

BERRYESSA UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL CONSOLIDATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

June 13, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Committee Members Present

Angela Torres	Parent, Summerdale Elem.
Ashok Annamalai	Parent, Laneview Elem.
Betty Chen	Parent, Cherrywood Elem.
Chris Mosley	Principal, Piedmont Middle
Christy Boyd	Admin. Assist., Ed. Services
Connor Wilson	Teamsters
Dao (Denise) Pham	Parent, Northwood Elem.
Giang Ngo	Parent, Ruskin Elem.
Ginger Jenzen	CTAB
Heather Moreali	CTAB
Liz Escobar-Ausman	Parent, Vinci Park Elem.
Marie Skepple	Parent, Summerdale Elem.
Martin Michaels	Retiree, Landowner, CBOC Mem.
Michelle Corpuz	Parent, Majestic Way Elementary
Parul Manglik	CSEA
Preetham Nayak	Parent, Brooktree Elem.
Shanna Brewer	Parent, Piedmont Middle

Thomas Carroll	Staff-Coordinator Ed. Services
Will Arroyo	Parent, Toyon Elementary
Yanet Segura-Herrera	Parent, Morrill Middle

Committee Members Absent

Jannet Odom	Principal, Majestic Way Elem.
Kate Waters	CSEA

Staff and Guest

Brianna García	School Services of California
Danny Norris	Director of MOT
Josh Quitariano	Dir. of Fiscal Services
Kelly Rem	Attorney, Lozano Smith
Kevin Franklin	Assist. Supt., Bus. Serv.
Linette Hodson	School Services of California
Margot Sandoval	Admin. Assist., Bus. Serv.
Ricardo Cabrera	Assist. Supt., Human Resources
Roxane Fuentes	Superintendent
Tony Kanastab	District Representative

- A. Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. Brianna García greeted the committee.
- B. Roll Call:** As roll call was taken, committee members shared what their first impressions are when arriving at a given school site. It was determined a quorum was met. Brianna handed over the meeting to Thomas (Tom) Carroll, Committee Chairperson.
- C. Meeting Minutes Review:** The committee reviewed the minutes.
- D. Questions on Demographics and Capacity Presentation:** Brianna reminded the committee that the excel scoring sheets were shared with them, per their request after the last meeting. She asked if they had any questions related to that or the demography presentation. Linette Hodson shared that sometimes one might think of questions after the meeting and that she would add them to the “Parking Lot” to be answered at a future meeting.

One of the members recalled that the District needs to save \$1.2M from the budget and asked if there was a dollar amount attached to each school. The answer was no, but further information would be provided at a future meeting.

- E. Presentation of Facilities:** Before the presentation started, Kevin Franklin stated that the report supporting the presentation was shared with the committee electronically. Due to it being over 250 pages, the report will not be printed out for each member. One member asked if a copy of each school could be provided to each member that represents that school, so that only one copy needed to be printed. She would like to have a copy of the school she is representing. Brianna explained that while the committee is made up of parents, community members, and staff, all members are here to represent all schools and the best interest of the District—not a specific school site.

Tony Kanastab began by noting the year that each school was built, the acreage of each school, and the square footage for each school. The presentation includes an aerial map of each school campus and key elements of the site (e.g., classrooms, portables, play areas, etc). The blue dots indicate primary classrooms, the green dots indicate TK classrooms meeting current requirements, and the blue rectangles indicate potential portables and their location. Tony also mentioned that many of the schools are located next to a public park and have a fence to separate it from the school for safety reasons. Brooktree Elementary is one of the schools next to a public park, and some of the people who were at the park would walk onto the school site to use the restrooms during school hours. This is a safety concern for students. He added that the city waters a portion of the school field to keep it looking green with the rest of the park. Tony added that the District still mows the grass that is within the school boundary. One member asked for more clarification on land border. Tony showed the committee where the boundary line is for each school map as it was reviewed.

Tony explained how some classrooms (as in Cherrywood Elementary) were odd shapes and not all the square footage is usable. This has also been a challenge for modernization. Cherrywood Elementary's office was located on the 2nd floor and was moved to the 1st floor. The library was also moved to a separate classroom. Cherrywood Elementary is currently the second largest school with over 500 students. Every classroom is used except for one portable.

A member asked if the capacity number would be updated to include the portables that could potentially be added. Kevin mentioned without new portables, the school could not accept many more students. Brianna added that she will add a new row to the excel sheet to show the updated capacity with the potential portables.

One of the members asked if more portables can be placed on some of the schools than were indicated. It was mentioned that a new portable cost about \$165K. This amount does not include the cost of installation. Tony explained that the additional portables shown on each school site plan was the most that could be added under the current power capacity of the site. More portables can be added, but there would be added cost to increase the electrical capacity of the school site.

Another member asked if consideration was given to evacuating a school in case of an emergency due to more students being placed at the schools. Tony explained that each school already has a safety plan that includes those procedures. Kevin mentioned that the District used to have over 9K students, so the schools have capacity for more students, including emergency procedures. Each plan is updated annually for each school.

Tony continued with the presentation, identifying the differences between each school. Laneview Elementary's play structure just got replaced. One of the members noted that it was listed that Laneview Elementary has 16,000 sq ft for the play structure. Danny (Dan) Norris explained that the play structure at

Laneview Elementary is about the same as at Toyon Elementary, about 7,600, and that the 16,000 was typo. Tony reviewed the information and agreed with Dan.

Tony continued and explained that Brooktree, Majestic Way, and Summerdale Elementary schools were considered sister schools because they have the same building design/floorplan. There are a few differences due to modernization. The schools have what are known as pods. There are three classrooms and a shared space in each pod. There is a double door at the entry way of each pod that leads to the shared space, and from the shared space there are open doorways to each classroom but no interior doors.

Some of the schools still have boilers and a few schools have shared units. The fire and security alarms are being updated at each school. Tony stated that some of the school offices are being changed so that the public can't just walk onto the campus and gave examples of some of the changes that have already been made at some of the schools.

Morrill Middle has some classrooms that are too small to be used as a classroom. Tom Carroll, former Morrill Middle Principal, stated that some of the small classrooms are utilized as a wellness center and a speech and language room, as examples.

A committee member commented about the fields and the gopher holes. Tony explained that it was difficult to get rid of the gopher holes and, as an example, he brought up that Piedmont Middle and Summerdale Elementary fields are adjacent to Berryessa Community Center. He explained that there is a huge gopher colony at the Berryessa Community Center field, and part of the problem is that there are people that feed the gophers on a daily basis. This makes it difficult to get rid of the gophers.

Tony continued speaking about future plans to include a solar canopy for parking at Cherrywood Elementary and Piedmont Middle. Solar will also be added to the roof of the new Piedmont Middle gym. At this time, he introduced the Master Plan Project Costs and stated that it includes a 5% escalation on cost. He explained that modernization plans take up to 10 years to complete. A member asked that if a school or schools were closed, would the district be able to stop work at that/those schools to save money. It was explained that the buildings still belong to the District and repairs still need to be made. However, there might be some modernization work that could be cancelled.

- F. Site Analysis – Scoring and Pros and Cons:** Brianna began by explaining the criteria that will be scored. Criterion #5 looks at the condition of the school and the weighted score ranks the schools by proposed project costs with the most expensive ranking the highest. Sierramont Middle is listed as the most expensive middle school per the Master Plan Project Costs sheet, therefore, Sierramont Middle received a score of 3. Cherrywood Elementary was the elementary school with the most expensive costs and received a score of 10.

Criterion #6 looks at whether the school has had projects recently completed/encumbered and ranks the schools by completed/encumbered projects with the least expensive modernization, construction, or other projects ranking the highest. Vinci Park Elementary is listed at the least expensive on the Completed/Encumbered Bond Projects sheet, so Vinci Park Elementary received the highest score of 10. Sierramont Middle is the least expensive middle school and therefore received a score of 3.

Criterion #7 looks at the facilities with the least amount of money having been invested in them. It looks at the historical investment based on prior bond measures, with the school with the largest historical investment

ranking the highest. Cherrywood Elementary received the highest score of 10 for the elementary schools and Sierramont Middle received the highest score of 3 for the middle schools.

Criterion #8 looks at unique facilities, that could not be readily replicated, not found at another school. It was mentioned that none of the schools have a unique facility that is not found at another school. All schools received the same score.

A member asked if the Berryessa Youth Center (BYC) might be of historical significance. Staff noted it is not. It was explained that the BYC is owned by the District, but the City of San Jose pays for ½ the cost of maintaining the facilities since there is a shared use agreement between the District and the City. If Morrill Middle was closed, the BYC would still remain open and used by the City. Another member asked if tennis courts are used by the schools. The tennis courts at Sierramont Middle are used during PE but Morrill Middle does not use theirs for PE. There are no tennis courts at Piedmont Middle. A poll was taken by Linette as to whether the courts or the BYC should be considered a unique facility. Most members gave a thumbs-up to leaving the scoring as provided and not considering these as facilities unique.

A member asked if a project can be stopped. There are some that may be stopped but a lot are projects that need to be completed even if the site is no longer used as a school site. It was explained that the buildings are District owned and repairs still need to be completed. Work is planned out over eight (8) years. There is a priority list, but if there is an emergency repair needed, then it would be moved up in priority.

Kevin added that if a building was to be leased, some investments and improvements may be needed to lease a site.

Criterion #9 was in regard to support spaces being sufficient to meet capacity and it was determined that Vinci Park, Ruskin, and Cherrywood Elementary schools need support space improvements.

Criterion #10 pertains to environmental factors impacting school sites. It was determined that there are no environmental factors impacting any of the school sites and all received the same score.

Brianna will send a PDF copy of the criteria to be shared with members.

G. Visitor/Public Comments: There were no comments from the public.

H. Next Steps: The next meeting will be on June 27th. Education and Support Services will be covered.

I. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:02 pm.