

**COMMUNITY MEETING 12/9/09
HIGHLANDS/FOOTHILL ATTENDANCE AREA
HIGHLANDS HIGH SCHOOL**

LARCHMONT - CON

COMMENTS:

I don't think that Larchmont should shut down. I don't want it to shut down because the teachers are kind and there are many people out there trying to find a school to go to and there won't be enough. Larchmont is a good school and all of the others aren't are good as Larchmont. I don't know why you guys want to shut down. I also don't know why you want to shut down Highlands High School either. Sincerely, a student from Larchmont, 4th grade, F.

I don't want Larchmont to close. I don't want it to close because I've learned so much with the teachers and they understand us kids, we just ask for help and they review the steps with us. For example: I was never able to do long division, but then they stepped in my life and I understood it. Sincerely, a 4th grader named C.

DISAGREE!! Please do not close our school!! We have been there for several years now! I have 6 children and my children love their school and love their teachers. Please think of our children and reconsider this recommendation! Please!!

(Respond in Spanish) - I disagree with closing the Larchmont School. . Larchmont have: Good teachers, good programs, high scores (students), good installations, good attitudes (students), good rules. A G

The Larchmont School have: Translator, Bilingual interpreters help the parents all the time in the language.

Disagree! Compared to surrounding elementary schools Larchmont is not on any major streets. To walk to school you don't have to cross any major intersection, pass busy bus stops, etc. It is a safer school simply transporting children. If you need to close a school, close F.C. Joyce. It is smaller, more rundown, a more dangerous location. Choose wisely and keep Larchmont. TN (Larchmont)

Measure P, voted for - worked for, now paying taxes but school closing.

Other schools are 2-5 year Program Improvement. Stated Larchmont closing because 1st year.

Disagree, 90% of all students walk to school. Our Star testing is high at Larchmont than Village. J S.

Disagree. I pay my property tax and lived 1 block from Larchmont. I don't want Larchmont to be closed.

Against closing Larchmont. The school district needs to take responsibility for families moving out of the district. I'm a teacher and my family moved to San Juan Unified so our child did not have to go to Don Julio or Highlands. Really - the elementary level is not the problem.

Disagree. Special day class programs on campus need the consistency and stability that is part of the family atmosphere at Larchmont. These students are cared for by the entire staff and will not benefit from a change in school sites.

Against closing Larchmont. We have a community at Larchmont like no other school in nearby area. The neighbors voted for bond measure to update the schools - their expectation was that this would include Larchmont. They also voted for unification thinking things would be better for their school!!

Against closing Larchmont. Larchmont is a family oriented school. I will move my child out of the Twin Rivers District. Close a high school, that's where the problem is.

Information about the closure is not being put out to our Spanish families sufficiently.

CON - You don't close an elementary school that's at over 80% capacity for a high school or jr. high that's at 59%. I will not put my child at a school that is on a busy street. My children have all gone to Larchmont and have built relationships with their teachers and friends.

Disagree - I personally attended Larchmont K-6 as did my siblings. So when my children came of age to attend school, Larchmont was our choice for their school. We then proceeded to buy a house in the Larchmont boundaries. So the whole reason I live where I live is so that my children can attend Larchmont. Closing this school would be a personal blow to my family and I! TN - Larchmont.

Disagree to close Larchmont School - More kids in the classroom less chance to learn. I think it is not a good idea to close Larchmont because number 1, we have the best escort, we have the best teachers, we have very good relationships with teachers. They always have a good relationship with our kids. Our teachers really we can talk to them. We have a very close relation with our teachers, like a second family. Our kids are learning very good discipline. We don't need a beautiful school, we just need good teachers like we have, and more security for our kids. Since my kids are in this school they always got the number 1 places.

Disagree - We are new to Larchmont, 1st year. I live between Joyce and Larchmont and chose Larchmont because my daughter walks and I did not want her to walk on a busy street. T R.

Disagree - Larchmont has the second highest Spanish speaking population.

We need to keep Larchmont open or else the whole community will suffer. I personally bought my home so that my children would go to Larchmont. If my children would go to another school that would mean that I could no longer walk them and I don't own a car so how would I get them to school? My suggestion would be to close F.C. Joyce. It is along a nasty part of street and next to a strip mall full of questionable business and people. Plus the campus of Joyce would serve the community better being next to the Community Center. AW-

I feel that Larchmont School really cares about the kids. I have been to F.C. Joyce School and the kids there are out of control! I don't want my son thinking it's ok to act out like those kids do! The staff at Larchmont is so good to the kids. My son has high grades. He is doing so good. My daughter is four years old. Next year in August I would love for her to go to Larchmont School. We live down the street from the school. I don't want to have to worry about one of my kids crossing Don Julio or walking down Watt Avenue and getting hit by a car. Larchmont School has a great staff and great kids and a great location. JH-

My daughter walks to school everyday and she does not need to use the bus. If she's relocated she's going to need to use the bus. We do not want her to ride the bus when she's walking to school everyday. Please don't close Larchmont, she's an honor student, please. I have 3 more daughters and they would attend Larchmont. Don't close Larchmont, all the teachers are very good teachers. GG -

Larchmont has the security of a neighborhood to keep the school and the young students safe. F.C. Joyce is on a busy road with too many cars to let the kids walk to

school. Being only 3 blocks from Larchmont, why not close that school and make it into something else to ensure the safety of our future? Possibly make Larchmont a K-5 school and utilize the land space of the school with another building. They are an environmentally cautious school and want nothing but the best for their children. Thanks.

Don't close Larchmont. Ask the parents what they think can make D.J. and Highlands better so they will stay in the neighborhood. WH.

Larchmont can stay open if 5 (five) Asst Supt are cut. (The district is too top heavy). Facilities at FC Joyce are not as nice as Larchmont.

Do not close my daughter's school (Larchmont). My brother attended the school and he is in college. He was a great student. Now my daughter is attending in Kindergarten and she is being an honor student. My house is close to the school also and I would like to know why my daughter's future is now changing. I would like my daughter to attend Stanford University one day. I disagree - do not close my daughter's school. AP-

I attended Larchmont when I was little. Now I am in college. My nieces are attending Larchmont. I disagree with closing Larchmont. BP -

Elizabeth Peterson - My son BP attended Larchmont. Now he is attending American River College and he is a great student. I would like my granddaughter to graduate and also attend schools with great teachers like the teachers at Larchmont. I have 4 granddaughters that are attending school. Please don't close Larchmont.

I don't think Larchmont should be closed down because all the kids that have stayed here since Kindergarten and up, and then when they move they'll be alone at a different school that they haven't been to. JL, 4th grade. Do not close.

Consider transportation expenses/impact. Not safe for kids to be bused. Larchmont is 100% walkers. FC Joyce is already busing children...bus them to LARCHMONT = INCREASE OUR ATTENDANCE THERE. Larchmont location - safe. F.C. Joyce location - not safe, off of busy Watt Ave.

Homeowner; I pay my taxes. House values if Larchmont closed? Kohler Elementary very small school, no property. Close FC Joyce. Charter School opens there. It makes more sense.

No I don't agree with closing Larchmont. Why close this school and keep F.C. Joyce open which is on a busy street. Larchmont is away from traffic. EA

My nieces are attending the school, they just walk down 2 blocks, and my niece is an honor student. I would like to see her graduate one day from Stanford University. Please don't rule out our children's education. Don't close Larchmont. DE

My daughter now attends Sacramento State University. She graduated from Larchmont. Now my granddaughter is attending Larchmont. I would like her to be able to graduate from Larchmont and continue to concentrate. It is a very good school with very good teachers. ME

My daughter is attending Larchmont. I very much disagree with closing my daughter's school. She is an honor student and I have two more daughters who are going to attend Larchmont. I walk everyday to school with my daughter and she is very happy with her teachers. Very good teachers. MC

Disagree - Please don't close Larchmont. I just moved here Jan. 2009. My boy walks to school. He has a wonderful teacher, there is a great FREE after school program that has helped him so much! Changing schools once again is not in the best interest of the child. KB

Disagree!! They have perfect teachers, it is a good school for my daughters because they challenge them to succeed. I want my daughters to succeed there! MA

Does pay attention more to kids who may need more help in class. They also have after school programs that are much needed for our kids. Larchmont has better control of students. Teachers and staff are much more controlling of students not students of teachers and staff. NS Larchmont -

My concern regarding closing schools because of low attendance is that people will leave this school district completely. If Larchmont closes we are TRULY considering sending our daughter to a private school. She is at the top of her class right now...in a public school. I hate to think of paying \$600 + dollars a month to get the same or LESS education. LM

My name is MI, I have 2 daughters in special education. This is the only school my daughters are learning. We try 3 different schools before. This school has excellent teachers, excellent principal and exceptional program with the special children.

Please don't close Larchmont. Please, we need this school for our community. If you have questions call me, any time.

I disagree with closing my daughter's school. She's doing very good in her studies and she has good grades thanks to all the great teachers. I would like her to graduate one day and also to be able to attend Stanford if she continues doing good at school with very good teachers at Larchmont. LL parent at Larchmont

My opinion is that you have made this decision a long time ago. Our PTA has been saving money for a new school sign. We are dedicated to our school. A majority of our parents are without cars. You should have been smart enough to schedule a meeting at our school so all could attend. And provide a translator. LL parent at Larchmont

Larchmont Elementary - Because I like the school and it is cool and fun. Because I like to walk to school too. STL, 2nd grade. Do not close.

Agree - Turn into academic charter with focus on Russian and Hispanic cultures.

Disagree; don't close Larchmont Elementary; don't shut down Larchmont and Highlands School! (7)

DISAGREE - Our family has 20 some year's history here! DT

We don not want our school Larchmont to close. CA, DA, SA, JA DA

(Translated from Spanish) My name is BR - I am strongly against the closing of Larchmont Elementary School because many families would be seriously affected. I think the state should find other ways to make budget cuts, but not at the expense of education.

(Translated from Spanish) FL - You cannot close this school because we are paying taxes. We do not agree in closing the school. We agree this is... (incomplete)

(Translated from Spanish) It's not fair to close down this school because schools in wealthy neighborhoods aren't being closed and for us less fortunate this is not fair. We do not want this for our children.

(Translated from Spanish) It's not fair that they make us come to this meeting and don't give a definite answer as to whether the school is closing or not. Think about

the families that have to travel a longer distance to take their children to school. Please don't close the school. Hopefully a favorable decision is made always with the families' and children's best interest in mind.

(Translated from Spanish) We are not in agreement with the idea of closing Larchmont school. My daughter has attended this school for 3 years, where we have excellent teachers, it's close to home and I don't have transportation for the time being. My son starts kindergarten and is very sad because he likes this school and his teacher. Teachers can't have more than 20 students per classroom because teachers need a lot of help. I know you think that when teachers have a lot of children in the classroom, children don't learn much. We oppose closing the school, we say no class.

QUESTIONS:

1. Why weren't schools considered closing with lower enrollment; Aero Haven, Rio Linda?

2. Why not close F.C. Joyce instead? Disagree with closure. My child is on honor roll for two years because the teacher challenges our studies. With this school it is sponsored also by the local church. We help buy uniforms and toys for the children at Larchmont. JS

3. Why not consider just realigning Larchmont and keeping the teachers and children there? Disagree with closing.

4. Who gets the extra money when the school closes? How does it directly affect you committee guys? From experience shutting down good schools doesn't benefit children. Disagree Closing.

5. Disagree. Isn't it true that when neighborhood schools fill up in a grade the student gets overflowed to other schools farther away? Isn't it true that some of these students are as young as 5 or 6 years old and catch a bus at 6:35 a.m. to ride a bus for nearly 2 hours? Yes this is true by the way.

6. Do you need to close and realign? Or is it just one or the other. If you need both what makes Larchmont the good choice? All I've hears is voices who disagree with the decision. Disagree with closing.

7 New apartments being built?

8. I am against the closure of Larchmont Elementary. The topic I would like addressed is the low enrollment at Larchmont. Are there other options for relocating students and using classrooms at Larchmont that aren't being used right now? I also wonder why one of the schools in one of the less safe areas of our school district weren't looked at for closure? There are schools in higher crime areas. Couldn't those students be relocated to Larchmont to fill up the classrooms that aren't being used as classrooms?

9. Disagree - Why are we not focusing on test scores of our school compared to other schools? KT

10. Have you taken into consideration the aftermath? What if you were wrong about Larchmont, and if that's the case how do you plan on fixing it? Disagree with closing.

11. Against- Why are we paying outside consultants to tell the district people how to run it? We pay you to know how! I would like a call with answers. EB

12. Did anyone tell our kids that their school will shut down? I thought that the Governor said schools are important to him. You use the money to build new apartments. Who will help special education kids? Will other elementary school teachers help my disability child? Not like Larchmont teacher. Where is my tax money going? Do you care about Larchmont School? I disagree to close Larchmont School. Mr. & Mrs. T

13. Disagree - When our Larchmont area grows and all schools full, will our neighborhood students get bussed to another school they can make room for?

14. Why close the elementary school when the upper grade is where you are losing students?

15. Are you guys getting money from other school districts if their students transfer to Twin Rivers District? Because if my district pays you guys an amount of money for my kids to attend Larchmont, so are you guys gonna pay for the transportation? My kids are never late to school everyday and I support Larchmont to stay open. I have a son that enrolled in Eastside Charter two years ago and now he is in Mira Loma. He told me charter school is not good because they are not teaching the kids to get ready to move to high school. FF

16. If you are moving GCC to Larchmont, then how are you really saving money by implying that the funds to run Larchmont would be saved? Doesn't it cost money to run GCC at Larchmont?

17. If they close down Larchmont what's going to happen to all the teachers? Are they going to be offered a job anywhere else?

18. I've watched children from other elementary schools in the area and they didn't get the attention my niece gets at Larchmont. What are my taxes for? Why are we just now finding out about the pending closure? I disagree 100% on closing Larchmont. It is a family school. My brother went there in the 70's; we moved to that area for the school. I enrolled my niece in Larchmont, Hillsdale was closer. Larchmont is a better school, more family oriented. The teachers care. I can talk to my niece's teacher. PB

19. Disagree - What about bussing for students?

20. What will happen to Larchmont site if it closes? Will it sit there empty waiting for vandalism? Will the other elementary schools be able to handle the low income services available at Larchmont, i.e., after school care? LA

21. Disagree. What is CCAA doing that these other elementary schools should be doing? How did you choose the parents for your committees? Disagree.

22. Disagree - I want to know why Larchmont Elementary is closing down? And why other schools are being dressed up while our school is suffering from teacher layoff? KT

23. Disagree - My son has special needs and when you move to different school it can affect him for long time. What school will he go to?

24. I really disagree with closing Larchmont School. I take pride in my kids having perfect attendance. What about bussing? What about our taxes?!

25. Disagree to close Larchmont. I think our school has enough students enrolled. How are the students expected to go to another school if they have no transportation? And if they don't then they have to use school transportation, won't that just cost us more money? Did you ever think of how traumatizing it will be for the students who have to transfer? AL

26. So what happens to the special ed classes at Larchmont? Will all 3 classes stay together? Will we be located in portables?

27. By our area becoming its own school district (Twin Rivers) did this hurt our schools? How many children does the district expect to have per classroom? (20, 30, ?) How do you determine "capacity" of a school? Areas with high capacity...Rio Linda I believe it was...cannot those students spill over to Larchmont to raise their capacity for 87% to 100%? LM

28. What happens to the money from Measure P for Larchmont? SJ

29. What about kids that don't go to school? Why not hold the parents accountable? Don't punish the others.

30. I am against the closure of Larchmont Elementary. The topic I would like addressed is the low enrollment at Larchmont. Are there other options for relocating students and using classrooms at Larchmont that aren't being used right now? I also wonder why one of the schools in one of the less safe areas of our school district weren't looked at for closure? There are schools in higher crime areas. Couldn't those students be relocated to Larchmont to fill up the classrooms that aren't being used as classrooms?

31. Priority = Children. Keep classrooms at a minimum. Do not overflow. My children are being affected by the closing of Larchmont. My children came home asking "why is my school closing? Why does it have to be Larchmont, what did we do Mom for this to happen to us and our classmates. We love our teachers and after school program leaders. Make them stop Mom." Larchmont is a great school, has wonderful teachers who teach and care for our students. The masters program is very helpful to students and working parents as myself. Why Larchmont? Where will my 1st and 2nd graders be placed? Will they have the opportunity to go to the same school? Will they have the same bond with there teachers as they do now? How about the parents and teachers' bond? My kids started out at Larchmont from Kindergarten. They are comfortable with teachers, staff and the principal. Can you replace the relationship our children have with Larchmont? What can we do to keep Larchmont alive? This is our school, in our community. We live here just because of Larchmont. Other than that we would have been moved. What are you going to do with our children? We live for Larchmont. Keep us alive. Keep Larchmont alive. We do not, our children do not deserve what you people are trying to do. Keep Larchmont alive in Jesus name. God bless you all. Our children deserve the best. Mrs. J - LARCHMONT!

32. Disagree - How were the SFAC committee members selected? Is each region/school represented in that committee? If Larchmont were to close, how would it affect the busing system? How much would these changes cost? (All students except Special Ed walk or provide their own transportation). Larchmont has a 79% enrollment. Are there other schools with lower enrollment rates that could be consolidated into Larchmont? If high schools have a much lower enrollment rate than elementary schools, it is more financially feasible to close an elementary school, junior high or high school? What exactly is 1st year program improvement? (It was listed as a major decision factor for closing Larchmont). Are closures or relocations based at all upon academic performance or test scores? Is Larchmont academically competitive with the other schools in its district? What improvements/renovations must be made for a school to be considered "recently modernized"? (Larchmont appears to have standard facilities and state-of-the-art technology). If a school is closed, where does the money go that would have been used to educate the students and maintain the facilities? Do we as concerned citizens have access to the judgment criteria that the SFAC committee's figures are based upon? What specific actions can be carried out or facts/figures brought to light that would remove Larchmont from the list of recommended closures/relocations? It was stated that the SFAC looked first at elementary/junior high program options due to their less complex 2010/11 action timeline when compared to high schools. How are the action timelines different or more/less complex? Will the final decisions for these schools be made by the SFAC committee or by voters? Would a petition have weight on the decision making process? Don't hesitate to contact me RL, concerned citizen.

33. Is there a, if so what is, the target class size for the ultimate new set of elementary schools? What options exist for Larchmont to remain open? Are teachers from Larchmont to be distributed to new schools, at a proportionate level, to set of schools where Larchmont students will be realigned? This would ensure that current Larchmont students would know, and have support of, their current teachers. Has economic growth at McClellan Park been considered? Demand for housing at Larchmont location probably will be high in the future. It's a desirable location and teachers have been there a long time and are very dedicated. The enrollment capacity % for elementary (high) vs. jr. high (low) and high school (low). Makes no sense to single out one elementary for closure. The youngest should be supported at the highest level since capacity is higher. How is performance going to benefit from increasing elementary capacity %?

34. parent at Larchmont - Our parents did not receive an invitation to discuss this selection process. What were your procedures? I hope with our parents support you will realize the error in your decision. We are a centrally located school in a safe

area - off of safe streets. Our students walk. Bussing would be costly. Why make them walk busy streets? Bring bussed students to our school. What would happen to the school site? It is not feasible for commercial. A vacant site would only invite vandalism. Keep our neighborhood safe. A school site off Watt would be a much better site to close and use to enhance commercial business along Watt. Or better yet how about cutting a few administrative staff at the top of the district? Pay for your own Blackberry's. Reduce some of the unnecessary expenditures. Focus again on the children. Our children are our future. We bought our home because of the proximity to Larchmont. Spend money to fix our school! We have potential. Our school has worked so hard to improve morale and safety. Don't cut us down when we are on the way up. LL

LARCHMONT - MISSED TOPICS

QUESTIONS

1. How were parents selected for SFAC?
2. If Larchmont parents earned some specified amount, could they stay opened? KM
3. Why can't the district turn a school like Larchmont into an "Academy" school, since you are turning students away from "Academy" schools? Why not start the academies at the lower grade levels and then the attendance will not lower when they reach middle and high school. Sounds like a simple solution. Grandmother of Alexandria Meyer in First Grade at Larchmont. Alexandria has received accolades for her high achievements in Kindergarten and First Grade. Don not make this child sad, she loves Larchmont. KM

COMMENTS

Most students are walkers. (All except Special Ed.)

Homeowners.

Joyce to be Arts Center.

Our school population is at least 50% Hispanic. Information should have been put out and heavily "advertised" that translators would be here. This was totally overlooked - it's outrageous! Their voice should be heard. They should have been made to feel like they would be heard.

Larchmont - I disagree strongly with Larchmont closure proposal. Makes no sense given its performance (good), central location, great teachers. Jr. Highs/Sr. Highs should be consolidated before singling out one well-performing elementary school.

**HAAD 7/8
MISSED OR MISUNDERSTOOD TOPICS**

QUESTIONS:

What is projected enrollment at 7-8 CCAA? Where would students who get F's at CCAA be sent to? (7-8 graders)

Size of Don Julio? Size of 2 story building? Will 7/8 be mixed with HS classes? Will they share lunches and assemblies?

HAAD is an academy in name only. Why not provide the HAAD academy with actual Academy classes and other offerings that the Charters have? HAAD should offer what its name implies in order to compete with Charters.

Is it true that CCAA students will have access to HAAD sports and facilities?

Misunderstood - We're told we want to offer more enhanced programs to bring kids back to our schools which equates needing more experienced teachers and staff, BUT the district wants to lay off in both areas. How can you justify lay offs when we are trying to get more kids?

How would this change improve the physical education program at Highlands (main)?

What is going to happen to my teachers if HAAD is shut down? They have jobs now, but what/how guarantees that they will not lose their job? They are important for every student's education! SL

Why would they try to get rid of HAAD? Will the teachers still have their jobs?

What about moving CCAA to Larchmont Elementary? Even if they filled the waiting list they wouldn't be at capacity at Larchmont.

Will my library be made to serve 7-12? I hope they give me the books from Don Julio. KM

It was posted on CCAA sheet that they had concerns about putting 7-12 grade students together. If this is such a big concern, then why was it proposed to for HAAD main to house 7-12 grade students on one campus, not two?

If 7-12 on main campus: Will 7-12 have PE dress requirements during the same time in the locker rooms? 12-18 years old.

Special Ed? There are currently 2 special ed classes at HAAD West for students with moderate to severe disabilities and at least one more for kids with moderate disabilities. These classes cannot be mixed with regular classes. Are there enough rooms in the S-wing of HAAD Main to accommodate these classes? The maximum number of students with severe disabilities is much small than that of a regular ed class. KC

COMMENTS:

If this charter takes over and ultimately shuts HHS down, Twin Rivers will lose more kids to Antelope and Center than will relocate to FHS and RLHS. Ultimately losing more funds, which is what this change is all about.

Speech and Debate cannot cross campuses/schools to compete.

It is confusing for us as parents to grasp the fact that you have a plan or recommendation for our K-8 but nothing for our 9-12. If you do you do not trust us as parents to inform us. LA

Athletics - CCAA kids cannot play sports for HHS. This is because if one student played for HHS, we would have to tack on their entire enrollment. That increased enrollment would affect our CBEDS and ultimately our league that we play in and our playoff contention. We just now have been able to compete since leaving the CVC.

We must have one more meeting that shows a revised plan that has taken our concerns into consideration before it goes to the board for approval. We deserve that courtesy. Don't hold a public forum if you aren't going to listen and take our concerns into consideration and review.

Where is the research that 7-12 is appropriate - socially, emotionally, or pedagogically? We should have elementary, middle schools and high schools to address the unique socio-developmental needs of these students. As a parent, I do not want my child at a 7-12 school. I also do not want him bussed across the district.

We need to focus on smaller learning communities and creating age appropriate environments. K-5, 6-8, 9-12, let Highlands focus on what it does - being a high school.

Special ed students in 7-8 will have to use charter school or HS cafeteria and PE facilities. This is a hardship and possible ADA violation. Ramp too steep at S building for health impaired students.

I want to be a part of whatever committee I need to be to help change or improve my children's education. LA

HAAD 7/8 - PRO

I like the junior high being with us because they need our discipline. I worked at a 7-12 school and it worked fine. We divided the school into houses and older kids to care of younger ones. KM

Expanding CCAA will give your kids more opportunity/more choices! We only want what's best for the whole community.

HAAD - CON

COMMENTS:

Eventually there will not be any 7th & 8th grade students and then no students for Highlands HS. Parents of 7th graders are not going to want their children going to school with 12th graders almost adults. You're going to push students & parents away from our schools. They (*students*) are not going to be bussed to Rio Linda or Foothill. They are going to leave our district and go to Antelope or Center. Foothill has the same type of student population and teachers, but they have nicer facilities. Make HHS and Don Julio better and they will come. Rio Linda, Grant and Foothill got money to be remodeled. Highlands did too, but it was taken away before the remodel was done. Fix up Highlands and make it look less like a prison and more like a school and enrollment will increase. Stop shoving us to the side and give us support. These kids deserve it.

Bringing other schools here just causes more problems. It will just make things worse for everyone. And if because of problems & violence makes the school close then it will bring down the history that was made in this school by us, our parents that came here before us, down to dust.

The former DJ was doomed by decreasing test scores. It was saved by HAAD but ultimately doomed by an Academy of Arts & Design that was a joke! No band, no shop classes, limited arts & drama classes . . . Now you are trying to patch it up by closure of 7/8 HAAD. Answer, make DJ a 6-8 (as Rio Tierra is going). Bring HHS back & it will grow.

Separating the students into charter & 7/8 to S Wing will cause parents & students who cannot fight for themselves to be herded off and no longer feel part of a community. It is as if the "separate and conquer" philosophy is the goal and agenda. Black students need someone to fight for them.

A Charter does nothing to help the high school. It just complicates everything for us. We don't benefit, our test scores don't go up. We won't receive anything for it. It will just eventually lead to our school being shut down.

HAAD will lose students as the entering junior high student's choices are expanded. HAAD has made enormous academic gains that are being ignored by the district.

Once the program (*Charter*) goes to 10, 11, 12 our community no longer has a high school for traditional students.

If you made 7/8th grade to HAAD, we kill the feeder school to Highlands. Those Charter kids will go elsewhere so we fix Highlands we fix everything.

Show us Highlands matters. Fix heater. Clean it thoroughly kids will have pride in their school. If run down - low moral affects behavior. Want to *be* here.

12th grade student - The Committee needs to go back to the drawing board and figure out a different way to fix their problems. When it boils down to it you all are simply trying to save money and space, not thinking of the students. You all are looking at Highlands like we don't deserve to exist. Foothill is not better then us because of perceptions. Take a look at Highlands and Foothill toe to toe they are no better than us. Highlands is bigger than Foothill in land mass/sq. footage. It would be more beneficial to look at Foothill for closure. Highlands can be just as enticing as CCAA. We need to build up Highlands. We have just as much potential as Foothill who you all are looking at as higher than us. Look at Foothill for closing.

I'm against it.

We are in a time where jobs are needed and by making Highlands smaller and adding CCAA on this campus we will only lose jobs.

Our current enrollment @ HAAD (9-12) is around 880. It has continued to decrease because of the lack of arts & design kids in the community. We need to develop vocational classes, athletics and the academics. This is what is going to kids to stop leaving the former & future DJ/HHS

If you bring people from other schools to come to ours after you turn the West Campus into a Charter then it seems you are catering to people from other districts.

Having 11, 12 & 13 year old students with 16, 17, 18 and some 19 year old students is not appropriate.

7 - 12 is not acceptable on the same campus, mixing 7th graders & 12th is not safe. Stop the elementary administration from speaking down Highlands. They should be promoting our school.

Regarding number of children who qualify for Charter in our area . . . This places two Charters in 1 small area, thus over populating the area. Servicing outside community children. Safety of younger crowd with the intermingling of the older kids 11 - 12 yr olds to 17 - 18 yr olds. Loss of community pride. CCAA is only looking as a good choice because the campus that they are in is small (popularity). Children know HAAD as they are going through elementary and junior high (knowledge). Children safety would be a risk if moved from local area (safety).

Regarding putting two rival schools together. . . There will be guns and fights between the two schools. They fought in the past and they will do it again.

Ask any public and Charter School graduate and they will tell you that the curriculum is very similar. The benefits of a Charter School are not more effective. Unlike what you may have heard, Highlands is not what it seems in terms of class and reputation. Highlands is not a bad school. In response to the proposed recommendations, we are not in favor of moving the CCAA program because it will not benefit Highlands. We have instituted academies of both science and art. As future alumni, we want something to return to. Having to move our 7 - 8 graders to the "S" wing will only cage in the students every day. CCAA does not have enough students and is a waste of space and money.

Regarding putting 2 different grades in a 2 story building . . . That's like putting them back in elementary all over again because they will be in the same classroom all day. And then they would not want to be there, not go to school, and will be late.

7 - 8 to 9 - 12th grade schools back to back and the district want them both to succeed.

Larchmont should be used as a new destination for CCAA. And DJ should be returned to a junior high and Highlands a high school. The numbers are no different than other local middle/jr. high and high school as well as our district.

I am against the idea. Being a senior, I looked forward to coming back to my high school and seeing how it is and reminiscing on some of the best most memorable days of my life, but with the recent decisions that have been talked about, it may not be possible.

7 - 12 grade school was never a popular idea.

The proposed plan will result in a warehousing of the Jr. High students who will then leave the district worsening the problem.

I am against the closing of HAAD West Campus to open a Charter school, which was not addressed. The "S" wing, I feel is (will be) being used as a holding for the 7th & 8th graders.

Students from Highlands and Foothill already don't get along.

I am strongly against the Charter school on West Campus/DJ. 7th & 8th should not be on the same campus as 9 - 12. There are too many issues that will arise in scheduling and with students sports is another issue we cannot have kids going to a Charter school playing sports for Highlands. It will affect our league status. The 2 story building is not a big enough place to pen in 7th/8th graders. There will be no appeal for a student in those grades to attend Highlands. WE need more funding for improved facilities and programs to appeal to and retain students that we have and need. We lost our funding for some reason that was originally granted to us for our track and snack bar. We continually lose funding and therefore students.

There will be limited facilities for students in the S-wing. 14 classrooms, 1 bathroom, no lunch areas unless they eat with the 9 -12 students. Crowded classrooms and high student per teacher ratios will cause less students to go to the new HAAD 7/8. Fewer students will go the 7/8 and less to 9 - 12.

You that you guys are the board members you should pay attention when people speak their words because paper isn't doing any good. We hope you don't throw these comments away because you need to hear what where saying. FREEDOM OF SPEECH.
(note: typed as written)

I am against the relocation of HAAD because we have space for more students here and my siblings will not have transportation to any other high school within the district.

No - I believe it does not provide our current and future 7 - 8 gr. students equal access to facilities. They have to share gyms, etc. w/ high school students. They will be stuck in a 2 story meeting.

If we join Highlands & Foothill the class rooms will be over crowded.

By having CCAA on this campus it will create a bad reputation for Highlands because they will have all the students who weren't accepted into the Charter. This will only lower the enrollment of Highlands because there will be no incentive to go to this school if all the rejected students from the Charter are attending there.

I think we should leave things as they are. We need to stay separate from the Charter schools, Please listen to us . . . Please.

If two rural schools come together it is going to spark major conflicts and more than likely some kids will die. The threat of fights and gang violence will rise.

No, Charter schools do not serve the students of our community - they pull kids from other districts. CCAA is not a school that our kids will attend! So in favor of serving kids not of this community we will total/y ignore the needs of the kids of this community.

I like mother of family I'm not happy with this decision because the programs that HAAD has are good so don't close Highlands. And if they move the students to other schools they *will have* a high limit in class.

Highlands and Foothill may be in the same city but we are two completely different groups of people. We do not get along or work well together. Highlands has 10 open class rooms. If we hire more teachers it will open up the crowding of the class rooms.

I'm against HAAD moving due to me being a single parent it is too difficult to transport my child *due* to working. *Due* to the difficulties the two schools getting along I really think it's a bad idea. The maturity levels of the students are different and the grades should not be mixed.

HAAD 7/8 con - Twin Rivers should implement programs to keep our students. Not bring in other programs.

I teach computers. If I'm on the West Campus there is no classroom in the "S" Wing to accommodate a computer lab.

There is not enough room in the S building for the 7th and 8th grade students to be housed. 7th and 8th graders should not be on the same campus with the high school.

I'm in *disagreement* that you guys want to close Highlands and *send* students to a school of low level in education like Foothill.

I'm a student of HAAD and I don't want the school closed before I graduate and I want my sister to come to Highlands and I came to DJ and I was devastated when they closed it down and I don't want Highlands to be closed too.

7th & 8th moving to HAAD Main will not be good because 7th & 8th should NOT be commingled with HS students. Middle school kids need to be separated. Not enough room for all kids in S Wing! Overcrowding FHS and JHS and Rio Linda HS and JHS by moving all HAAD - Mixing kids that have always been adversaries will cause more problems - more security problems.

If Highlands is closed and Highlands students move to Foothill there will be more violence because Highlands and Foothill have always been rivals and because of violence we can't even play sports against each other.

7th and 8th grade students have no business being in a wing that is so close to the 12th grade students. Also, young children need room to move around. They should not be confined to a wing!!

If Highlands and Foothill get put together it will be chaos. A few years back we shot at each other at a basketball game.

I am in disagreement with what you are doing. You have to think about the youth. How and why would you complicate their lives - they are just fine the way they are. If you do move them to the two story buildings there gonna be crowded up.

I do not want my 8th grader daughter with 17 - 18 yr olds.

Separating the students to go to CCAA and the balance to HAAD Jr. High in the S Wing - this creates a race issue - the have vs. have nots. You are squeezing our community, its parents and students out. You want them to scatter so there is no feeder program for Highlands and then its classes.

By putting CCAA on this campus and keeping HAAD as a 7 - 12, then HAAD will only receive the 7th and 8th graders who are considered "rejects" or students who weren't good enough to attend the Charter school. This will only make Highlands' reputation look bad. We should not be a 7 - 12 school at all. There is already a Charter in this area and West Campus should go back to a separate middle school. Highlands needs to be 9 - 12 only and we need to stay at the same campus. A CCAA should not be relocated here, because it will only LOWER enrollment in Highlands.

QUESTIONS:

1. How are 2 grades going to fit in 13 classrooms? How are all those students going to use the bathroom when there is only 2 stalls for each sex? If you only have 13 classrooms how are you going to offer electives? How are you going to attract students to a 2-story building? Once there is no 7th & 8th and no Highlands H.S., then where will all the students in the community go? Why don't we work on the schools already in place and improve them and attract students that way? Why don't you finish the remodel of HHS and remodel Don Julio and you will attract students and parents? What are you teaching them (*by not giving support*)? Are you telling them that they aren't with it (*by shoving them aside*)?
2. With the Charter programs coming together either at Highland West Campus or Foothill for 7, 8, 9, how long could a traditional high school survive the demands for space for the growing Charter programs into 10, 11, 12 grades?
3. Why would you want to put little 7th & 8th grade students with the older children in high school *and* putting them under bad influences?
4. Why would you put two rival schools together?
5. How are we supposed to put *our* trust in you when you have turned your heads the other way and blamed it on Highlands but turn around and pin it on someone else?
6. We have better test scores throughout the years and unlike what you many think, the kids and staff at Highlands want to learn and teach, so why would we want to "relocate" the CCAA to our school? Why not focus on making Highlands more appealing?
7. Why would you want to put 2 different grades in a 2 story building?
8. What is the district plan to have both schools succeed? HAAD & CAA?
9. Why is it now a good idea to house 7 - 12 students on one campus?
10. What happens when no more 7th & 8th graders are coming, will Highlands be targeted as closure then?

11. *Regarding Highlands and Foothill students not getting along . . . Why cause problems for the schools? If you removed the students from Highlands they go to Foothill is there really enough room for all students that currently go to Highlands? The jobs from Highlands - who keeps there job and who don't? I'm a Sr. and if Highlands is moved and doesn't exist where am I going to go in the next ten years?*
12. Families have been to Highlands for generations and now what? nothing
13. How do we ensure that the children of our community are being served?
14. What about facilities for our 7th and 8th grade student? Science equipment? PE? Lunch?
15. In what way by changing us into a Charter school do you think you will get more people enrolling?
16. First off why would you turn Don Julio into a Charter school when there is already a Charter across the street? If you bring the 7th and 8th graders up here where they shouldn't be in the first place you'll just end up cutting our classes to make room for people that shouldn't be here?
17. Why mix up the different ages and surround the students with wrong influences?
18. Why is this even happening? Why don't you just leave stuff alone?
19. What will happen to all the kids that live in this area that go to HAAD & will attend HAAD? What school will they go to?
20. What will happen to all *of* our teachers? Highlands enrollment will decrease and will it then close down? What happens then to all our teachers and their jobs?
21. What will happen to all our teachers? Are they going to be guaranteed a job if you move 7th and 8th graders up here and turn the Charter down at West Campus?
22. Shouldn't you solve the problem in the community before you cater to people outside our community?
23. How many children in our area qualify to go to a Charter (CCAA or GCC) esp. if there is an area of need for the child?

24. Special Ed classes, where will they go?
25. How will they get to school? The Transportation?
26. Next meeting why not allow people, teachers to have a voice - each take turn on a platform to voice their concerns?
27. Will there be any transportation for the students who attend HAAD?
28. Is it possible to house CCAA and a traditional 7 - 8 program at HAAD West or create a 6 - 8 grade on West Campus?
29. Is it going to expand the price in transporting the students if moved?
30. So how exactly is changing this to a Charter school helping us?
31. Why can't we have programs like Charter schools?
32. Will there be funds to wire and set up a computer lab in the "S" Wing?
33. What about transportation? If kids walk to school and there are already no busses, how do we get to school?
34. What is the difference between segregation and Charter schools?

KEEMA & GCC - PRO

Keema needs to be relocated due to parking issues - Campos Verdes is a good option.

Yes, agree.

Current Keema = No handicapped access - only steep and narrow steps.

KEEMA & GCC - CON

- A. Concerned - Small area for student drop off at Pacific.
- B. ? Amount of in and out traffic at Pacific.
- C. ? Possible clash of student culture, Pacific vs. Keema.

CCAA & WESTSIDE PREP - PRO

COMMENTS:

My biggest concern is SAFETY. One of the most important factors I looked at when I decide to take my kids to CCAA is that they would be together K-8.

Want both Westside and CCAA on same campus! Both programs benefit with exposure of academia and arts. Would like the option of all of CCAA moving. 7th & 8th graders grow with being involved with younger students.

Pro - Westside and CCAA together on one campus would benefit both programs.

Pro to expanding CCAA. The program at CCAA is strong, and giving it room to grow makes a lot of sense. I think that if the CCAA program is going to truly expand to a new campus, it is going to need to keep the 7th and 8th grade faculty, so that there are veterans in the system.

CCAA brought us back to the district (from home schooling). CCAA 7-12 will keep us in the district.

Get rid of combo classes in the K-6th grades. 20 to 1 in each class. Room for children on the wait list. Programs could be better for each school.

I like the idea of a CCAA High School.

Pro - For CCAA after 8th grade many of the students leave the district. This could be a way to keep students in the district.

Want to include 10th grade the first year for CCAA!

I would like to see CCAA and Westside campus combined on one campus.

Expansion of the CCAA program fills a void. There is a perspective that the High School options are sub-par in the area. This creates a school that uses a plan that has worked. Without this, we were looking at schools outside the district for high school.

QUESTIONS:

Pro - Westside and CCAA, Curriculum/programs combine? K-12 will keep our program in one location.

Can the whole CCAA campus be moved to a location and make it one campus K-12??
CCAA has a strong staff!

**CCAA & WESTSIDE PREP
TOPICS MISSED OR MISUNDERSTOOD**

COMMENTS:

We need a public forum with CCAA and HAAD parents. Both sides have valid concerns and let's work together! BP

Would be interested in Westside Prep starting with 9 and 10 for 2010 year. JB

The idea of moving the entire CCAA program to the larger campus and expanding to have a High School program and a pre-school program has a lot of merit. As is, CCAA is forced by its facilities to be under 500 students. It's around 350. The new campus can hold 1,000.

Keep our school together! It has been a huge part of our program to have the young children learn from the older kids and see the older kids become leaders and mentors. Keep K-8 together leave HS and HS! Start our HS at 9th!

Performing Arts Program. Would like to see a staff made of high quality teachers with lots of Art teaching experience in each of the disciplines.

Look at Natomas Charter for ideas on CCAA H.S.

No more combos.

Have prom, home coming and other H.S. events for the high school students at CCAA.

Maybe consider leaving 7th and 8th at CCAA and open up a charter high school.

We (CCAA students) need to work with Highlands on sports, etc.! My tap-dancer plays baseball. I need to know if this is happening now!

North Highlands needs this for their families. CCAA makes families and our community better!

As a parent of a potential 9th grader...the 9th grader for the most part will be from CCAA. They already know the 6th and 7th graders. You could keep 7th - 8th on a

separate wing from 9th. New students would have to buy into program. Personal opinion 7-8-9 not a problem to intermix. They already do!

I would prefer CCAA to have K-12 all at DJ and North Highlands campus so we don't have our K-8 program disrupted.

I want sports for the team work and exercise. Retains more boys and makes my daughter have to play fewer male parts.

Keeping same Charter fulfillments with parent involvement a must at the H.S. level. Keeping a cap on the number of students.

Other Topics - Please open for 10th grade. We are past CCAA parents, our son is in 9th this year. CCAA is Tops!! A++++ RP DP

Other Topics - Interested in opening past 9th grade for the 2010 year. I have a child who would be in 10th grade for 2010 year. JB.

Academic Counselor High Academics. CCAA High School keeps high academics. Maybe an IB (International Baccalaureate) program. Like to see an Academic Counselor assigned to the High School to work with kids and parents on getting into colleges and UC. Someone that could walk a class of students to a library to sign up for practice SAT's in Sophomore year, etc.

CCAA - Move the whole CCAA campus to HAAD West and grow to 12th. Have a K-12 CCAA under one charter.

To expand the current CCAA, move county kids to Larchmont. This keeps Larchmont open = happy families. This expands enrollment for K-8 CCAA = happy families and happy District.

QUESTIONS:

What is the point of having different charters if they are all going to be housed at the same location? LA

Would CCAA be able to use HAAD's performing arts center and stage for certain performances and presentations?

Will the middle school campus be upgraded? Will the campus meet the needs (technology wise) of middle and high school students? When will the current CCAA get "technology" upgrades (smart boards, etc.)? (2)

Crossing over for sports with HAAD. What availability will students have for sports?

What is the purpose of having the separate Charter Schools? Is this a means to "segregate" students? Shouldn't we provide these services to ALL students? By creating and maintaining charter schools we cultivate a culture of "have" and "have nots". - Parents who have transportation to drive their kids; - Parents who have time to donate; - Parents who have the means to run through the system to enroll their kids. Provide these services at the main schools for all students!

How will moving 7-8 affect K-6 funding? Cap on enrollment 7-12, 6 grades x 3 classes = 600 students. Safety concerns.

Where is my 6th grader going next year? What do our middle-schoolers think?

Topics Missed - If campus is K-12, how many principals will there be? How will the hiring committee be decided?

With the limited success of HAAD operating on 2 campuses relatively close, how would a 2 campus split of CCAA work any better?

Why not move all of CCAA together and keep our learning environment in tact?

For accelerated learners - will you be creating a high school that will offer AP courses and an International Baccalaureate Program?

Safety for small children. How will you keep the primary children away from the high school students? How do you keep Highlands students off the campus? David needs to stay at CCAA. They need to hire a new music teacher for the high school.

Are there qualified teachers in district to teach at an Arts H.S.?

CCAA & WESTSIDE PREP - CON

COMMENTS

Con - Keeping all my kids at the same campus.

I don't want to move my child again after programs grow and become established. **Keep CCAA together!!!** Do not separate 7 & 8 from elementary. Either move them all, preferred K-8 HAAD West, 9-12 Highlands, or K-8 Holmes, 9-12 Highlands.

Con to these proposals. This is all happening very quickly. I would be more confident about expanding the CCAA program if I knew who the Principal was going to be.

Concern: Sharing teachers (drama, music, dance) between two schools would create 2 mediocre programs. In order for both schools to be true Art Charters, they need their own teachers. Mr. Evans needs to stay at K-6 CCAA! Do not like the idea of K-6 with high school students.

7th and 8th grade DO NOT belong in a program with 9-10. It is developmentally inappropriate for BOTH groups.

Do not want to have a K-12 campus, high school should be separate.

As a parent, the program I want is a K-8 model. If you're wanting to address those people on the waiting list, they probably also want that K-8 program not a K-6 model.

Keep music teachers, etc. at K-6 and hire one for H.S./Jr. H.S.

Concern about student safety at HAAD West. K-12 con is putting young students with older ones.

QUESTIONS

If Westside were to share HAAD West, could their 9th grade simply become CCAA 9th grade rather than a separate school?

Huge concern: The safety of the CCAA and Westside students next to the Highlands campus. I am very concerned about this, especially after this meeting. Is there another site?

I don't like jr. high leaving the current CCAA campus. Con - if this is a concern why is it proposed to have 7-12 at one campus on HAAD Main?

How are they going to keep the non-charter kids off of the campus during school hours? Will the K-6 CCAA have their own music, dance, and drama teachers? Will the current 7,8 grade teachers at CCAA move to the new campus?