



# SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 9.7

**Meeting Date:** February 16, 2012

**Subject:** Resolution No. 2688: Closure of Freeport Elementary School

- Information Item Only
- Approval on Consent Agenda
- Conference (for discussion only)
- Conference/First Reading
- Conference/Action
- Action
- Public Hearing

**Division:** Accountability Office

**Recommendation:** Approve Resolution No. 2688: Closure of Freeport Elementary School

**Background/Rationale:**

On November 4, 2010, The Board adopted criteria for school consolidation and closure. Subsequently, the Board appointed a Facility Consolidation and Closure/7-11 Committee to review data and recommend sites for consolidation and closure. The Committee met during the spring and summer of 2011 and had their final meeting on August 29, 2011. Their recommendations were brought to the Board on October 6, 2011. The Board directed the Superintendent to bring a staff analysis of the 7-11 Committee recommendations and his own recommendations with analysis to the Board for consideration. Superintendent's recommendations were presented to the Board on November 3, 2011.

Following the November 3 discussion and presentation the board directed staff to conduct further research and schedule community meetings for three schools recommended for closure (A.M. Winn, C.P. Huntington and Freeport).

On December 8, 2011, the Board tabled the closures of A.M. Winn, C.P. Huntington and Freeport Elementary Schools. Faced with the severe budget constraints for the 2012-13 school year and beyond, the Board is reconsidering the closures of the three schools.

**Financial Considerations:**

**Cost Analysis:**

Freeport Elementary/John Still Elementary/Middle – Cost saving of \$442,009

**Documents Attached:**

1. Executive Summary
2. Resolution No. 2688

**Estimated Time of Presentation:** 5 minutes

**Submitted by:** Mary Shelton, Chief Accountability Officer

**Approved by:** Jonathan Raymond, Superintendent

# Board of Education Executive Summary

## Accountability Office

Resolution No. 2688: Closure of Freeport Elementary School

February 16, 2012



### I. Overview/History of Department or Program

On November 4, 2010, The Board adopted criteria for school consolidation and closure. Subsequently, the Board appointed a Facility Consolidation and Closure/7-11 Committee to review data and recommend sites for consolidation and closure. The Committee met during the spring and summer of 2011 and had their final meeting on August 29, 2011. Their recommendations were brought to the Board on October 6, 2011. The Board directed the Superintendent to bring a staff analysis of the 7-11 Committee recommendations and his own recommendations with analysis to the Board for consideration. Superintendent's recommendations were presented to the Board on November 3, 2011. On December 8, 2011, the Board tabled the closures of A.M. Winn, C.P. Huntington and Freeport Elementary Schools. Faced with the severe budget constraints for the 2012-13 school year and beyond, the Board is reconsidering the closures of the three schools.

A summary of the Superintendent's analysis and recommendations are below:

- **Freeport Elementary School**

*Superintendent Recommendation: Closure*

Close facility and reassign students to John Still. Applications from Freeport students to attend other schools will be given priority during the district's Open Enrollment period. John Still Elementary/Middle recommendation below is necessary to accommodate Freeport closure.

- **John Still Elementary/John Still Middle**

*Superintendent Recommendation: Consolidation/Design Team*

Combine schools into one K-8 with one administration and support staff. Create a Design Team of stakeholders to use the decision analysis process to explore opportunities that would create desirable programs for students and families.

Following the November 3 discussion and presentation the board directed staff to conduct further research and schedule community meetings for three schools recommended for closure (A.M. Winn, C.P. Huntington and Freeport) and two schools recommended for consolidation (Edward Kemble and Cesar Chavez).

The district scheduled four community meetings to gather feedback. These meetings were conducted on the following dates:

Wednesday, November 16 (6:30 pm) – A.M. Winn (multi-purpose room)

Monday, November 28 (6:30 pm) – C.P. Huntington (multi-purpose room)

Tuesday, November 29 (6:30 pm) – Freeport (multi-purpose room)

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Thursday, December 1 (6:30 pm) – Edward Kemble/Cesar Chavez (Chavez multi-purpose room)

All questions and comments were audio taped and posted on the following weblink:

<http://www.scusd.edu/Pages/SchoolClosureandConsolidationOptionsandOpportunities.aspx>

At the December 8, 2011 meeting the Superintendent was given the following direction regarding the school closure and consolidation recommendations:

- Table any further conversations of either swapping Sacramento Charter High School and West Campus.
- Table any further conversations about co-locating West Campus at the Sacramento High School facility.
- Thank and end the design team process that has included members of West Campus, Sacramento Charter High School, St. Hope and East Sacramento.
- Come back at some later point with some clarified way for there to be a community dialog and discussion around things such as the West Campus facility and its adequacy for that program and what improvements can be made, what programmatic improvements can be made with West Campus to accelerate it and to create an even more excellent program and to look at the Sacramento High School site and how could it be perhaps better utilized by the community.
- Table any further discussion of closing A.M. Winn.
- Table any further discussion of closing C.P. Huntington.
- Table any further conversation of closing Freeport Elementary.
- Closing any further conversation around consolidating Edward Kemble and Cesar Chavez. There are design, there will be for those just mentioned, there will be an opportunity to think about again creating better programs and better student learning outcomes at those schools that will come at a later date with a process by which the community can engage and having those conversations and discussions to really create those learning environments at those schools.
- The design teams that are currently going on at School of Engineering and Science, Caleb Greenwood, Kit Carson, and Leonardo DaVinci/Hollywood Park will continue. There's an expectation that Hollywood Park and Leonardo DaVinci will finish their work after one more meeting and that those would be reported back to the board at our meeting next week.
- Table any further conversation at this time around anything involving swapping or merging Sutter Middle School and Kit Carson Middle School.

Due to the severe budget constraints that the district is facing, the closure and consolidation recommendations presented on December 8th are now being brought back to the Board for reconsideration.

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### II. Driving Governance:

Education Code sections 17387-17389 Surplus Property Advisory Committee

The California Education Code Section 17387-17391 provides for community involvement by attendance area at the district level regarding surplus space. This community involvement should facilitate making the best possible judgments about the use of excess school facilities in each individual situation. The process would allow community involvement before decisions are made about school closure or the use of surplus space, thus avoiding community conflict and assuring building use that is compatible with the community's needs and desires.

Prior to the sale, lease, or rental of any excess real property, except rentals not exceeding 30 days, the School Board shall appoint a district advisory committee to advise the governing board in the development of district-wide policies and procedures governing the use or disposition of school buildings or space in school buildings which is not needed for school purposes.

### III. Budget:

Freeport Elementary/John Still Elementary/Middle – Cost saving of \$442,009

### IV. Goals, Objectives and Measures:

The 7-11 Committee:

1. Reviewed the school enrollment and other data provided by the district to determine the amount of surplus space and real property.
2. Reviewed non-K-12 sites to determine the amount of surplus space and real property.
3. Developed a priority list of surplus real property.
4. Provided an advisory report recommending closure and/or consolidation of surplus real property.

The Superintendent and staff analyzed the 7-11 Committee recommendations for programmatic considerations, academic performance and cost-benefits.

### V. Major Initiatives:

The Board appointed a Facility Consolidation and Closure/7-11 Committee to advise the Superintendent and Governing Board in the development of the use or disposition of school buildings or space in school buildings which is not needed for school, administrative or other related purposes. The 7-11 Committee used the criteria adopted by the Board of Education.

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These criteria are:

### Phase 1

Capacity

Condition

Operation Cost

### Phase 2

Location Accessibility

Enrollment Data

Facility Costs

Facility Usage/Efficiency

Facility Condition & Site Data

Program Data

The Superintendent's additional recommendations were created using these criteria as well as academic performance, program alignment, proximity of sites, potential budget savings and enrollment trends.

**SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2688**

**RESOLUTION RE CLOSURE OF FREEPORT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education of the Sacramento City Unified School District (“Board”) has duly received oral presentations and reviewed documents, including the staff report, regarding the closure of Freeport Elementary School (“School”); and

**WHEREAS**, based on such information, it is in the best interest of the Sacramento City Unified School District (“District”), in the allocation and use of its educational resources and the most efficient use of its reduced financial resources, to close the School; and

**WHEREAS**, closure of the School would otherwise be a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (Pub. Resources Code § 21000, et seq.; “CEQA”) and its implementing regulations (Title 14 Cal. Code of Regulations §15000 et seq.; “CEQA Guidelines”), except that Public Resources Code section 21080.18 provides that CEQA does not apply to the closing of any public school in grades K-12 if the only physical changes involved are categorically exempt; and

**WHEREAS**, the CEQA Guidelines exempt from further CEQA evaluation projects which consist of minor additions to existing schools within existing school grounds where the addition does not increase original student capacity by more than 25% or ten classrooms, whichever is less (Section 15314 of the CEQA Guidelines); and

**WHEREAS**, closure of the School would, at most, require minor additions to John Still Elementary School and will not increase original student capacity at John Still Elementary School by more than 25% or ten classrooms, whichever is less, and thus the School closure is categorically exempt under CEQA Guidelines section 15314.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Sacramento City Unified School District Board of Education hereby finds and determines, based on the oral presentations and documents, as follows:

1. The foregoing recitals are adopted as true and correct.
2. The Board finds that closure of the School will not have a significant effect on the environment and there is no cumulative impact of this and other school closures and transfers if school closures are also approved by Resolution Nos. 2689 and 2690.
3. The Board finds that closure of the School is exempt from the requirements of CEQA pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.18, CEQA Guideline 15314, and there are no exceptions under CEQA Guideline 15300.2.
4. The Board finds that it is in the best interest of the Sacramento City Unified School District, in the allocation and use of its educational resources and is the most efficient use of its reduced financial resources, to close the School commencing the 2012-13 school year.

5. The Superintendent or his designee is authorized and directed to take such further action as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out this Resolution.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Sacramento City Unified School District Board of Education on this 16th day of February, 2012, by the following vote:

AYES: \_\_\_\_\_  
NOES: \_\_\_\_\_  
ABSTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_  
ABSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Diana Rodriguez  
President of the Board of Education

ATTESTED TO:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jonathan P. Raymond  
Secretary of the Board of Education