

Re: Save Our Del Mar Schools

Csilla Crouch

Dear 7-11 Committee Members,

As a long time resident of Del Mar, a graduate of Del Mar Shores Elementary School, a local Real Estate Broker, and a parent of 3 young children (the first a graduate, the second a 3rd grader, and the third a hopeful future student of Del Mar Hills), I find it extremely embarrassing that this committee and school district would even entertain the thought of closing one of only two campuses on the west side of Interstate 5. Clearly, our present ability to take pride in having the choice of attending one of two exceptional neighborhood schools will become a thing of the past. We would instead be able to disclose to future homeowners in the City of Del Mar that they will have the privilege of attending an over-crowded school or of driving a substantial distance to a non-neighborhood school. And of course, present homeowners' property values would be very much reduced. For the amount in property taxes that homeowners pay on their expensive real estate in Del Mar, they should at a minimum be able to attend a non-over-crowded school, in their own neighborhood.

This district has always made claims of putting our children first. It is now quite clear that this is not the case as you are willing to consider closing an exceptional school such as Del Mar Hills Academy of Arts and Sciences. Every single child and family living on the west side of Interstate 5 will be negatively impacted to an extent that is simply unacceptable.

Please pursue other options that make more reasonable and financial sense and that avoid the closure of any one of our fine schools.

Sincerely,

Csilla Crouch

Dated 11-7-09