

EasyReader

Letters, Part I

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Hermosa School District's new math

Dear ER:

Hermosa Beach's Open Space Initiative zoned school properties open space, and mandated that the Municipal Code governing them can only be changed by another vote of the people. The Hermosa Beach School Board included "purchasing property" in Measure J to assure voters that open space would be increased on the overcrowded Valley School campus. It did not include a gym or joint venture with Beach Cities Health District because they were unpopular with voters. Immediately after passing Measure J the school board began designing a gym on the existing site, showing they never intended to acquire property.

The HBCSD Facilities Master Plan includes eight new classrooms and replacing four portables, but no new classrooms are being added because the School Board voted to build a high school regulation-size gym on an elementary/middle school site for its moneymaking capabilities instead. This will ultimately end class size reduction (20 students per class) in K-3, and pack up to 32 children per class in these grades.

While members of the HB School Board make personal attacks on individuals and ignore the issues, 23 households have filed a lawsuit because the School Board: 1) Misled the voters to pass the bond measure, 2) Violated Open Space Initiative and HB City Municipal code, 3) Violated Proposition 39 provisions of the State Constitution, 4) Violated the education code by entering into an unfunded joint use agreement without the required notice to voters, and 5) Provided no mitigation measures for the negative impacts of the gym.

Gordon Evans

Hermosa Beach