



To: Cesar Chavez Elementary School Parents, Teachers, and Staff

From: Cesar Chavez Elementary School Site Council

Laura Anderson  
Agustin Antunez  
Juan Caceres  
Veronica Dunn  
Kate Legrand  
Petrina Jonas  
Beth Lesen  
Petrea Marchand  
Osvaldo Rubio  
Bill Wood

Re: Proposed Chavez Multi-purpose Room (MPR) Public Outreach Process

Date: January 16, 2020

---

The School District has initiated a reinvigorated public outreach process to discuss options related to the proposed construction of the Cesar Chavez Elementary School Multipurpose Room (MPR). This process included an invite-only meeting to discuss MPR options on 1/7/20, two options for an open public meeting regarding MPR options on 1/27 (330 pm and 530 pm in the Cesar Chavez Elementary School MPR), a 1/28 Facilities Subcommittee meeting, and an opportunity for further discussion at the 2/6 School Board meeting. As Site Council Chair, Petrea Marchand was invited to attend the 1/7/20 meeting regarding the location of the MPR. Ms. Marchand asked the Site Council at the January 15, 2020 meeting to approve a public outreach process to guide the School District's efforts to help parents, teachers, and staff find common ground on the proposed MPR.

The Site Council unanimously voted to circulate this memo to staff and parents to seek feedback, as well as consider approval of a public outreach strategy based on this memo at the February Site Council meeting. The Site Council also supported asking the School District to postpone a decision on the final site location until the Site Council has an opportunity to vote on the public outreach proposal. The Site Council requests feedback on the following approach:

- Ask the District to commit to completing construction of the MPR by August 2022 (before school opens), regardless of location
- Ask the District to wait to choose a final MPR location until after the City of Davis completes its public outreach process and conceptual design for Anderson Road improvements between January and June 2020 (the City is potentially applying for a CalTrans Active Transportation Program grant for this project in June)
- Ask the District to commit to further evaluation of the south option, the north option, the north blacktop option, and placing the MPR on City property that currently contains the tennis courts, including initiating discussions with CDC to further inform the north placement option and researching mitigation options for the potential loss of school garden ground and part of the kindergarten playground
- Ask the School Board to vote on the final location, rather than leaving the decision to District staff
- Ask the School District to assist with public outreach related to addressing safety issues brought up by teachers and staff in the MPR discussion through a more robust discussion related to implementation of the Cesar Chavez Safety Plan, up for approval at the January 15, 2020 Site Council meeting.

School District staff indicated at the 1/7/20 meeting that they recommend the south option. Staff and teachers present also expressed support for this option. Parents expressed concern about the south option because of loss of continuity with Redwood Park and safety concerns. Staff and teachers cited the following reasons for supporting the south option: 1) improved safety; 2) reduced cost; 3) concern that if the project doesn't move forward, it will not get built; 4) easy access for trucks on the south side. They also cited concern about losing part of the kindergarten playground and the garden if the north option is chosen. Parents, teachers, and staff all asked many questions and expressed the need for more work to evaluate proposals and answer questions posed by the community. The proposal above is intended to provide additional time for School District staff to more fully evaluate all options and work with teachers, staff, and parents to determine an MPR location that will work best for the current and future Cesar Chavez Elementary School community.