

Community Engagement
A. Warren McClaskey Adult School
5241 J Street
December 3, 2007

Purpose: Provide opportunity for input on the location of the Consent Decree High School

Questions

- What are the environmental impacts of the sites under consideration?
 - American Legion* – 4 impacts: geology of the soil, hydrology and water quality, hazardous materials, transportation and traffic.
 - John Muir* – 11 impacts: aesthetics of grounds, air quality, cultural resources, geology of the soils, hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, noise abatement, public services, transportation and traffic, utilities and services systems.
 - Marian Anderson* – 1 impact: possible asbestos and lead which is encapsulated.
 - Sacramento Charter High School* - 1 impact: within 500 feet a freeway/highway.
- Are all sites owned by the district?
 - Yes, all sites are district properties.
- What are the sizes of the four facilities?
 - American Legion is 4.5 acres, John Muir (PS7) is 7.5 acres, Marian Anderson is 6.04 acres and Sacramento Charter is 26.16 acres.
- What are you going to do if the Consent Decree School goes to Sacramento Charter High School?
 - The two schools will work together to plan for co-location.
- Is the Board looking at growth for the new school?
 - The school is planned for 500 to 800 students and enrollment will be closely monitored.
- Why has Sacramento Charter High School been underutilized?
 - The Charter School has a lower enrollment than the previous Sacramento High School. The site is also being modernized.
- What is “within 500 feet” of the edge of the closest traffic lane mean?
 - New building code demands that schools are now further than 500 feet from highway/freeway. This is for new construction.
- What will happen to American Legion site?
 - If chosen, the site will be modified to accommodate more students.
- How were the four sites selected?
 - The district worked with an advisory team and staff analyzed through six criteria 41 sites.

- If co-located with Sacramento Charter, why would the students need to go to C.K. McClatchy for sports?

The Sacramento Charter is a charter school.

- As a resident of McKinley Park area, I am asking how much attention is being paid to program as opposed to the site?

The program will be an “a-g” college prep program. A principal will be hired to provide direction for further planning.

- What was the highest dollar allocation needed to bring the Consent Decree to a school?

John Muir (PS7) will need 12 million to retrofit.

- What is the fiscal allocation for the Consent Decree School?

The Board allocated 8 million dollars for the Consent Decree School.

- Where are the students who will attend this new school?

Based on a survey, 2,831 households would be interested in sending their children to the new school. The students will be from the previous Sacramento High School attendance area and within a 2-mile radius.

- What was the purpose to renovate Sacramento Charter High School? Was it to expand?

The school facility needed upgrades and improvements. The modernization will not add additional classrooms.

- Has there been success with a high school being put on an elementary campus?

Yes, there are campuses that have been successfully retrofitted.

- Is the middle school going to go away?

The 7th and 8th graders will possibly need a new location.

- Did you explore possibilities for finding some non-district property to exchange for one of the district’s properties? (Including downtown)?

All options were considered.

- Can/will the SCUSD re-think this short deadline upon us and facilitate an open public process where all residents within the SCUSD boundary are invited?

The district has been planning for four (4) years and many community members have been involved in ten (10) community meetings and numerous Board meetings.

- Why are you trying to establish a high school that accommodates 800 students when 1,200 students need a facility?

The enrollment will be monitored as well as the facility capacity. We will begin with ninth graders.

- Will the district attempt to engage parents in the planning/programming of the new high school?

Yes.

- Recommendation of combining West Campus and the Consent Decree on the Sacramento High School campus seems to be best option. Are there any additional options available? Since 2 of the 4 options presented are elementary school campuses. Any other High School campus options?

The four options are what are being considered (American Legion, John Muir, Marian Anderson, and Sacramento Charter High School; co-location).

- What are the argued flaws of the survey that supported the Consent Decree School? Can it (survey) be redone? How many students would actually attend the new school?

The time line does not allow the survey to be redone. The survey indicated that 2,831 households were interested in sending their children.

- Aside from the “community engagement forum” meetings hosted by SCUSD (most of which the East Sacramento residents such as River Park did not receive notification). What kinds of outreach have been conducted to the taxpayers in the boundaries of Sacramento High (within 2 miles)? A polling of the families impacted needs to be done. What are your plans for this?

55,383 surveys were mailed to homes and businesses within the 2-mile radius of Sacramento Charter High School. Additionally 19 schools sent Connect Ed communication messages. The information has also been on our website for review and input and public comment has been taken at numerous Board Meetings.

Issues/Options

- Put Sacramento Charter High School in one of the four locations and let the Consent Decree High School go back to Sacramento High School site.
- Consider moving St. Hope to Marian Anderson, move West Campus to Sacramento High and co-locate with Consent Decree. The two schools will be under the same governing board and allow for expansion of West Campus where people want to go.
- People leave SCUSD schools because the district does not provide for students already achieving.
- Half of Sacramento High Campus is under capacity. There are already two different schools at Sacramento Charter (middle and high school). Expansion is something that we do want to consider. Sacramento Charter is open to all students.
- I (student) came from Sutter and wanted to go to Sacramento High. The other high schools were not a fit for me.
- The displaced students are not being treated fairly - given scrapes.
- I admire St. Hope and staff; they go out of their way to help students. The school was not ready for students on grade level. Please let us use the facility. Adults need to set the expectation that co-location will work.
- From Sutter I went to St. Francis: I was getting good grades but nobody was pushing me. I then went to Sacramento Charter. Teachers are there for you. They keep track of you at Sacramento Charter High School.
- When you limit the size; you then divide the community.
- Principal at Sacramento Charter High School ~ co-location would bring up a myriad of issues including safety. An example of unsuccessful co-location is Rosemont and America's Choice, which was under the same Board.
- Given a maximum of 800 students and "a-g" requirements you can still have many options and a focus. Parents need to be engaged in the planning process.
- Put two SCUSD schools at the Sacramento Charter High School site.
- I live in River Park and was not invited to attend.
- We need a discussion why so many people do not want their children at the Charter.
- I have been to most of the meetings ~ a lot of things are being done at the last minute and this puts communities against each other.
- The reason for the students wearing uniforms is for security; putting another school on the campus will destroy the culture.
- My child was attending Rosemont and the school didn't care and now he is doing well at Sacramento Charter School.
- This was the first chance for some of the community members to attend a community meeting. We need to have a chance to speak.
- What is the district thinking, trying to cram a high school into an elementary site?
- Sacramento Charter High School does not have access to middle schools.
- As a C.K. McClatchy parent, the district should be business savvy and should truly think about how to spend the money, as the decision will affect all students.
- I would not have voted for the bond if I knew that some of the money was going to modernize a Charter School.

- Sacramento High will require the least amount of infrastructure changes and will meet the needs of the Consent Decree School.
- Poor leadership closed a beautiful school.
- I am concerned about modular as opposed to bricks and mortar. This district prides itself on equity and access. Co-location provides the best option and the problems can be worked out.
- The new high school needs to be treated equally in terms of facility and program. Wherever the high school is located, a principal needs to be hired and the planning process started.
- Co-location is a viable option.
- It takes time to build culture and we have made Sacramento Charter a place for your children to attend. You have a choice.
- The Sacramento High neighborhood is not against the Charter School. I have children who want to attend a neighborhood school.
- I came from a failing high school and I am now attending Sacramento Charter High School. I have seen a change from a school not working well to a school working well. It takes time and co-location would not work.
- Sacramento High Students – Where are the students that will go to the new school? Why aren't they here tonight?
- If the new high school is basic and there are no extracurricular activities the students will have no interest and the school will fail. I hope that efforts will be put forth to make sure that the new high school is successful. Why did the old Sacramento High School go so far downhill before being closed and turned into a charter school? Is that going to happen again?
- We need to provide these 500+ students an adequate location and only Sacramento High can provide that.
- We need a comprehensive school for our children – in our community and I don't see these options as solutions. You have recognized that families are transferring their children and enrolling in private schools and charter schools. What's left? Quality families that want a positive school experience for our children and have no options. The only option I see is moving the charter school and re-opening a high school in our area so that we can grow from a positive community high school experience that our children deserve and SCUSD owes us.
- There was not enough real outreach to the former Sacramento High attendance center: Midtown, East Sacramento, and River Park. Too many comments were made saying this was the first time they heard of this.
- If the Sacramento Charter High School feels they cannot co-locate with the new Consent Decree High School we should re-locate them to West Campus and combine West Campus and the Consent Decree High School.
- Is SCUSD concerned about the blatant self-segregation occurring within our community?
- SCUSD currently (now) owns 26.16 acres of property with an existing high school on it. Use it! Don't give it away.

- A member of the Sacramento Charter staff said that there is not enough time to plan to co-locate another high school on the old Sacramento High School campus. However, the Charter School was approved at this same time of the year and no one said it couldn't be operational in August. How is it not enough time now?
- SCUSD owes it to the students and tax payers to spend their resources wisely. Yes, the cheapest way.
- The best use of resources that SCUSD can do is: co-locate West Campus with the new Consent Decree High School on old Sacramento High School campus. SCUSD owns that land and it is the cheapest solution.
- You have a community here that you represent. Sacramento High is our SCUSD campus; it should be utilized for a SCUSD school.
- Co-locate using former Sacramento High School or merge West Campus and Consent Decree – move Sacramento Charter High School to West Campus site.
- This meeting was poorly facilitated. The focus was supposed to be on the new High School location. Facilitators allowed discussion that was not directly related to the new High School facility. Half of the meeting was spent on allowing Sacramento charter to “brag” about their school. Nothing to do with facility.
- Will the high school boundaries be re-drawn? Clarification is needed regarding what the new comprehensive high school will look like for sports, campus programs, etc. West Campus mirrors enrollment of the New High School 500-800 students.
- The Charter school has the option to move. The current student body is smaller than when it was a public high school and have yet to get too established.
- We want to attend a public school in our neighborhood.
- Sacramento High requires the least amount of infrastructure changes.
- Extreme and obsessive response to threat of co-location by Charter school.
- Co-location or real utilization of Sacramento High School campus would benefit more of the district than smaller sites would.
- Some residents in the old Sacramento High School boundary are being served by charter but many ex-students (East Sacramento, River Park) are being under served.
- I want the Board to consider co-locating West Campus at Sacramento High School, open the new high school for the previous neighborhoods served by the old Sacramento High.
- Realize that by not engaging the communities (all) affected, you have not provided enough opportunity for input from a broad representation of families.
- You have an opportunity to create a fantastic high school experience if you provide a strong sports program and comprehensive extra-curricular activities.
- Your outreach efforts were not effective. You gave 3-days notice and did not include River Park.
- The Board should look at SCUSD facilities for more campuses. West campus and the New Sacramento High School.
- Why is only a “small” high school being planned? Why should our children be farmed out to neighborhood schools for sports and other activities? It defeats any kind of school pride, let alone the fight against obesity. Has the enrollment numbers changed since the Decree was established and should it be looked at again when deciding on a “small” high school?

- After listening to all sides, it seems the best solution to the placement of the new high school is to keep the Sacramento Charter High School, but to relocate them to a facility so that Sacramento High School site will not be underutilized. If Sacramento Charter High School moved to the West Campus facility, they would not need to share a campus, and would have access to sports and other recreational activities. The program at West Campus could then be housed at Sacramento High School site and share the space with the area high school students. This solution would give more students the opportunity to participate in the West Campus curriculum, and would truly make the Consent Decree High School a more viable, attractive option for area families. I realize the board is up against many opposing views while making this decision; however, giving Sacramento High School site back to its community seems the best use of resources.