

Dear 7/11 committee members:

I am the parent of a Torrey Hills student and we have been at the school for 4 years. I appreciate all the time and effort the committee is putting into this issue of how to save money for the DMUSD.

While I understand that no parent would want to close a school, I beg of you to not bend to the parents that are speaking the loudest, but instead to do what's right and look at the facts.

Proposal G was proposed to take the spotlight away from closing Del Mar Hills. It makes absolutely NO fiscal sense nor COMMON sense for that matter to even consider constructing NEW buildings at Torrey Hills.

Torrey Hills has 300 students more than Del Mar hills (646 versus 329). In 5 years, the projection is for Torrey Hills to have 796 students versus 303 at Del Mar Hills - Torrey would have 2 1/2 times the number of students. How can it even be seriously considered to put all the DMUSD Offices at Torrey Hills with 800 students, and leave Del Mar Hills operating as it currently does with no changes and an enrollment of 300 students? I have to trust that the committee must see that this proposal is completely without merit.

Why would we crowd 800 students and all the office personnel into one space, while another location is already built and ready to be used with no crowding?  
Why would we spend considerable amount of money to construct NEW BUILDINGS when the DMUSD already has plenty of space in current buildings? This would be a waste of our taxpayer money and fiscally irresponsible. With our current budget crisis, all available funds should be going to our children's education, not new office space if it's not necessary.

It's understandable that no one wants to close a school. But when you have one school with only 300 students, and the rest of the schools having hundreds more, it's not equitable.

This is a PUBLIC school system. Del Mar Hills is not a Private School - it is funded by all of us who live in this district.

If there are not enough students to keep it open, it should be consolidated with the nearest school.

The ironic thing is that even with consolidation, there will only be 600 students, which is still less than 3 of the other schools in the SAME district.

**Special treatment should not be given to those who yell the loudest** - let's not let that happen; instead let's do what is right for all the students in DMUSD, not just the ones with the loudest parents.

I really appreciate your time and energy - I know this is not easy for the committee or the board. If I can be of any help, please feel free to let me know.

Wenqiong J. Chen, Ph.D  
Director, Microchemical Core Facility  
Assistant Professor  
Biology Department  
San Diego State University  
5500 Campanile Dr.  
San Diego, CA  
92182-4614  
Phone: (619) 594-5605 (office)  
FAX: (619)-594-6200