From: joaquinmiller@yahoogroups.com
To: joaquinmiller@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [joaquinmiller] Digest Number 2279
Date: Saturday, February 08, 2014 4:34:43 AM

Joaquin Miller School Group

1 New Message **Digest #2279**

1a **Re: Extended Day Program Survey** **by deirdreantesspencer**

Message

1a Re: Extended Day Program Survey

Fri Feb 7, 2014 10:57 pm (PST) . Posted by: deirdreantesspencer

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Thanks so much for giving us a heads up on the survey coming home.

It did surprise me to see that the survey doesn't address at all the problem of crowding/growth/lack of facilities that was highlighted repeatedly at the last meeting as the major contributing factor into Ms. Smith's numerous concerns.

It was my understanding after Ms. Smith's presentation that this issue was primarily about a growing population taxing A.T.—and consequently the enrichment program—stretching our resources to a tipping point, with the biggest systematic flaws being the lack of a professional coordinator for the quickly expanding enrichment program (this with myriad unfortunate rippling effects), coupled with a lack of physical space on campus for A.T. to expand its capacity to accommodate current and growing demand.

Perhaps our community needs to address this real need for phys-plant expansion with OUSD sooner rather than later (as Chabot and Montclair schools have done successfully).

The "accessibility" option in the ranked section was the sole place this issue of lack of space seemed to be obliquely hinted at. From the survey, one gets the impression that its objective is to evaluate personal feelings about the enrichment and A.T. programs, isolated from the root issue of student population growth and phys-plant issues.

Not that these aren't valid questions to ask, but I don't see how the resulting feedback could possibly be complete.

Of course, the construction of surveys is maddeningly limiting when you're trying to fit everything to one page to maximize response and simplify its processing (and I don't envy anyone trying to distill a complex and extremely divisive community issue into a one-page survey), but I do worry that we're missing the forest through the trees.

That all said, my sincere appreciation for those working on the committee to find proposed solutions that reflect the community's collective needs and heartfelt wishes for their children's care.

best,

Deirdre Spencer,

mom of Nora, 4th

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