

I can't make the meeting, but if I could here's what I would say:

I moved my family to Del Mar from Manhattan Beach in August 2009, because my job changed from LA to SD. We chose Del Mar specifically because we loved the feel of the town and because of the excellent schools. Our only concern about the area was whether it was a town befitting of a young family like ours or more of a tourist and retiree town as it appeared to be on the surface. So, we decided to rent for a while to get a better feel for that issue. If DMUSD decides to close the school our son is attending (DM Hills) and as a result eliminate capacity for growth for new families coming to Del Mar (like ours), we will most likely perceive that decision as evidence that Del Mar is a bit too much like a Florida coastal town for our liking - better suited for vacationers and retirees than for families and may choose to buy a home elsewhere. I would think the officials of Del Mar should be concerned about that perception, too.

Feel free to relay my message and I will try to make one of the upcoming DMUSD board meetings to do so in person. Thanks for your hard work toward this worthy cause.

Shannon Taylor
Del Mar, CA

Dated 11-17-09