

SSC MINUTES – SUPPLEMENT

The following are supplemental Minutes of the December 11, 2008 meeting of the School Site Council of Hillcrest Elementary School.

4a. Approval of Minutes. Draft Minutes from the November 13, 2008 meeting were reviewed and two typo changes were suggested. On motion by Darcy and second by Ken, the revised Minutes were unanimously approved.

4b. Hillcrest PTA Website. Darcy noted that the PTA website tab for enrollment had been updated, but that it should be further revised to include a link to OUSD's enrollment page. Darcy will arrange for that further change to occur.

4c. Update from the Long Range Planning Committee. Darcy updated the SSC on some of the latest meetings and developments relating to overcrowding at Hillcrest and other hills schools. At the last SAAB meeting on November 21, the sub-committee approved sending a proposal to the OUSD Board apparently comprised of the following: (i) expansion of capacity at Montclair; (ii) 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 proposal did not include any proposed boundary change for the Hillcrest catchment area. These proposals were originally scheduled to be heard by the OUSD Board on December 10th, but the Board decided to postpone the matter to their December 17, 2008 meeting. Darcy said that members of the LRPC will attend that meeting and encouraged all interested Hillcrest parents to also attend. Darcy noted that the 2009-10 OUSD Options enrollment process window had commenced yesterday on December 10. School assignments are to be sent out on March 1, 2009.

In response to Supt. Roberta Mayor's request that the possibility of expanding capacity at the Hillcrest site be examined, members of the LRPC and Beverly met on December 8 with Tim White and Tadashi Nakadegawa of the OUSD Facilities Department to walk the site and discuss possibilities while retaining the K-8 school model. Several alternatives were discussed in general, though the likelihood of any expansion occurring in the short term is slim. Among other constraints, the current playground is significantly overcrowded and placing portables in the yard would further reduce available open yard area and adding additional students would exacerbate already bad traffic congestion in the neighborhood. Further meetings will occur, but the group noted that no capital funds for any expansion at Hillcrest are currently included in the Measure B bond list of OUSD school improvements, nor in the latest OUSD capital facilities plan.

A question was raised about the continuing activities and roles for the LRPC. As a subcommittee of the SSC, the LRPC serves as a resource for principal Rothenberg, it provides a communication link between OUSD and Hillcrest parents on agenda and policy items, it communicates with neighboring schools and their PTA's and parents on issues that affect all the nearby schools, it can rerun its attendance attrition model each year, and can address future enrollment/capacity issues as they arise. Each year in the spring the membership of the LRPC will change through elections run by each grade caucus.

4d. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 AM. The next SSC meeting is scheduled for January 15, 2009 at 7:30 AM.