



**Annual Family Giving Campaign  
Questions and Answers**

**Q: Will my contribution be used to pay for programs for my child in his/her school?**

A: Yes, your contribution will be used to fund enrichment specialists, programs and materials **at your child’s school**. Specifically, contributions will be used to fund:

<b>Elementary Schools</b>	<b>Miller Creek Middle School</b>
PE specialists and equipment	After-school sports
Art specialists and supplies	Visual and performing arts programs (e.g., visiting artists, spring play, art shows, museum trips, choir competitions)
Drama and K-2 music/dance specialists	Lunchtime and extracurricular clubs (e.g., Mathletes, Speech and Debate, Jazz Ensemble)
Technology specialists, programs, equipment	Technology support, equipment
Additional programs specific to each school (e.g., stage performances, teacher or grade-level curriculum grants)	Community service support (Youth Empowered Services)
	New Perspectives Counseling

**Q: Why \$350/child?**

A: In 2006-2007, the DCF and district Home and School/PTA organizations will spend \$350/student to maintain the current specialist positions and supplemental programs in our schools as well as to pay for increased physical education time mandated by the State.

**Q: Can I give an amount other than \$350?**

A: Yes. We appreciate any level of giving. Although we request \$350/student, every contribution is important to the continuation of current programs. 100% participation is our goal.

**Q: Why do our public schools need more money?**

A: State funding is no longer adequate to cover enrichment programs once considered essential to a well-rounded education. Furthermore, the need for additional expenditures for technology equipment and training has mushroomed.

**Q: Why are we being asked for money when we have passed local school bond and parcel tax measures?**

A: Local school bonds approved in recent years can only be used for capital improvements. Dixie District just completed five years of construction and modernization at all four schools –



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including paving, roofing, classroom renovation, and improvements in access and safety – based on the bond measure passed in 1999.

Our local school parcel tax, passed in 2004, is used to maintain small class size and provide music instruction for grades 3 through 8, and to provide middle school art, drama, and language electives, as well as middle school physical education and counseling.

**Q: How does the \$350/student request compare with requests in other Marin school districts or schools?**

A:

<b>District/School Foundation</b>	<b>Per Student Request</b>	<b>Annual Parcel Tax</b>
Kentfield	\$825	\$637
Corte Madera/Larkspur	\$650	\$289
Mill Valley	\$600	\$406
<b>Dixie</b>	<b>\$350</b>	<b>\$245</b>
San Rafael	*	\$138
Glenwood Elementary School	\$450	n/a
Sun Valley Elementary School	\$200	n/a
Davidson Middle School	\$100	n/a
Novato	*	\$155

\* San Rafael and Novato school funds raised by individual school organizations rather than district foundation.

**Q: Why are we soliciting parent contributions at the district, rather than individual school, level?**

A: District-level fundraising:

- ◆ Promotes consistent and aligned programming for our children, in particular programming that will send elementary school students to Miller Creek with the same foundation.
- ◆ Sends a stronger, more cohesive message to our prospective business partners.
- ◆ Eliminates the confusion of separate Home and School/PTA and DCF requests.
- ◆ Is supported by the Home and School/PTA organizations, the DCF and district/school administrators.

**Q: What if I have additional questions?**

A: Please contact one of the Committee Chairs listed below or the Dixie Children’s Fund office at (415) 492-3500 or [dcf@marin.k12.ca.us](mailto:dcf@marin.k12.ca.us).

**2006 – 2007 Can Do! Committee**

Cheryl Clementson (MES)      Mercedes Dramen (Dixie)      Susan Kirby (Vallecito)  
 Judie De Martini (Miller Creek)      Robin Gerrity (Dixie Children’s Fund)