



Message

Feb 27, 2010 9:59 AM

From:



To:



DMUSD Financial Task Force

Subject: Public Input

From:

Address:

Phone:

Cost Saving Recommendation: Close the Hills

Rationale for this Recommendation: So we don't have to give teachers pink slips.

Revenue Enhancement:

Additional Comments: There is an \$11 million reserve. Why aren't we using this to keep our teachers?

DMUSD Staff:

Parent: Yes

Student:



Community Member: Yes

Do not publish:



Message

Feb 24, 2010 3:44 PM

From: 
To:  DMUSD Financial Task Force
Subject: Public Input

From: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____

Cost Saving Recommendation: Consider (i) merging the DMUSD and the Solana Beach Elementary School District into one or (ii) sharing resources (payroll processing, maintenance, office space, etc.) with the Solana Beach district.

Rationale for this Recommendation: Administrative cost savings.

A separate DMUSD office building may not be needed.

Provide more school choices for parents, e.g. send students from Winstanley Way to walking-distance Ashley Falls School rather than driving them to Solana Highlands Elementary.

Greater flexibility to balance class sizes and campus enrollment numbers.

California's 7000 overlapping jurisdictions (counties, cities, school & water districts) are a factor in making California "ungovernable" <http://bit.ly/9n1t7>

DMUSD and Solana Beach incomes, taxes, school funding, test scores, demographics, etc. are all similar and compatible. Students from both elementary school districts already graduate to the same middle schools and high schools. Both districts are small -- merging them would yield a district that is still not too big.

Revenue Enhancement: Depends on which jobs and facilities are shared.

Additional Comments:

DMUSD Staff:
Parent: Yes
Student:
Community Member:

Do not publish:



Message

Feb 23, 2010 12:31 AM

From:



To:

DMUSD Financial Task Force

Subject: Public Input

From: ()

Address:

Phone:

Cost Saving Recommendation: 1) The district must not consider the idea that was published in the local newspaper of leasing office space for the district office. This will only cost the district more money. The district must find a school site within the district that the district could be moved to. Find a school that has low future enrollment #'s, and eliminate some classrooms and move the district office into that school site. Utilize cubicles for office space if necessary. This is the first and most important strategy, do not spend money on leasing office space, make due with what the district has, and move the district office and the pre-school to existing school sites within the district. District office employees may have to accept working within smaller office spaces than they have been used to. The newspaper article stated that the district voted on not using Del Mar Hills as the district office. I can understand that the parents don't want this to happen,

but when Del Mar Heights is so close, utilizing at least part of Del Mar Hills for the district office, makes sense. This idea needs to be revisited.

2) The newspaper article suggested creating a magnet school to attract students from other districts. Before this happens, the Del Mar School District needs to negotiate with the Solana Beach School District and re-design the boundaries. The boundaries are currently completely ridiculous and don't make sense. By adjusting the boundaries, the Del Mar School District could pick up additional students without a magnet school. (For example, there are students who live literally across the street from Ashley Falls School, but can not attend that school because the boundaries are such that these students are supposed to go to a Solana Beach School. This doesn't make any sense when a student could walk across the street to attend school, to send them to a Solana Beach school. This definitely needs to be adjusted. Once the boundaries between Solana Beach and Del Mar school districts have been redefined, then changing the boundaries within the Del Mar School district will also be necessary. (Changing the boundaries can change enrollment #'s at certain schools to the point where the district office can find a home. For example, if boundaries are changed this might create space for the pre-school to be moved to Ashley Falls school, and the District Office could be moved to Sycamore Ridge for example.)

3) Absolutely do not cut Teacher salaries! Teachers often have obtained high levels of education, but are one of the lowest paid professional careers around. These teachers are the people who are teaching the children in our community and we want our children to receive the very best teachers possible. Let's not discourage the teachers by cutting their pay. Their pay is already low enough as it is. Our teachers work hard and don't deserve to receive a pay cut. If the district wants to consider cutting the superintendant salary, janitorial salaries or other district office position salaries that's one thing, but personally I don't think cutting anyones salary should be the answer. No one deserves this, and certainly teachers should not have to pay for this budgetary gap. We want the Del Mar Union School District to continue to be recognized nationwide as a district that attracts families and teachers to be a part of this high caliber school district. Decreasing te

acher salaries will just lower the bar for the caliber of teachers that the district will attract. (Don't pay money for leasing office space only to turn around and cut teacher salaries. By simply not leasing office space, the district can avoid having to cut teacher salaries.)

4) Companies such as McGraw Hill try to sell the school district every year on buying the 6th edition, and then the 7th edition and eighth edition of text books that really don't change a whole lot over the years. The district should stop purchasing new books, and have the students use the books that the district already has in inventory.

5) Get the district immediately involved with multiple fundraisers. Have students compete for prizes for the student who sells the most boxes of M&Ms, or the most entertainment books, or the most candy bars etc. Get

district car washes, school fairs, and bake sales going. Have each school site start having a Friday afternoon movie in the multipurpose room that the school sells tickets for students to attend, and sell popcorn, candy and drinks at the school movie. Also, sponsor multiple Parent/child golf tournaments that the parent would pay to participate in. Have all fundraiser money go towards the budget gap.

6) Have the district consider leasing out some of the multipurpose rooms in the evenings to outside entities who are looking for evening space, such as UCSD extension classes, individuals or groups who teach adult classes that are offered in the San Diego Enrichment class catalog, or individuals who are seeking office space to teach classes such as: Yoga, Tai-Chi, Karate, Music and other similar classes. Pricing to use the school district multi purpose rooms should be such that it would be more attractive than what someone could find out in the community for office space for similar activities.

7) Many corporations may be interested in having advertisement opportunities on the school districts website. The district should use their technical internet experts in the district to arrange for advertisement links to be connected to the school district website where the school district gets paid per click for visits to the advertisers website that originate from the links on the school districts website.

Rationale for this Recommendation: These are just some quick ideas on ways to save money without cutting Teacher salaries.

Revenue Enhancement:

Additional Comments:

DMUSD Staff:

Parent:

Student:

Community Member: Yes



Message

Feb 22, 2010 2:30 PM

From: "Susan Kilcoyne"
To: DMUSD Financial Task Force
Subject: Public Input

From: Susan Kilcoyne
Address:
Phone:

Cost Saving Recommendation: After reading through some of the recommendations, I think several of them seem to make sense. If the districts reserves are quite higher than the county and states' recommended reserves, why not free up a portion of them (making them more in line with the county/states' recommendation) to fund the gap for next year's budget. If we are not able to pay for our teachers and ESC programs, it would make sense to pull from these reserves.

Also, is it really necessary to hire Vice Principals for 3 elementary schools?? If there is a real need for a Vice Principal- could one be hired to oversee the 3 schools and work with the principals? I heard that it was a possibility that the Palacio neighborhood was being considered to move to Ashley Falls as an attempt to reset the boundaries to free up money to hire these Vice Principals. I am a Palacio resident who went through this several years back with my older children. I now have a 4th grader at Sage and I cannot believe we are being considered to have to move again. I know that Palacio "does not have a school in our backyard", however, for the past 8 years we have considered Sage Canyon our home and our neighborhood has developed real "roots" here. I think it would be extremely disruptive and unfair to consider another move for our neighborhood.

Rationale for this Recommendation:

Revenue Enhancement:

Additional Comments:

DMUSD Staff:
Parent: Yes
Student:
Community Member:



Message

Feb 22, 2010 1:16 PM

From: "Patti Riley Callstrom"
To: DMUSD Financial Task Force
Subject: Public Input

From: Patti Riley Callstrom
Address: _____
Phone:

Cost Saving Recommendation: My family and I live in Palacio and understand that changing boundaries to send Palacio to kids to Ashley Falls is under consideration. While we understand current budget considerations, we STRONGLY OBJECT to this change. It was not until recent years that school assignments became consistent for our community and it would be very disruptive to change this. We are well settled at Sage and do not want the upheaval that a school change would bring - either to our family or to the community as a whole.

Rationale for this Recommendation:

Revenue Enhancement:

Additional Comments:

DMUSD Staff:

Parent: Yes

Student:

Community Member:



Message

Feb 22, 2010 11:58 AM

From: "Katrina DeRoche"
To: DMUSD Financial Task Force
Subject: Public Input

From: Katrina DeRoche
Address:
Phone:

Cost Saving Recommendation: A. Use portion on the \$8.4 million in capitol account from the sale of The Shores to close the gap in next years budget. We only need \$1.7 million to free up the funds earmarked for a Childcare at Ocean Air.

B. Use some of the \$12 million in reserves to fund our gap in next years budget.

Rationale for this Recommendation: A. Funds would better serve the community in this capacity. We would not need to uproot families or fire much needed teachers/staff.

B. This is a rainy day fund, and it is pouring... The state only recommends a 17% reserve, and the county recommends a 3% reserve. We could act conservatively and use the 10 percent difference from the county recommendation and keep our staff levels where they are.

Revenue Enhancement:

Additional Comments: It seems that we have the means to deal with our present challenge with out uprooting families by changing boundaries or firing teachers. This is why we have reserves.

DMUSD Staff:
Parent: Yes
Student:
Community Member:



Message

Feb 22, 2010 11:00 AM

From: "Katherine T.L. Wren"
To: DMUSD Financial Task Force
Subject: Public Input

From: Katherine T.L. Wren
Address:
Phone:

Cost Saving Recommendation: Eliminate the need for vice principals. Perhaps have staffers serve as "part-time vice principals," assigned with specific duties as absolutely necessary to ensure effectiveness of the principal. In corporations today, many employees are asked to perform work in addition to their regular duties to help save costs. The same principle can be applied here.

Rationale for this Recommendation: While I understand that high student enrollment would require a corresponding ratio of administrators, corporations today have eliminated positions and asked remaining employees to undertake a bit more. Here, the duties of a vice principal can be distributed to various staffers, so that not one person is burdened with all the responsibilities of a vice principal.

Revenue Enhancement: I believe that based on the District's calculation, eliminating vice principals would save \$850,000.

Additional Comments: We are strongly opposed to the proposal that may send our children from Sage Canyon to Ashley Falls. They have developed relationships with Sage Canyon faculty and staff, and friends who live in the neighborhood. To require dislocation would be a disservice to my children, and the community at large.

If absolutely necessary to redesign boundaries, however, the District should seriously consider making it effective for later enrollment (eg, incoming class of 2011), but making the option available to parents of incoming kindergarteners of earlier years (eg, incoming kindergarteners of 2010). Please note that we continue to be strongly against redesigning the boundaries. We are merely providing a suggestion that may be palatable to incoming parents and students who do not presently have a relationship with their neighborhood school, and therefore, may not mind going to another school within the District.

DMUSD Staff:
Parent: Yes
Student: Yes
Community Member: Yes



Message

Feb 22, 2010 10:57 AM

From: Mailer-Daemon,Internet
To: DMUSD Financial Task Force
Subject: Public Input

From: ()
Address:
Phone:

Cost Saving Recommendation: 1. Decrease instruction time to the minimum 240 min.
2. Decrease days of school year if ed code allows.

Rationale for this Recommendation: 1. Reduce pay to teachers to reflect decreased teaching time.
or
2. Use this time for prep time. Let the foundation pay for ESC teacher salaries instead of General Fund.

Revenue Enhancement: Regardless if instruction time is cut the district should increase after school enrichment classes to the entire school year. The district would benefit from the increase revenue (% taken from each class) and families would benefit from consistent scheduling.

Especially if time is cut, especially if time is cut to allow for prep time, increase available enrichment classes to reflect what is lost. Allow for families to enrich their child's education with more art, music, science, foreign languages through profit generating after school classes.

Additional Comments: Small classes size should always trump ESC. ESC is important and extremely valuable to our children's education. They are fun and the kids like them. BUT the real work happens in the classroom. I will take keeping my young child in a classroom of 20/21 over his doodling on the computer in technology every time. Small class sizes are essential to our children. Please don't lose sight of this.

DMUSD Staff:
Parent: Yes
Student:
Community Member:



Message

Feb 22, 2010 10:25 AM

From: "Chris Rich"
To: DMUSD Financial Task Force
Subject: Public Input

From: Chris Rich
Address:
Phone:

Cost Saving Recommendation: Do not hire asst. principals

Rationale for this Recommendation: saving money

Revenue Enhancement:

Additional Comments: I am the parent of 3 Sage Canyon students - 5th, 2nd and Kindergarten. We live in the development Palacio Del Mar. We moved here 2 years ago from SLC, Utah for employment reasons, but we chose to live in this area because of Sage Canyon specifically. We knew that kids living in Palcio Del Mar attend Sage Canyon. It is one thing to move kids to a new school if a family has move to a new home, but to uproot kids due to financial reasons seems reactionary. Kids should come first with any solution. Taking them away from friends, teachers and supports they have grown to rely on could be very damaging to their educational and emotional development. I am a concerned parent, but I am also a board certified child psychiatrist at UCSD and I can't tell how many children I have treated for anxiety and mood disorders who have told me the primary reason for the breakdown was moving to a new school/having to lose friends and take on new stresses in their life. This stage of development is crucial and having stability and continuity is essential. Pulling kids out of their already established school appears short sighted and detrimental to their overall development. Please do not pull Sage Canyon kids out of school and make them attend Ashley Falls. Thank you for considering other alternatives to solve this financial issue.

DMUSD Staff:
Parent: Yes
Student:
Community Member:



Message

Feb 22, 2010 7:00 AM

From: Mailer-Daemon,Internet
To: **DMUSD Financial Task Force**
Subject: Public Input

From: ()
Address:
Phone:

Cost Saving Recommendation: - eliminate (or do not fill during this fiscal crisis) the expensive HR position currently being advertised for on the DMUSD website

- freeze or reduce top admin salaries (superintendent, other highly paid district employees)

Rationale for this Recommendation: cuts not impacting the classroom should be paramount

Revenue Enhancement: - take \$1.7 million from proceeds of sale of Shores property and allocate it to building Ocean Air childcare facilities. This will free up \$1.7 already earmarked for that project, and that money can be returned to the general fund for use in the next school year

- our current reserves stand at about 27% of the operating budget. The county only recommends 17% reserves; the state says 3%. Use a portion of the amount above 17% to close the gap in the budget for next year.

Additional Comments: These measures keep our reserves high (at 17% or higher) and keep cuts away from the classroom. In this way we maintain the staff and programs that are the root of our district's exceptional educational experience.

Let's not sacrifice the most important thing: the children's education. Keep our eye on the ball, and protect that at all costs.

DMUSD Staff:
Parent: Yes
Student:
Community Member: Yes



Message

Feb 22, 2010 1:19 AM

From: "Lien Le"
To: DMUSD Financial Task Force
Subject: Public Input

From: Lien Le
Address:
Phone:

Cost Saving Recommendation: It is unnecessary to hire vice principal, many of school only have principal and she or he manages the school very good.

Rationale for this Recommendation:

Revenue Enhancement:

Additional Comments: We do not want our kids go to another school, so please leave the district boundaries intact.

Thank you.

DMUSD Staff:
Parent: Yes
Student: Yes
Community Member:



Message

Feb 21, 2010 10:40 PM

From: Mailer-Daemon,Internet
To: DMUSD Financial Task Force
Subject: Public Input

From: ()
Address:
Phone:

Cost Saving Recommendation: (1) Close lower enrollment schools such as Del Mar Hills or Ashley Falls school and transfer the kids to nearby schools.

(2) Do not hire vice principals and designate more senior teachers to take responsibility for grade level/cluster of grade levels. Vice principals can be hired once budget is available.

(3) Consolidate district and school staff jobs that do not directly deal with students and make necessary cuts.

(4) Institute across the board pay cut of 10% or realistic %.

Rationale for this Recommendation: (1) The district should re-evaluate and conduct more detailed analysis of the closure of the lower enrollment schools and consolidation with nearby school. It is not clear/not understood why this proposal was rejected as it appeared to be a long-term solution to the problem.

(2) Short-term solution until budget is back in tact.

(3) Many companies in these hard economic times have had to do more with less. Has a full evaluation of jobs, responsibilities and pay been conducted?

(4) While not popular, many companies have instituted these measures to get through the hard times.

Revenue Enhancement:

Additional Comments: The proposed cost saving change to move Palacio Del Mar neighborhood 4th graders and up from Sage Canyon School district to Ashley Falls (in order to boost Ashley Falls enrollment numbers) is unfair to the families of Palacio Del Mar: (1) Palacio families have been paying a special Mello Roos tax for a "neighborhood school" for years, and is several miles away from Ashley Falls (and require crossing a major freeway), making that far from being a "neighborhood school." (2) Ashley Falls is one of the furthest schools in distance from Palacio Del Mar neighborhood.

DMUSD Staff:
Parent: Yes
Student:
Community Member:



Message

Feb 21, 2010 10:03 PM

From: "Kim Greco"
To: DMUSD Financial Task Force
Subject: Public Input

From: Kim Greco
Address:
Phone:

Cost Saving Recommendation: 1. Stop sharing the money between all 8 schools.

2. School closure of one of the Del Mar schools due to lack of enrollment.

3. Schools with smaller sizes should share ESC teachers.

Rationale for this Recommendation: The schools with the most efficiency, are paying the most to save ESC teachers. If we could fundraise for our school we could pay for all and spend less. If the Del Mar schools want to keep their small schools, they should pay to keep all the extras that the larger schools are funding.

2. Combine the 2 Del Mar schools. All the kids in the same community would go to school together. If we don't, then it sounds like the larger schools will be redistricted. How is that fair? Families from the three largest schools will be moved to different schools in order to save for the two Del Mar schools to continue to keep small class sizes?

3. If we don't close one of the smaller schools, then they should share ESC teachers. It's not fair that the larger schools lose the ESC teachers so that the low enrollment schools can benefit.

Revenue Enhancement:

Additional Comments: Please don't redistrict! We moved into the Palacio neighborhood before we knew that this neighborhood originally went to Ashley Falls and was moved to Sage Canyon. We belong to the Sage Canyon Community and have contributed generously to this school as have other families in this neighborhood and the other two large schools (Torrey Hills, Ocean Air). Now that the board has decided not to close the most inefficient schools, the options are to disrupt the families of the larger, efficient schools? Doesn't seem fair to me and a lot of others. As a last resort, if redistricting becomes mandatory, I request that the families already attending Sage, Torrey Hills, and Ocean Air be grandfathered into their existing schools and all new residents be redistricted to different schools.

DMUSD Staff:
Parent: Yes
Student:
Community Member:



Message

Feb 21, 2010 9:26 PM

From: <Elizabeth Butler>, Internet
To: DMUSD Financial Task Force
Subject: Public Input

From: Elizabeth Butler ()
Address:
Phone:

Cost Saving Recommendation:

Rationale for this Recommendation:

Revenue Enhancement:

Additional Comments: I have lived in Carmel Valley for just under 6 months. I moved here from Los Angeles and chose Carmel Valley primarily because of the great schools. I did not find out until after I moved that my youngest would not be able to attend her home school because there was no space for her grade level. I have neighbors who moved in shortly after we did and their children are in three different elementary schools because of space limitations. My daughter was assigned to Sage Canyon and is very happy there, as she would have been probably in any of the Del Mar schools. My concern is what I view as a lack of long term planning for school boundaries. Shuffling students from one to another to balance a budget is not in the best interest of the students. I believe grandfathering students is critical, especially in upper grades when friendships are closely tied with self-esteem. I also believe long term planning should prioritize overall stability of enrollments, maximizing students' abilities to attend home schools, over short-term cost savings..

DMUSD Staff:
Parent: Yes
Student: Yes
Community Member: Yes



Message

Feb 21, 2010 8:02 PM

From: Mailer-Daemon,Internet
To: DMUSD Financial Task Force
Subject: Public Input

From: ()
Address:
Phone:

Cost Saving Recommendation:

Rationale for this Recommendation:

Revenue Enhancement:

Additional Comments: Please don't send Palacio children to Ashley Falls!! Our community has invested a great deal in helping to make Palacio the great school it is today, and do not want our children to move.

DMUSD Staff:
Parent: Yes
Student:
Community Member:



Message

Feb 21, 2010 5:44 PM

From: Mailer-Daemon,Internet
To: DMUSD Financial Task Force
Subject: Public Input

From: ()
Address:
Phone:

Cost Saving Recommendation: My recommendation would be to keep the school boundaries intact but not to hire vice principals. In corporations everyone is being asked to do more in the their companies and positions are not being replaced. Instead of moving kids from Sage Canyon who live in Palacio and other areas targeted for the move look at restructuring the administration versus moving all the children to new schools.

Rationale for this Recommendation: Although all schools in the district rank high academically it does not make sense to move kids who have already been attending Sage Canyon for several years to make a move now.

Revenue Enhancement:

Additional Comments:

DMUSD Staff:
Parent: Yes
Student:
Community Member:



Message

Feb 21, 2010 10:11 AM

From:



To:

DMUSD Financial Task Force

Subject: Public Input

From: vivian-
Address:
Phone:

Cost Saving Recommendation: Don't change the boundaries. It is totally wrong to move palacio kids to ashley falls. The savings can be achieved by not hiring a v.p..

Rationale for this Recommendation:

Revenue Enhancement:

Additional Comments:

DMUSD Staff:
Parent:
Student:
Community Member:



Message

Feb 21, 2010 9:28 AM

From: <Lexi Hull>, Internet
To: **DMUSD Financial Task Force**
Subject: **Public Input**

From: Lexi Hull ()
Address:
Phone:

Cost Saving Recommendation: That the board find another solution other than moving Palacio Del Mar students from Sage Canyon to Ashley Falls.

Perhaps other previously suggested solutions could be looked at with more interest, eg. closing a low enrollment school within the district, looking through budget once more and cutting costs in multiple areas to save overall?

Rationale for this Recommendation: Avoiding the negative impact of changing an entire neighborhood to a new school. This has been done in the past, and Palacio families should not have to live with the uncertainty of a possible school move every time there is a budget issue. It is not right to subject families (who purchased homes based on a school) to live in a state of limbo where either their child or children will not be able to attend the school they have been attending for years and/or possibly split up families with new kindergarten students and have siblings at two different schools.

Revenue Enhancement:

Additional Comments: Please consider the negative impact of this change on the community of Palacio Del Mar. Please strongly consider the real families and students that will ultimately take the brunt of this budget cut.

Make this a decision that is shared by the community, the entire community. Do not make Palacio students suffer to provide an easy fix. Please work hard to come up with a cost saving plan that takes into account all families and all children in this school district!

Thank you for your hard work!

DMUSD Staff:
Parent: Yes
Student:
Community Member:



Message

Feb 20, 2010 9:33 PM

From: "Lisa and Ajay Nirula"
To: DMUSD Financial Task Force
Subject: Public Input

From: Lisa and Ajay Nirula
Address:
Phone:

Cost Saving Recommendation: Do not move Palacio children to another school. Please allow them to remain at Sage Canyon.

Rationale for this Recommendation: Please do NOT consider moving my children or any of the children in Palacio from Sage Canyon to Ashley Falls. We just moved here from New Jersey two years ago and spent considerable time and effort evaluating our options before moving. Obviously we moved to Palacio like many others solely because of Sage Canyon School. We LOVE this school. We enjoy carpooling with our neighbors and engaging in homework activities together. To have my three boys moved from Sage Canyon, where we have invested considerable money and time, to Ashley Falls would be disappointing and unfair. We would protest this decision and likely move. We have tremendous appreciation and respect for the Sage Canyon faculty and staff; particularly for those who have helped my middle son through the IEP program. Again, please do not consider moving our children.

Revenue Enhancement:

Additional Comments:

DMUSD Staff:
Parent: Yes
Student:
Community Member:



Message

Feb 20, 2010 8:14 PM

From: "Kelly Hughes"
To: DMUSD Financial Task Force
Subject: Public Input

From: Kelly Hughes
Address:
Phone:

Cost Saving Recommendation: Leave district boundaries intact, do NOT hire vice principals for Sage Canyon and Ocean Air.

Rationale for this Recommendation: You are allowing a school (Ashley Falls) to increase its numbers at the expense of disrupting many families who are well established at Sage, Ocean Air and Torrey Hills. You have allowed DM Hills to stay open, yet redrawing boundaries would be just as damaging and contentious as closing DM Hills.

Revenue Enhancement:

Additional Comments: I have been paying my MelloRoos tax for 7 years in order to have a "neighborhood school" . My children should not have to cross the 56 in order to go to school.

DMUSD Staff:
Parent: Yes
Student:
Community Member:



Message

Feb 20, 2010 6:54 PM

From: "Michele Shoemaker"
To: DMUSD Financial Task Force
Subject: Public Input

From: Michele Shoemaker
Address:
Phone:

Cost Saving Recommendation:

Rationale for this Recommendation:

Revenue Enhancement:

Additional Comments: Please don't move students from Palacio del Mar back to Ashley Falls. If you absolutely must move Palacio, at least put us at Sycamore Ridge because we can walk there from our neighborhood via a path under the freeway.

DMUSD Staff:
Parent: Yes
Student:
Community Member:



Message

Feb 20, 2010 5:04 PM

From: "Nikki Katz" < >
To: **DMUSD Financial Task Force**
Subject: Public Input

From: Nikki Katz
Address:
Phone:

Cost Saving Recommendation: It recently came to my attention that DMUSD was considering redrawing the school boundaries as part of the financial solution - so that the schools in question (Sage Canyon, Torrey Hills, and Ocean Air) would no longer need a Vice Principal.

In my opinion this is a horrible solution compared to closing Del Mar Hills or Del Mar Heights. How is it any more fair for one school not to have to change boundaries, but instead change the boundaries for THREE schools?

My suggestion first and foremost is to close a school West of I5. Second, if the Vice Principal position is an issue, perhaps there could be a job share position, or remove the position altogether.

Sincerely,
Nikki Katz
Sage Canyon Parent

Rationale for this Recommendation:

Revenue Enhancement:

Additional Comments:

DMUSD Staff:
Parent: Yes
Student:
Community Member:



Message

Feb 20, 2010 4:46 PM

From: "Lori Anapoell" <
To: DMUSD Financial Task Force
Subject: Public Input

From: Lori Anapoell
Address:
Phone:

Cost Saving Recommendation: Changing School boundaries

Rationale for this Recommendation: Dear Members of the FTF Committee,
I recently became aware of Dr. McClain's suggestion to change school boundaries east of the freeway to alleviate the need for an assistant principal at schools with a higher population of students. I would strongly like to argue against any suggestion which forces families currently attending a district school, who live within the current boundary of that school, from being removed from that school.

Dr. McClain was not here eight years ago when the Del Mar School Board forcibly moved a population of children from Ashley Falls School to Sage Canyon School. The outcry that was expressed over the suggestion of closing Del Mar Hills School these past months does not begin to rival the outcry that divided the Del Mar District community leading up to that fateful decision. Families were pitted against each other, children were pitted against each other. The hurt feelings that came out of that time still haunt me today. Mothers who had volunteered together in the classrooms and served on PTA Boards together spoke out against each other in Board meetings. Friendships were severed. It was an ugly time for the who Del Mar/Carmel Valley community.

While I understand the need to change district boundaries due to changing community demographics, I do not support any suggestion that would move families from schools that the district has previously told them to attend. The only way to responsibly change district boundaries is over a period of time, grandfathering in, not only children who currently attend that school, but also their siblings who have not yet begun school. In this model, students are not traumatized by moving schools and families who have become highly invested at their school do not lose that sense of community.

I cannot imagine anyone who spoke against the closing of Del Mar Hills School over these past few months even considering any proposal that would move children from their current school to save money. By definition, it would be incredibly hypocritical. Anyone who felt it would be unfair to close Del Mar Hills School should look at the idea of forcibly moving children to new boundaries, without grandfathering in complete families, as the same thing- because to those students, you would effectively be closing their school.

I hope you will not let the suggestion of changing school boundaries gather much steam. Any proposal that forcibly moves families from their current school should be seen in the same light as closing a school. It is the same thing. Since the Del Mar Hills and Del Mar Heights communities are well-represented on this committee, I would hope you would stay united your fight to have ALL children allowed to remain in their current place, not just those west of the freeway.

Thank you very much,
Lori Anapoell
Sage Canyon Parent

Revenue Enhancement:



Message

Feb 20, 2010 4:37 PM

From: Mailer-Daemon,Internet
To: DMUSD Financial Task Force
Subject: Public Input

From: ()
Address:
Phone:

- Cost Saving Recommendation: 1. Analyze school census assuming if children attended the school nearest to their home, rather than looking at what school they are currently attending. So many CV kids are allowed to attend far away schools due to "grandfathering rules" and kids have been transferred because some schools were previously full, and it skews the actual needs for schools. That should give a realistic assessment of what each schools actual census should be and would be a good first starting point.
2. Once the data is developed assuming kids attend their "nearest schools", census of Del Mar Hills and Height will probably be lower than current figure, and the district should reconsider decision and look at combining Del Mar Hills and Del Mar Heights, and making Del Mar Hills an early childhood center and district headquarters. Early childhood center with a "for pay" preschool could generate revenue, and would eliminate issue district currently has because their special needs preschool lacks typical children as peers.
3. Recent proposal by Superintendent to redistrict Torrey Hills/Ocean Air/Sage Canyon area (with kids south of 56 required to attend Ashley Falls) should be scrapped. Kids who live north of 56 should be required to attend their local school (kids north of the 56 and their siblings were grandfathered in to be allowed to attend schools south of the 56) which has caused those 3 schools to have high census and required kids south of the 56 to attend schools north of the 56. Kids should be required to attend the nearest school.
4. Proposal to require hiring of Vice Principals should be eliminated, which would save money.
5. Rather than recent proposal to lay off teaching staff, all DMUSD employees should have salary frozen for next year, or be required to pay more for benefits, or both. Employees supposedly pay little of their medical insurance costs, and receive discounted child care costs (paid for by parents of children who attend the DMUSD after school program). All other employers are freezing pay and requiring employees to pay higher share of benefit cost. DMUSD should do same. Impact should be adjusted to affect lower paid employees less, higher paid more. Look at actually cutting pay of highly compensated staff. If positions do need to be eliminated, District should look at eliminating administrative positions rather than teaching positions.
6. Strategic Plan Financial Task Force needs to be comprised of an equal number of representatives from each school. It currently has more representatives from Del Mar Hills and Ashley Falls schools, which is not fair to the other schools and could cause the recommendations to be skewed in favor of those 2 schools, to the detriment of the others.
7. Post expense data for each school so public can review and comment on cost savings opportunities

Rationale for this Recommendation: Increase revenue, reduce expenses, reduce impact on students

Revenue Enhancement:

Additional Comments:

DMUSD Staff:

Parent: Yes

Student:

Community Member:



Message

Feb 20, 2010 11:24 AM

From: <Stephanie Jansen>, Internet
To: DMUSD Financial Task Force
Subject: Public Input

From: Stephanie Jansen ()
Address:
Phone:

Cost Saving Recommendation: Merge The Hills and Heights, savings of 400-600k annually. If not total closure, then combine the grade levels, and utilize space as District Office.

Rationale for this Recommendation: Really?! How many times do we have to go through this?
This is the only option that makes sense- close the HILLS! But since this has been taken away as an option, merge the smaller schools by grade levels and still utilize what we already own! Bank the money from the Shores sales and move forward. The communities will heal.

Revenue Enhancement:

Additional Comments: Please stop this nonsense. I have attended so many meetings on this subject, and no results have taken place. The DMUSD Board has shown it's true colors, the families have taken notice, and everyone is disgusted!

DMUSD Staff:
Parent: Yes
Student:
Community Member:



Message

Feb 19, 2010 9:52 AM

From: Mailer-Daemon,Internet
To: DMUSD Financial Task Force
Subject: Public Input

From: ()
Address:
Phone:

Cost Saving Recommendation: Close Del Mar Heights (>\$500,000 saved per year)

Rationale for this Recommendation: Save the teachers, preserve classroom size. Why should one school of ~300 students dictate how other schools should be penalized due to higher enrollment. One school should not override the equity of others.

Revenue Enhancement: Implement an ESC materials fee, akin to a lab fee imposed at college campuses for labs.

Additional Comments:

DMUSD Staff:
Parent: Yes
Student:
Community Member: