

HERMOSA BEACH CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Patricia Escalante
District Superintendent

DATE: December 12, 2012

SUBJECT: FACILITIES PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE OBJECTIVE

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of Education direct the Facilities Planning Advisory Committee to identify and to advise the Board as to the option that is the most viable for the use of the North School site: modernization, new construction or exchange/acquire property.

BACKGROUND

At one time during the 108 year history of the Hermosa Beach City School District, there were five schools open in the district; four Kindergarten -5th grade sites and one middle school site. Currently, the district has two open sites (Valley and View) and one closed site (North).

Facility capacity at Valley School, grades 3-8, is approximately 755 students based upon a 30:1 student ratio. At View, grades K-2, facility capacity is 375 students based upon a 25:1 student ratio. With a current district enrollment of approximately 1400 students and the class size reduction program (which is a 25:1 student ratio for grades K-3) in place, the district is overcrowded by approximately 270 students based upon class size reduction.

Board Policy 1220 establishes a citizen advisory committee to consider school issues as they arise, facilitate and strengthen communication between the board/community/staff, and to serve in a strictly advisory capacity. The role of the Facilities Planning Advisory Committee is to make recommendations to the Board of Education regarding school facilities.

Current Consideration:

In reviewing the district facilities assets, the remaining prospect for consideration is the availability of the North School site. The district is over capacity at placing students in classrooms at both View and Valley schools. We anticipate enrollment to continue at this level or higher due to demographics, geographic location, and stellar reputation. Therefore, the district needs to assess the viability of using North School to house our additional students and programs. The addition of facilities would also enable the district to be in position to bring revenue enhancement programs into the district (preschool, regular and special education) as an offset to state funding deficits. In doing so, the district would meet the demands of classroom

space due to increased enrollment, provide relief for traffic/safety issues at existing sites, and maintain program options. The Facilities Planning Advisory Committee is charged with examining and advising the Board of Education regarding three options for the use of the North School site.

Option 1: Utilize the existing North School building for classroom programs and students.

(Modernization: compliance with state facilities requirements, cost, life of buildings, upgrades)

Option 2: Raze the existing buildings at North School and rebuild on the existing North School footprint.

(New Construction: # of classrooms, multi-story buildings, maximization of footprint)

Option 3: Assess the viability of a property exchange or acquisition.

(Property: traffic/logistics, future growth/expansion, better site for school campus, revenue stream)