

**School Site Council Meeting**

Minutes

School: Hillcrest K-8 School

Date 1-15-09

Members present: Eileen Massey, John Garrett, Ken Newberger, Joseph Shogren, Darvy Brown-Martin, Mark Donahue, Beverly Rothenberg, Larry Vollintine

Quorum established (6 members):  Yes  No

*Minutes must address each agenda item. Summarize discussions and note approval.*

see attached supplemental Minutes

(Please add additional pages as needed)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 AM

Next Meeting Date: February 12, 2009; postponed to February 26, 2009

Minutes Submitted By: Larry Vollintine

## SSC MINUTES – SUPPLEMENT

The following are supplemental Minutes of the January 15, 2009 meeting of the School Site Council of Hillcrest Elementary School.

4a. Approval of Minutes. Draft Minutes from the December 11, 2008 meeting were reviewed and three typo changes were suggested. On motion by Eileen and second by Mark, the revised Minutes were unanimously approved.

4b. Preliminary K Enrollment Application Results. Beverly reported that as of close of business on January 14, 2009, she had received some 46 direct applications for K enrollment at Hillcrest for the '09-'10 school year along with 6 applications for Hillcrest which had been dropped off by parents at the District office. The window for K enrollment applications under the OUSD Options Program closes at the end of business today. Beverly has not yet had an opportunity to confirm the residency of applicants or look for duplicate applications. So far, there are approximately 24 sibling applications.

4c. Preliminary Update on Possible Budget Ramifications From State Budget Crisis. Beverly discussed several negative impacts that the current State budget crisis could have on Hillcrest funding. Since no State budget has yet been adopted, the preliminary numbers that she received from the District are purposely conservative. Nevertheless, things do not look good for any possibilities of expanding or adding programs, or even maintaining existing levels of services such as custodial care and psychological/learning diagnosis support for students. Impacts could include a loss of nearly \$400 per student in general purpose ADA funds along with reductions in numerous other budget categories. Beverly should have more accurate budget numbers at next months' meeting. This led to a discussion of possible political action that parents could take along the lines suggested in a recent e-mail from OUSD Board member Jody London. Action through the PTA or other groups was discussed. This is an urgent issue.

4d. Update from the Long Range Planning Committee. Mark presented a summary of recent meetings and activities of the LRPC's sub-committee charged with looking further into expansion of capacity possibilities at the Hillcrest campus. This effort was being undertaken pursuant to a request by OUSD Supt. Roberta Mayor to examine the possibility of expanding capacity at the Hillcrest site. On Monday, January 12, members of the sub-committee met again with Tim White and Tadashi Nakadegawa of the OUSD Facilities Department to further refine what expansion alternatives might make sense or would have any possibility of acceptance by OUSD. Tim said that the facilities budget plan would be the subject of an internal District meeting to be held that Monday immediately after the meeting with him, and thereafter, Tim would have a better sense of what funding and projects might get approved for this next year. Mark then presented several expansion alternatives which had been reviewed with Tim and Tadashi including purchasing the vacant house across the street, renting excess space from Holy Names HS, placing a portable on the existing small playground, placing a portable on the front lawn on Marguerite, tearing down the existing separate kindergarten room and adjacent "old library" portable and replacing them with a new structure having 3-4 new regular sized classrooms, in-filling the existing patio areas between the wings of the old school building. The placement of a portable somewhere on the campus in the short run should only be considered if

OUSD intended it to be the initial installment of adding permanent capacity to Hillcrest. Adding a new portable to add a 3<sup>rd</sup> K classroom would create the need to add up to 4 additional permanent classrooms in order to house the additional students as they progressed through grade levels. This would increase the total number of students on the Hillcrest campus far above the target population of 310, a number that the current population already exceeds. A new portable would reduce the already small and significantly over-crowded playground, and there is no other portion of the Hillcrest site that is flat enough to support a portable without additional foundation and underground utility work. Adding that many more students would exacerbate the already difficult traffic situation for the neighborhood and further over-utilize the limited multi-purpose areas used for plays, art and music classes. Replacing the existing large K room and “old library” portable might make sense but it would not be a project which could be designed, approved and built by next Fall. Even if approved, construction would require temporary housing for students who would otherwise utilize those spaces. OUSD will not spend funds to investigate compliance with the Field Act (the state law governing engineering and safety issues with school buildings) of any non-OUSD owned property, including the vacant house or Holy Names.

Tim informed the sub-committee that the OUSD Board’s subcommittee on facilities this next year will be comprised of Board members Gallo, Spearman and London. The only expansion project for Hillcrest discussed to date that might make some sense in reducing some of the over crowding would be to construct a building on an engineered stilt foundation over a portion of the Nature Area, with an entrance at the elevation of the playground. Whether such a new building would be used as classrooms, or whether some of the existing non-classroom functions (library, computer room, staff breakout rooms, multi-purpose room, etc.) could be shifted out there thus freeing up the existing space for additional classrooms, hasn’t been decided. But such a conversion has the appeal of potentially allowing the new space to be used also for community-related activities along the lines of existing OUSD policy. A project like this could potentially free up space in the existing buildings for perhaps 3-4 classrooms. No engineering or even preliminary drawings of such a project have yet been prepared, and Tim will not take this concept back to the OUSD facilities sub-committee unless the LRPC and Hillcrest community indicate some substantial amount of support for it. At this time, there is no assurance that any capital funds are available for any such project.

Beverly mentioned that Maria Gibson, aide to Councilwoman Jane Brunner, will be visiting Hillcrest in the near future to review the campus facilities layout and expansion opportunities. Mike Allison and Charles Pelton will join Beverly on that tour.

Darcy briefly updated the SSC on the final actions of the OUSD Board on December 17, 2008, where the OUSD Board approved the following: (i) expanding capacity at Montclair (somehow though not on a “fast track” basis); (ii) encouragement of redirection of excess K enrollment applications at Hillcrest to Kaiser through the Options enrollment process; and (iii) designating Claremont MS as a “school of choice.” The Board’s actions did not include any boundary change for the Hillcrest catchment area.

4e. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 8:26 AM. The next SSC meeting is scheduled for February 26, 2009 at 7:30 AM. Note that this is changed from the previously specified date of February 12, 2009.