

**SANTA CRUZ CITY SCHOOLS FACILITIES SURVEY
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
MAY 20, 2016**

The Facilities Survey was sent to all SCCS employees on May 2, 2016. The survey was also sent in both English and Spanish to our SCCS families through Infinite Campus on May 2, 2016, and was posted on the district website on May 3, 2016.

The survey closed on May 16, 2016. Responses were collected, analyzed, and key findings identified.

Respondent categories:

- 54% parents
- 14% teachers
- 6% support staff
- 2% administrators
- 12% community member
- 12% identified as more than one of the above

Key Findings

District Office

- 77% support moving the District Office
- 72% don't have a strong opinion on where the district office is located (combined "somewhat important" & "not important" responses)

Faculty Recruiting & Retention

- 65% would support a faculty housing project that does not impact the budget
- There was tremendous support for increasing teachers' salaries – far more support than for any other suggestion
- There was significant support for exploring ways to minimize housing costs – if it does not impact funds for students
 - Suggestions included partnerships with the Housing Authority and property management companies, collaboration with building developers, etc.
- Allow teachers to bring more than 5 years of teaching experience with them; offer more job-sharing opportunities; cover moving expenses

Elementary Enrollment

- Alleviate large enrollments at elementary sites – stagger starting times, stagger school days
- There was support for adding playground coaches and yard duty personnel at comprehensive elementary sites, as well as adding field and play space by removing portables and remodeling current classroom buildings.
 - Additional playground coaches and yard duty personnel were added in 2015-16

Swift Street Properties

- There was support for moving classes such as TK, K and Dos Alas to the Swift Street Site and freeing up room at elementary schools.
- A significant number of respondents thought that incorporating a community garden and park into this property would be a prudent use of the site.
 - Bonus suggestion: community garden vegetables could be used by SCCS Food Services
- Create a community center with a state of the art kitchen and internet that could be used for district fundraisers, after school programs and dances; Boys & Girls club activities; Parks & Rec classes; fulfill PCS obligation; etc.
- There was some support for having district wide preschool and TK programs on the Swift Street properties. (This idea was discussed and rejected by the previous Facilities Committee regarding the Natural Bridges site)

Natural Bridges

- The most frequent message throughout responses was not to sell the Natural Bridges site.
 - This idea has never been considered
- Many respondents advocated for opening another elementary school in the district
- Many respondents advocated for safeguarding the Natural Bridges school property so that SCCS could open an elementary school in the future if enrollment warrants, but supported the renovation of the gymnasium, fields, and any buildings that could be successfully utilized for district wide schools programs (Theater Arts; CTE; conferences, etc.), community use, or leased to non-profits for community use
- There was clear support for a continued partnership with Santa Cruz City Parks & Recreation on the Natural Bridges campus. Many respondents advocated a joint renovation/construction of an athletic facility/fields that could be shared by the district and the city – including a track, gym, fields, clubhouse and restrooms.