

7-23-09

From: dinairwin@san.rr.com

I am unable to attend the 7/11 meeting today but am sending you my questions.

Why is the group moving ahead with proposals when they have not completed their fact finding? These proposals take a great deal of time to put together and create an emotional toll on the community. All facts should be gathered so quality, sound proposals are presented.

Fact finding is still needed in numerous areas:

1. Joint Use agreement: what uses of facilities, space does this agreement limit. Proposals need to reflect this not something that contradicts the limits with the idea that "maybe" the agreement can be changed. Can space (parking, blacktops, playground, fields) be used after 3:00pm during the school year and year round (as would be needed if district office, M & O or preschool were to be housed there).
2. Zoning: can an area currently zoned for a public school be changed to be used for office space? for a for-profit preschool?
3. Demographics: Exactly what numbers are being used. Is the group looking at predictions for 2 years out, 5 or 10? How accurate are these numbers considering the demographics that were created when we went through boundary issue did not play out as predicted.
4. Enrollment numbers: Do these numbers include inter/intra district transfers? What are the numbers for each school based on where students live not on where they are currently attending.
5. Mitigation with Pardee- how will enrollment numbers change based on this agreement and when will they change? Where are the predicted enrollment numbers when current Sycamore Ridge students lose their place at that school?
6. Proposed Preschool: There has been no presented business plan or feasibility study done to indicate that this district is capable and qualified to run a for profit preschool serving upwards of 300 students. Dr. McClain indicated to the 7/11 committee that Manhattan beach has a similar program with 400 students on the wait list. Manhattan Beach as of 7/21/09 has a waitlist of 50-70 students and not all of those students will take a spot should it open as families tend to put their name on numerous waiting lists. Solana Beach runs a preschool program open to the public with 2 classrooms and a waitlist of 12 students. If this program does not even exist in this district- then some proposals should be created without the inclusion of 22 classes for a preschool. Current program (infant-preschool) is approximately 11 classes (ECC and special education) and this should be the number of class space in the proposal.

Thanks!

Dina Irwin

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