org.

Thank you for your help.

The KEEP Campaign Committee

We need to reach our goal by May 1 to rescind teacher layoffs and retain program staff for next year.

Money raised from the KEEP Campaign will be spent as follows:

- 1. Re-hire, two teachers. This will allow the district to:*
 - maintain smaller K-8 class sizes*
 - offer Art in middle school*
 - offer Technology in middle school*
 - continue Reading Recovery at Loma*
- 2. Upgrade the CT English computer lab*
- 3. Continue Developmental PE*
- 4. Maintain Library Services K-8*
- 5. Offer student counseling K-8*
- 6. Maintain Music, Visual and Performing Arts K-5*
- 7. Maintain Yard Duty at 04-05 levels*

Have Questions?

**Please come to the Town Hall Meeting Tuesday,
March 29 at 6:30 pm in the Loma Forum.**

**Join KEEP volunteers at Summit Store Friday, April
22nd
3 pm to 7 pm for a BBQ benefiting KEEP**

**Check out www.lpef.org for detailed information on
the keep campaign**