

Ad Hoc Facilities Committee Formed March 2016

Over the course of this year, SCCS has been working on a Long Range Facilities Master Plan. Since January, we have held eleven community meetings to get input on our plan. We have identified some district wide facilities issues to address and include in our planning. To begin to attend to these issues, a small Ad Hoc Committee has been formed to generate ideas and seek input from the greater community.

We will post documents from the Ad Hoc Committee Meetings and hold a broad community meeting for input on April 26th at 6:00PM at Branciforte Middle School.

The committee is working to address the following problem statements:

- The Natural Bridges campus is vacant and we need to develop a use plan that benefits students and the district, keeping the following in mind: we are declining in enrollment; the building cannot be renovated; we have a responsibility to support PCS with facilities.
- Although we are in declining enrollment as a school district, our current comprehensive elementary sites are at and over capacity. We need to address the impact of crowded schools until enrollment better matches capacity.
- Soquel High School is our only school projected to grow over the next decade. Currently, the District Central Office is occupying classroom space that SHS will need as the student body grows. We need to address the issue of space required by SHS and ensure an accessible location for the central office.
- We need to recruit and retain the best possible teachers to serve our students. The national teacher shortage and local housing market make this a great challenge. Should Santa Cruz City Schools identify a potential district-owned location for faculty housing to support the recruitment and retention of staff for SCCS?