

Save Clifford Campaign

Action Items

- Email School Board Members (keep emails short, 3-5 points max—people have short attention spans), can send additional emails with other points. Keep it focused. Personal stories are good but keep short and sweet.
 - President: Trustee Maria Diaz Slocum, mdiazslocum@rcsdk8.net
 - Vice President: Trustee Dennis McBride, dmcbride@rcsdk8.net
 - Trustee Janet Lawson, jlawson@rcsdk8.net
 - Trustee Alisa Greene MacAvoy (current Clifford rep), alisamacavoy@yahoo.com
 - Trustee Hilary Paulson, hpaulson@rcsdk8.net
 - Superintendent John R. Baker, jbaker@rcsdk8.net
- Call School District at: 650-423-2230
- Attend Sessions at MIT and TAFT next week (can speak for 3 minute): do not talk negatively about other schools, keep positive but offer solutions (see below)
 - Monday, October 22, 6-8pm, McKinley Institute of Technology (MIT) auditorium
 - Thursday, October 25, 6-8pm, Taft MUB.
- Attend School Board Meetings (can speak for 3 minutes) : do not talk negatively about other schools, keep positive but offer solutions (see below)
 - **Wednesday, October 24, 2018, 7pm**, District Office, 750 Bradford Street
 - **Generally 2nd and 4th Wednesdays TBD on schedule**
- Post to Social Media, Facebook, Instagram, Nextdoor, etc. Use Hash Tag **#OneSchoolDistrict=AllStudents**
- Recruit more parents to participate
- Translate into Spanish for all community members to advocate.

Possible Suggestions for Budget Alternatives:

- If consolidation of Charters is a goal, do it in a location that will not create a hardship for families that participate in the Charters (larger North Fair Oaks students [need data]). Busing to Clifford would create traffic for neighbors both with students driving to other campus as well as coming across town to Clifford.
- Invite students from John Gill Campus the option of coming to Clifford (makes room for Orion and keeps the John Gill student population together.
- Move North Star to Clifford as a partner school to the traditional Clifford
- Sending Roy Cloud and Clifford middle school students to an Eastside Middle School would create a 40 minute round trip commute for families. If must create a different middle school, consider the Roosevelt campus. Students already have connections with Cloud, Clifford and Roosevelt through sports, etc. If the campus were at Roosevelt, students could utilize Sam Trans as well as visit the local public library next door.

Notes from Meeting

- 3rd Highest test scores in the district (behind Roy Cloud and North Star) [NEED DATA]. CAASPP Comparison below. Last year, Site Council focused on literacy with the

investment in a Literacy Intervention Specialist. This has created a marked improvement over last year's scores. 4th grade students gained 29% passing rate for the ELA component of the test and 13% for the Math component from the year before.

2016-2017		2016-2017		2017-2018		Difference	
	ELA	Math	3rd Grade	ELA	Math		
3rd Grade	44%	57%	4th Grade	60%	69%	29%	13%
4th Grade	50%	47%	5th Grade	56%	43%	6%	-4%
5th Grade	58%	43%	6th Grade	60%	52%	2%	9%
6th Grade	58%	52%	7th Grade	70%	46%	12%	-6%
7th Grade	51%	30%	8th Grade	54%	32%	3%	2%
8th Grade							

- Positive momentum established because of new consistent leadership. Clifford suffered for many years under constantly changing leadership, however the shift to a principal that intends to stay for many years is creating a positive environment for both students and teaching staff.
- Clifford PTO has an excellent track record raising funds for the school through fundraising efforts. Annually raise \$150,000 to support school programs
- Due to location in an unincorporated area of Redwood City, benefit from SAL (Sheriff's Activity League) volunteers for afterschool sport programs. Active engagement by the Sheriff's department as well.
- Special focus on Literacy in the month of October through the Reading & Listening Challenge that encourages all students to focus on the many forms of literacy while at the same time request donations to support their efforts from friends and families.

- The diversity at Clifford Elementary School is an excellent model for success.

2016-17 Student Enrollment by Group	
Group	Percent of Total Enrollment
Black or African American	0.9
American Indian or Alaska Native	0
Asian	3.4
Filipino	0.9
Hispanic or Latino	48
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1.3
White	40.1
Two or More Races	5.2
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	39.3
English Learners	20.4
Students with Disabilities	15.5
Foster Youth	0.5

- **Walkability:** Students would no longer be able to walk or bike to school, instead students living on the far north side of the community would need to drive to school or bus students. The next closest schools to Clifford Elementary School (from Clifford) are:
 - o John Gill(1.7 miles away)
 - o Orion (2.3 miles)
 - o Roosevelt (2 miles)
 - o Hawes (2.5 miles)

Would cause a significant amount of increased traffic to these locations. If site were used by Charters, this would increase traffic across town, while sending Clifford Students to other sites creating traffic. May also lose students to Charters located on Clifford Campus or to private schools or San Carlos school district. Students would need to cross or bike along major intersections such as Alameda/Jefferson, Hopkins/King, Jefferson/King, etc.

- **K-8 vs. K-5 and 6-8**
 - o Families with students in both elementary school and middle school are able to have everyone on one campus. Older students walk younger students to school
 - o Older students mentor and provide modeling relationships for younger students (Reading Buddies, Lap-a-Thon, After School Day Care program TK-7)
 - o Provide an academically rigorous environment for students entering high school **(NEED DATA)**
 - o Provide a small school environment for students—otherwise these students might seek a private school that could provide a similar environment.
 - o IEP (Individualized Education Program) students are able to stay with the same group of students and staff from TK through 8th providing stability and growth.
 - o Historically: moved to K-8 to address “White flight” issues
 - o Renting Clifford (prime real estate) to the Charters seems counterintuitive because you are giving them one of the nicer campus and students that attend the charters

often live in the North Fair Oaks areas and this would be a hardship for them to come to Clifford.

- **2007 Study on Comparing Achievement between K-8 and Middle Schools (Philadelphia City School District)**
http://web.jhu.edu/CSOS/images/TDMG/ComparingAchievement_btWK_8.pdf
Highlights from article:
 - K-8 schools have higher levels of academic achievement, both in mathematics and reading
 - Students attending K-8 schools have also been found to have higher rates of attendance and better performance in terms of emotional and social outcomes such as self-esteem, leadership, and attitudes toward school.
 - Parents often praise the greater sense of community they feel exists in K-8 schools...stronger relationships that seem to exist between students, between teachers, between students and teachers, and between parents and teachers in K-8 schools.
 - K-8 Longer grade span allows for families with several children to have siblings in the same school for longer periods of time.
 - K-9 students may benefit from spending the middle grades as the older children in their school building, and that being the “top dog” might lead to greater feelings of confidence, maturity, and leadership.

- **Clifford may not be designated as a “Parent Participation School,” however, there is a great deal of volunteering that occurs both in the classroom and in support of education at Clifford.**
 - Parent Teacher Organization Volunteers (both executive leaders and members)
 - Project Cornerstone (social/emotional learning for students)
 - Art in Action (led by volunteers in the classroom)
 - Room Reps for each class, coordinate effort of all parents for the good of the classroom
 - Auction Volunteers, solicit donations, run event and recruit participants
 - Annual School Play, Ensemble participant parents donate 15 hours of time per student, Play participant parents donate 30-35 hours of volunteer time
 - Classroom Volunteer: in the classroom on weekly/bi-weekly basis
 - Fieldtrip monitors
 - Staff Appreciation activities led by parents

- **Clifford is a model school for the **One School District=All Students** philosophy and already exhibits the characteristics sought after by the school district**
 - Music programs (RCEF)
 - Art Programs (Art in Action)
 - SEL (Social-Emotional Learning): Project Cornerstone for K-5th
 - Before/after school programming (Neighborhood Kids Corner, TK-7)
 - After School Enrichment (Enrichment program—all grades and Sports for grades 4th-8th currently at 70% engagement)
 - Volunteer Coordinator (active PTO)

- Additionally
 - Increased academics (changes made last year are having huge impacts)
 - Annual play production provides opportunities for children grades K-8th to participate both on stage as well as behind the scenes as technical staff.
 - Reading Buddies
 - High success with ELL (English Language Learners) performance (need data)
 - **Not a Performance Improvement School**