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Your Letter

Type Your Letter : The Hermosa Beach City School District does not have enough classroom space again this year due to a lack of urgency and good planning by the district, not because of a lack of options. Since 2009 the district has been well aware of an enrollment bubble and the need for additional classrooms.

When the Facility Planning and Advisory Committee (FPAC) held its first meeting 21 months ago many ideas were put forth that could have immediately alleviate the district's overcrowding such as instituting a multi-track classroom schedule in which students attend classes in staggered blocks year round. Another idea was to use the 4.7 acre Pier Avenue School, now the Community Center, that the district sold to the city for \$650,000. Pier Avenue School has 14+ classrooms, gymnasium and auditorium, pick up and drop off area, parking, tennis courts and access to the baseball field and basketball courts. The district can lease this property from the city. Yet another option was to house transitional kindergarten and kindergarten at a former district school such as South School or North School. The superintendent's office could have been housed in the vacant Time Warner building next to Valley School instead of using valuable classroom space at South School.

Despite district administration claims to the contrary, there is NO REASON why those options should not have been immediately put into action to provide urgently needed classrooms and relieve overcrowding at Valley and View schools this year.

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