Planning for Student Growth in Santa Clara Unified

If we’ve learned anything about population growth and population shifts in the past quarter-century, it’s two things: uncertainty accompanies our best predictions, and well-intentioned leaders make the best decisions with the information they have at the time decisions have to be made.

It would be absolutely reckless not to plan for future facility needs in the district when we can clearly see that our student population will grow in both the near and distant future. Based upon data from the cities of Santa Clara, Sunnyvale and San Jose, we can expect an increase of 33,000 living units within our school district in the next thirty years. If this is true, or even nearly true, we will have to add classroom space at the elementary, middle and high school levels. Reopening closed sites, adding to existing sites, building new schools, looking at reconfiguring the grade levels at schools and reboundarying are all possibilities.

Hot-pockets for anticipated growth are:

- **North of Bayshore** (Callejon, Hughes, Montague, Mayne)
- **Pomeroy and the Surrounding Area** (Pomeroy, Laurelwood, Sutter)
- **Ponderosa and the Surrounding Area** (Ponderosa, Braly, Bracher, Briarwood)

While we are only limited by our imaginations in developing options to deal with growth, some solutions have emerged. During the next few months, we shall be asking community members to help evaluate the pros, cons, costs, possible funding sources and timelines for implementing these and other possibilities. I have been asked to make recommendations to the Board by the end of this November.

**North of Bayshore**

Option A: Add portables at Callejon to accommodate growth

Option B: Reboundary specific parcels to Montague and Hughes

Option C: Change the configuration of Callejon from K-8 to K-5

Options D: Add classrooms and a public library to Callejon

**Pomeroy and Surrounding Area**

Option A: Reopen Mariposa; move the Millikin Basics program to Mariposa; designate Millikin as a neighborhood school, and reboundary Pomeroy, Sutter, Laurelwood.

Option B: Reopen Mariposa and reboundary Pomeroy, Sutter, Laurelwood.
Ponderosa and the Surrounding Area

Consider reboundarying attendance areas and possibly reopen Monticello School.

Other district-wide possible solutions that have surfaced include reconfiguring our schools to K-6, 7-9, 10-12, or creating kindergarten-only campuses, thus allowing classroom space for first through fifth grades at existing sites.

Community forums have been scheduled to present information and solicit comment for:

- Monday, August 23rd at the Wilcox High School Theatre from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM
- Wednesday, August 25th at the Santa Clara High School Theatre from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM
- Monday, August 30th in the Callejon School Multipurpose Room from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM.

Steve Stavis
Superintendent