

To the 7/11 District Advisory Committee

I am a parent of students at Torrey Hills Elementary since it opened eight years ago. I have concerns about placing any office or maintenance facilities on our school campus. Though concerns about finances are important in this economic downturn, I believe the safety of all students should be our first priority. In order to keep our students in a safe learning environment, we should prohibit any proposal that places a large office and maintenance on the same site as our schools. When I drop my children off each day I feel they will be safe while they are receiving an excellent education. These are the reasons that our district schools are so highly valued. If we allow outsiders to enter our campus on a regular basis then security for our students will suffer. All proposals that require our school to be a mixed use facility should be removed.

The only viable option that will allow all our district students to attend school without the distraction of outsiders is Proposal B. This proposal to close Del Mar Hills also has the advantage of saving the district the money (which I believe was the point of selling the shores property to begin with). This proposal will also prevent the same dilemma we had a few years ago at Torrey Hills: overcrowding when the many new housing developments open. As you are aware there is a large condo planned just down the street from our school. What is also important about Torrey Hills is the 2 large apartment developments in our boundaries which tend to bring many new young families to our area. I do not see any such potential growth in the Del Mar Hills or Heights boundaries. With only 329 students at Del Mar Hills with little or no growth potential it does not make sense to leave it open as is and place offices on Torrey Hills campus with current enrollment nearly twice that number. With new developments being built now in the Ocean Air boundaries, Torrey Hills will surely increase above 700 students again with their overflow.

With all the time the committee has devoted to this topic, I am sure the logic of accepting Proposal B is clear. It protects all our students and limits overcrowding in the areas of largest growth.

Thank you for your time on this matter.

Please vote for proposal B.

Loretta Gordon
Torrey Hills parent