

1/24/2022

Dear Board Members,

As the GEFA president, I am writing on behalf of our certificated members. We would like to thank the board for consideration of our compensation TA, as well as our calendar for the next school year. With drastically increased workloads this year and the rise of costs on all goods and services, it is important for our employees in every category to receive a COLA.

Our membership also has several concerns in regards to tentative changes next year. Currently, our contract does not have language that would allow or assist in TK being moved to Fairsite or creating a Dual Emersion program. We understand that the laws and expectations are changing, but any changes in workload or job description must be negotiated. These negotiations should take place prior to board approval. Our membership was very disheartened to find out about TK moving to Fairsite from parents asking them questions about the program and finding out that the information was already available on the website prior to board approval and negotiations. It is a huge slap in the face for the teachers to be the last to know when they are the first to be affected. Both the TK at Fairsite and Dual Emersion program will result in teachers being moved around, displaced, and possibly laid off.

Fairsite's facilities are not up-to-date. They are in the same condition as when we negotiated to close the school in 2008/2009. The district could not afford repairs at the time and we were facing severe cuts and layoffs. The union negotiated restructuring to minimize the impact on our teachers and the district's budget. I used to sub and teach summer school there and I remember how horrible summers and winters were with the failing HVAC systems. I also remember being warned to not bring food in my room due to the cockroaches and rodents. Have these issues been resolved? Last I saw, the play structures were taped off because they were too dangerous for the kids. Parents complain often about how hard it is to get kids to preschool, while having to get their other children to other sites. This seems like a hardship to our parents, while also having safety concerns for the children and staff.

With a Dual Emersion Program, even more teacher movement will occur. Each year that a grade level is added, a teacher will be bumped due to not having the right certification. Do we actually have the support of families to successfully implement a program like this?

Amidst all of the chaos in education, why are we creating so many significant changes when we are supposed to be catching our students up?

Thank you for your time.

Heather Wetzel

GEFA President and 5th Grade Teacher



Kauai Bock <kbock@galt.k12.ca.us>

Public Comment Regarding Agenda Item 212.268

1 message

Ashley Barrett <mrsbarrettashley@gmail.com>

Tue, Jan 25, 2022 at 10:21 AM

To: tsilva@galt.k12.ca.us, gmalson@galt.k12.ca.us, tskinner@galt.k12.ca.us, craboy@galt.k12.ca.us, wcagle@galt.k12.ca.us, superintendent@galt.k12.ca.us, nlorenz@galt.k12.ca.us, cdeltoro@galt.k12.ca.us, dwhitlock@galt.k12.ca.us

To whom it may concern,

PLEASE VOTE AGAINST THIS - 212.268 Board Consideration of Approval To Re-Open Fairsite Elementary Due to Implementation Of Universal Transitional Kindergarten (UTK) And Establishment Of New County District School (CDS) Code.

I am pleading with the Galt Joint Union Elementary School District to keep transitional kindergarten (TK) at home schools; NOT to move it to the Fairsite campus.

I am a mom that will have a second grader and a TK student and I can't stress it enough how inconvenient and out of the way it is to go to different schools when they should be at the same school, as they are now. Especially since they will have similar start times and it will be impossible to be at the same place at the same time. Our home school is River Oaks Elementary, and Fairsite is on the opposite side of town. River Oaks is less than a mile from our home. At times, we have to walk to school and won't have our vehicle available. It will not be an option to get my TK student to the Fairsite location, as it is not a safe walk and it is too far away to walk.

Please ask and communicate with the parents and families this is going to impact. This is going to disrupt our school goals and make it so my child won't be able to attend TK all together if it moves to the Fairsite location. She looks forward to her education to start, and asks every single day. If it moves to Fairsite she won't be starting until she can go to the same school location as my son.

Please do not do this to the families that depend on our elementary school being close to our homes.

Concerned Parent,

Ashley Barrett