

**Community Engagement  
Oak Park Community Center  
October 22, 2007**

**Questions, Issues and other Options as  
discussed regarding the four proposed sites  
for the location of the new high school.**

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### **Issues/Options**

- Oak Park needs a public high school to walk to; to walk to Marian Anderson is too far, to participate in sports at another high school is too far.
- Logical thing to do is what will impact the least amount of students.
- Program planning needs to start now ~ don't wait for location.
- No middle school in this area.
- "The mistake we made was the charter school". Eliminate the Charter High School.
- Teachers from Sac High believe it would be better if we advertised for Charter School instead of building another high school.
- Parents/neighbors didn't get the notice.
- Too many students on one campus, if you add 500-800 students more to Sac Charter.
- 80% of Sac High's students are college eligible.
- Parents afraid that if the ratio changes ~ students GPA could be affected.
- There are three high schools within one mile of each other, but no middle school in the same area.
- West Campus should be added to map.
- Sacramento Charter High, PS7 and new school would be too many students for one site.
- Sacramento Charter High modernization was slowed by dry rot, etc. and will be complete by December 2008.
- Impossible to have two schools at Sacramento Charter High campus:
  - culture of school/tremendous strides
  - violence reduced dramatically from year 1 – year 5
  - Space issue with modernization, not enough room. Currently using all space.
- Charter schools are public schools required by law to support and equip like public schools.
- There are problems with placing high school at an elementary site. There needs to be a high school setting as at Sacramento Charter High School.
- A resident that lives one block from Sacramento Charter High School had these comments:
  - Can count on one hand the number of students that are off campus during the school day. The school is making a difference.
  - Students are given homework

- Students can eat and study at same time
  - Prepared to graduate and be ready for four-year institution
  - Would like school put somewhere else
- Planning needs to start now, otherwise will lead to failure.
  - Don't interrupt culture of existing school.
  - A parent of two students had great praise of Sacramento Charter High school and the teachers; it has good structure and rules. There could be problems with an added school.
  - Place survey on website.
  - Placing another high school on the Sac High Campus will create problems, especially with PS-7 already on campus. Too many different bell schedules.
  - If Kit Carson and Sutter were bad spots as they are in a community, why isn't Sac Charter High School a bad spot? It is also in a community.
  - We've waited a long time to have an excellent high school in Oak Park. Why ruin a good thing?
  - I am very concerned about the American Legion site being converted into a comprehensive school. I do not feel there is enough room for all the classrooms, etc. I live on 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue and have serious concerns.
  - The program planning for this school needs to start now. Don't wait for the location. Equity can't wait. No other high school will have so little time to prepare for opening. It is as if you want it to fail.
  - This is about the students. I think that is what everyone is forgetting and we should only do what is best for the students.
  - There are many examples of school districts that promote charter schools in their community because they understand the importance of providing options to meet the needs of it's diverse population. Please speak to the ethics of not including charter schools in SCUSD's high school options while penalizing the charter for declining enrollment.
  - The high school should be put on Marian Anderson's campus.
  - The East Sacramento neighborhood would be thrilled to have the new high school in their neighborhood.
  - Please plan a meeting in East Sacramento. Oak Park is not the only neighborhood in the boundary. We want a new school.

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**Questions**

- Is American Legion off the table?

American Legion is one of the four sites under consideration. The preliminary environmental review showed 4 impacts.

- Can't we find another place for those who want to go to a public high school in Oak Park?

There is a court judgment to open a comprehensive high school preferably within the previous Sacramento High School attendance area and not more than a two-mile radius of the attendance area.

- If Sacramento High were not a charter would you be considering it?

Sacramento Charter High School is being considered because it is within in attendance area and the facility is not at capacity.

- Are we not debating whether there is a need for another high school?

The district has a court judgment to have a high school.

- Is the Principal at Sacramento High asking Sacramento City to continue their partnership with Sacramento Charter?

Sacramento Charter High School is an independent public high school within the Sacramento City Unified School District.

- What are the ramifications of not opening a "New School" by September, 2008?

The district is under a court judgment to open a new high school. There would be legal ramifications.

- Are students required vehicle access with the study (traffic ~ Kit Carson)?

Many high school students do drive to school. Vehicle access would be determined by the site and the program planning that will follow the decision of a location.

- What if we redo the survey?

In April 2005, the Sacramento High School Lawsuit Decree Committee (Decree Committee) and the Sacramento City Unified school District hired Godbe Research to conduct a survey of parents and guardians of children 5 through 17 years of age in the former Sacramento High School attendance area. The main research objective of the survey was to determine the parents' levels of interest in sending their child(ren) to a new comprehensive small high school that the District would use its best efforts to open no later than Fall of 2008. 795 parents and guardians in the former Sacramento High School attendance area were surveyed from May 25 through June 16, 2005. 65% of the parents surveyed expressed an interest in sending their child(ren) to the new comprehensive small high school. This survey was the requirement of the Consent Decree and determined that Sacramento City Unified School District must establish this new school no later than the fall of 2008.

- Why are all the meetings in this area?

There are three meetings in the previous Sacramento High School attendance area as this is the intended area of the school.

- Why can't common sense dictate what we do? Culture is working, is our school going to be ready? Can't we leave well enough alone?

The Board is carefully analyzing all the data respective of facilities, programs, impacts and community engagement in order to make a thoughtful decision. The Sacramento City Unified School District is guided by the court judgment to have a new high school.

- Why a million dollars to fix Sac High Pool?

The pool renovation involved many structural and mechanical improvements. The district is currently trying to secure state funds to help with the costs of the renovations.

- Where are these students that would go to this new high school?

It is expected that the school will serve the community as outlined in the attendance area as well as students in the entire district through Open Enrollment.

- Is "08" reasonable for opening another high school?

The date is guided by the court judgment. The district is preparing to have the school open Sept. 2008.

- With the numbers ~ classrooms/students, what will be the teacher/student ratio?

The teacher-student ratio is outlined in the SCUSD and Sacramento City Teachers Union Agreement. The ratio is 35 students to one teacher.

- Since 66% of surveys are from College Greens and East Sac, why not have high school there?

Several sites have been considered, in all areas within the 2-mile radius of the old Sacramento High School attendance area, these four sites are now for consideration.

- Is John Muir an existing school?

Yes, it is the current site for the PS7 independent charter school.

- Are all sites current sites?

Yes, all four considerations are sites with current programs.

- Is Kit Carson, Sutter or Cannery Business Park up for consideration? If not, why?

Kit Carson was considered and there was community engagement to consider the school. Sutter is not one of the considerations and the district does not own the Business Park.

- How would you accommodate P.E. if at Marian Anderson?

Renovations to Marian Anderson would be made to provide a physical education program. The type of program would be part of the program design to be planned after the location is established.

- Where are the “survey students” located? Will that affect the number of students at Sacramento Charter High School?

The parents of the potential students surveyed were located in the following Zip Codes: 95814, 95816, 95817, 95818, 95819, 95820, and 95826. How the number of students at Sacramento Charter High School would be affected can not be determined at this time.

- Why not have students attend Sacramento Charter High School where 80% are going to college?

Sacramento Charter High School is one of the sites being considered to co-locate.

- Sacramento Charter High doesn't turn-away students, why do we need another high school?

The district is guided by a court judgment to provide a district high school.

- Did you survey students of Sacramento Charter High?

No, the survey was directed to parents of child(ren) ages 5-17 living in the attendance area of the former Sacramento High School

- Were there meetings in this east area? The commute will affect our students and will not be in their best interest.

The three community engagement meetings were planned in the area of the current options.

- Will the new high school have all the sports and other activities like the other high schools?

The new school will have a relationship with the closest comprehensive high school for sports and other extra-curricular activities.

- How many students? Can they be divided among other schools?

The enrollment for the new school will be between 500 and 800 students. A division of students is not being considered at this time.

- Given Sac High is under renovation, will Sac High renovation (current) be completed by fall 2008?

The renovation will continue into the 2008 school year.

- Given the success of Sac High, can we expect that Sac High will be completed?

The modernization for Sacramento Charter High School will be completed.

- Is the District promoting the Sac Charter H.S. as an option? Logical to impact the fewest number of students (Sac Charter H.S. is a large number of students).

Co-location with Sacramento Charter High School is one of four options.

- Will putting more students on the Sac Charter H.S. cause other students to not attend? Would the results of the old survey come out different today?

Currently, the Sacramento Charter High School site is not at capacity.

- Why won't you let Sac Charter H.S. recruit from middle schools?

Recruitment of students by a private or independent charter school is a policy discussion.

- Wasn't a survey taken at Sac High Charter?

No, the survey was directed by the Consent Decree to be targeted at parents of child(ren) ages 5-17 within the former Sacramento High School attendance area.

- Where will 800 students come from?

The survey indicated interest and the school will begin with 9<sup>th</sup> graders. The capacity is expected to be at a range of 500 to 800 students.

- Are there examples of two high schools sharing a campus?

We are currently gathering the research to answer this question.

- Will the Board receive a report about success (or lack of) for Marian Anderson?

The Board currently receives school related data (enrollment, attendance, achievement scores, staffing and fiscal) on all of our schools.

- Were Kit Carson and/or Sutter foreclosed upon for environmental or other reasons? Are high schools still an option at those locations?

Kit Carson was under consideration and community engagement occurred.

- Is the Cannery Business Park or Elves viable (up for consideration)? If not, why not?

The district does not own the Cannery Business Park.

- How will a new high school be enrolled when there has been a steady decrease in enrollment figures at the major comprehensive high schools in the area (Johnson, Kennedy, McClatchy, and Burbank)?

District high school enrollment has shown an increase.

- How will the traffic affect the area if American Legion is the site of new school? If Kit Carson can't handle the traffic, how in the world can American Legion which has even less working space/roads, etc.?

American Legion currently is a high school that is under enrolled so parking is available.

- Why would you put two separate high schools on one campus?

Co-location is one of 4 options.

- When will you survey the students at Sac High?

The survey as directed by the court judgment has already occurred.