



## San Mateo-Foster City School District

RECEIVED  
FEB 26 2009  
CITY MANAGER

February 24, 2009

Jim Hardy, City Manager  
City of Foster City  
610 Foster City Blvd.  
Foster City, CA 94404

Dear Mr. Hardy,

On Thursday, February 19, 2009, the San Mateo-Foster City School District Board of Trustees approved the administration's recommendations to address the projected enrollment growth in Foster City over the next three to four years. Specifically the motions read:

- Short term - Mrs. Sullivan moved, seconded by Mr. Coyne and carried 5-0-0 to approve the administration's recommendation of Option 1: adding additional capacity to the elementary schools in Foster City for the short term.
- Long term - Mr. Coyne moved, seconded by Mrs. Sullivan and carried 5-0-0 to approve the administration's recommendation of Option C, that discussions continue with City of Foster City officials for a fourth elementary school in Foster City as the long term solution to increasing student enrollment with recommendations for potential sites to be presented to the Board of Trustees no later than September, 2009.

The Board also directed district staff to compose a letter to send to the City of Foster City requesting to begin the formal process of identifying a potential site for a fourth elementary school in Foster City. Please consider this letter that formal request.

At the Board meeting a timeline was discussed which needs to be followed in order for the District to have adequate time to plan for this significant population increase. The District will need to receive a response from the City regarding the City's interest and willingness to work with the District in order to identify potential sites within the next two months and no later than April 30, 2009. If the City is open to working with us to identify potential sites to build a fourth school for Foster City residents, we would need approximately three months to analyze the feasibility of each of the potential sites in order to make recommendations to the San Mateo-Foster City Board of Trustees by September, 2009.

Currently public elementary schools in Foster City enroll approximately 2,000 students. Over the past three years, and on an annual basis, the District has continued to add portables to elementary schools in Foster City to accommodate the ongoing growth in Foster City schools.

Enrollment growth is expected to continue in Foster City. In the short-term, the District plans to add another ten portables over the next year to support this enrollment growth. Currently each elementary school in Foster City enrolls between 600 and 800 students.

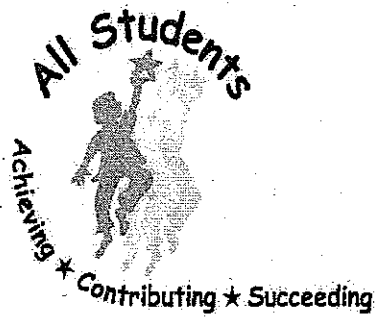
**Board of Trustees:**

Jack E. Coyne, Jr.  
Mark D. Hudak  
Lory Lorimer Lawson  
Cathy Rincon  
Colleen Sullivan

**Superintendent:**

Pendery A. Clark, Ed.D.

1170 Chess Drive  
Foster City, CA 94404  
(650) 312-7700  
FAX (650) 312-7779  
www.smfc.k.12.ca.us



# San Mateo-Foster City School District

The District requires a fourth site in Foster City to:

- Provide K-5 public education for the projected student population growth in Foster City:
  - The elementary schools in Foster City currently enroll approximately 2,000 students
  - The elementary schools in Foster City are projected to grow to approximately 2,500 students, a 25% increase in the next four years.
  - There will be a need for 15 to 17 additional classrooms plus auxiliary space and infrastructure by 2012-2013.
  - The existing elementary schools are already large elementary schools.
- Ensure that Foster City parents are able to enroll their children in the public schools in Foster City.
- Maintain class size reduction in kindergarten, first, second and third grades districtwide.
- Ensure that we provide a safe and secure learning environment for our students.
- Guarantee that we do not compromise the safety and security of our existing Foster City Elementary Schools (drop offs, site management, playground space, traffic congestion, etc.).

It is clear that the existing three elementary schools will not have sufficient capacity to adequately house over 2,500 elementary students in Foster City in 2012-2013 and beyond. A fourth elementary school will ensure that all Foster City families can send their children to high quality, safe and accessible public schools within the City. The option of a fourth school was the highest priority of hundreds of Foster City parents who attended focus groups over the past two months and is the preferred option considered by the administration and the Board of the San Mateo-Foster City School District.

Please advise us as to the process you would like us to follow in regard to next steps to prepare to construct a new school in Foster City to accommodate the projected growth and meet the needs as previously noted.

Thank you, as always, for the City's continuing cooperative and supportive relationship with the elementary school district.

Sincerely,

Pendery A. Clark, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

cc: Foster City City Council Members  
Kristi Chappelle  
Richard Marks  
San Mateo-Foster City School District Board Members

**Board of Trustees:**

Jack E. Coyne, Jr.  
Mark D. Hudak  
Lory Lorimer Lawson  
Cathy Rincon  
Colleen Sullivan

**Superintendent:**

Pendery A. Clark, Ed.D.

1170 Chess Drive  
Foster City, CA 94404  
(650) 312-7700  
FAX (650) 312-7779  
www.smfc.k12.ca.us