

9-23-09

Hi, I am a parent of three children who will all be students at Ashley Falls next year. My youngest in Kindergarten, 1st and 3rd grades respectively.

The reason we purchased a home in Carmel Valley was for the school district. The fact that we could have an excellent school within walking distance of our house. A small community where the children would make good friends before they moved up to the larger middle and high schools.

I do not feel that a school closure, any school closure is effective. It will tear communities and friendships. It will create difficulties for parents with already complicated schedules. And create a general unease and distrust in the school community.

I strongly urge the Board not focus on a school closure but on a resolution that will keep us together as a community not divide us or cause ill will. It is more important that our students feel safe and nurtured than where our equipment and offices are operated. People before things!

Heidi Nieharet
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