



REGISTER

Volume XXV, No. 6

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE COALITION FOR ADEQUATE SCHOOL HOUSING

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Message From The Chair



Eric J. Hall, C.A.S.H. Chair

C.A.S.H.'s Position on SB 409 (Hollingsworth): Routine Restricted Maintenance Account

C.A.S.H. understands the need for administrative flexibility given the State's current fiscal outlook; however, by requiring that the 3% Routine Restricted Maintenance (RRM) calculation be made based on the general fund *less restricted accounts*, SB 409 will have the effect of providing less funding for school districts to maintain their facilities.

C.A.S.H. has always believed that well-maintained schools are a critical component of the educational process. Furthermore, C.A.S.H. believes that sufficient funding for maintenance is particularly important in light of the voter's approval of Proposition 47 and Proposition 55, where proper maintenance is mandatory to protect the significant state and local taxpayer investment in school facilities.

California schools already have a multi-billion dollar backlog of unfunded school maintenance - SB 409 will increase this backlog. In addition, SB 409 will impact urban and other types of school districts that have a high percentage of categorical programs in particular, which becomes problematic in light of the *Williams v. State of California* lawsuit which is still pending. In addition to insufficient instructional materials and fully credentialed

teachers, Williams argues that the State has not made sufficient funding available to properly maintain schools.

While the majority of the education community supports SB 409, C.A.S.H. has adopted an "Oppose Unless Amended" position, which has caused some to question why C.A.S.H. would oppose a bill that the majority of the education community supports.

Specifically, C.A.S.H. has proposed that SB 409 be amended to require that the 3% RRM calculation be made based on the general fund less restricted accounts *that cannot be used for school maintenance*. C.A.S.H. believes this compromise would provide those responsible for developing school budgets with increased flexibility, and yet still protect the funding necessary at the local level to properly maintain schools.

C.A.S.H.'s position on this issue has been discussed and reviewed by your C.A.S.H. board on several occasions. First and foremost, our organization supports the funding and construction of facilities - the funding of maintenance of school facilities is an important component of our emphasis. The "ADEQUATE" in our "COALITION" places an emphasis on all aspects of a school facility that have an impact on teaching and learning. Some of the components that make up an "adequate" school facility include design, size, funding and space formula's, timing, accessibility, materials, systems, environmental conditions, and a fully functional and well-maintained educational environment.

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The CASH Register is published eleven times a year (January through November) by the Coalition for Adequate School Housing (C.A.S.H.) and distributed to C.A.S.H. members. Over 1,000 rapidly growing school districts, county offices of education, architects, attorneys, bond counsel, financial institutions, developers, contractors, consultants, inspectors, licensed professionals, manufacturers of portable classrooms, maintenance suppliers and others who are concerned about school construction issues hold C.A.S.H. memberships.

The CASH Register solicits articles on school facility-related topics from the membership. If you are interested in submitting an article, please send it or a letter of inquiry to: Editor, CASH Register editorial office, 1130 K Street - Suite 210, Sacramento, CA 95814. Sorry, we are unable to return or acknowledge unpublished manuscripts. The views expressed herein are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Coalition for Adequate School Housing, its board, staff or general membership.

What is SB 409?

SB 409 (Hollingsworth), which is making its way through the Legislature this year, proposes to allow school districts to exclude restricted accounts, and so make their RRM contribution only on the unrestricted portion of their general fund.

Education Code Section 17070.75 requires all school districts who receive State funds under the Lease-Purchase Program (LLP) or the School Facilities Program (SFP), to establish a 3% Routine Restricted Maintenance (RRM) account within the school district's general fund for the exclusive purpose of providing funds for ongoing and major maintenance of school buildings. The RRM contribution is not a reserve requirement, but rather is intended for on-going maintenance of school facilities.

While the requirement to create an RRM is not in question, some confusion has emerged as to whether the calculation of the RRM contribution should be made based on a school district's *total general fund* or on the total general fund *less restricted accounts*. The implications are significant because if the RRM contribution is calculated based on the district's total general fund, more funding would be available to maintain school buildings. On the other hand, if the RRM contribution is made based on the school district's general fund, less restricted accounts, it would provide less funding to maintain school buildings.

Brief History of Routine Restricted Maintenance Account

1998-1999

SB 50 increased the RRM contribution requirement from 2% to 3% based on the recognition that 2% was inadequate to properly maintain school facilities. C.A.S.H. and most of the education community strongly supported this proposal.

1999-2000

County office restricted accounts were excluded from the 3% RRM calculation, recognizing that these "flow through" accounts are intended to pass funds on to school districts, and not be retained by the county office. The RRM contribution requirement for school districts was not changed because school districts retain funds from restricted accounts.

2000-2001

No changes made to RRM contribution requirement.

2001-2002

Existing law requires that the 3% RRM account contribution be based on a school district's total general fund, and does not allow restricted accounts to be excluded from this calculation.

2002-2003


Some school districts request that restricted accounts *that cannot be used for maintenance* be excluded from the calculation. Some school districts were advised that they could exclude *all* restricted accounts.

2003-2004

State Budget reduces the required contribution for the RRM account from 3% to 2% of the school district's general fund, but retained the policy that the calculation must be made on the whole general fund. The Legislative Counsel opines that the RRM calculation must be made on the school district's total general fund without excluding restricted accounts.

2004-2005

In response to the Legislative Counsel's opinion, the State Allocation Board (SAB) directs the Office of Public School Construction (OPSC) to require that all school districts make the RRM contribution based on the district's general fund beginning 7/1/04.


SB 409 becomes a major issue for the education community. 

~Jan Padilla

Message From The Chair

Continued from page 2

C.A.S.H. understands the difficult economic times for schools districts as some of us hold positions in both the facility and operational aspects of the district. How can we take an Oppose Unless Amended, even in these tough economic times? The answer is that the

focus of our organization is and has always been on adequate school facilities, and it would be inconsistent and uncharacteristic of C.A.S.H. to do anything other than what it has historically done - to support maintenance funding at the fullest levels possible. 

Distinguished Guests Turn Out To Honor Duwayne Brooks

Honesty. Integrity. Loyalty. Passion. Commitment.

These are common descriptions of Duwayne Brooks by those who worked with him and knew him best. These qualities were also the common theme in the comments of those who came out to honor Mr. Brooks as he retires as the Director of the California Department of Education's School Facilities Planning Division effective June 30, 2004.

On the evening of June 22, 2004 at the Sutter Club in Sacramento, members of the Brooks family were joined by distinguished members of the Legislature, key members of state government, and members of the school construction community to wish Mr. Brooks well in his retirement, and to show appreciation for his 32 years of service to schools and children.

Many who attended the festivities honored Mr. Brooks with carefully chosen words. State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell pointed to Mr. Brooks' integrity and


perpetual commitment to doing what is best for kids. Senator Dede Alpert echoed Mr. O'Connell's comments, and presented Mr. Brooks with a Senate Resolution in recognition of his efforts on behalf of California's school children.

Former Assemblyman Bob Campbell, while addressing the members of the education community and speaking about his experience in working with Mr. Brooks during their time together as members of the State Allocation Board, stated that, "Duwayne was the only friend you had." While others had particular interests, whether it be to preserve their constituent bases or the State's finances, Duwayne always made decisions based on what's best for kids. "Duwayne was always part of the process, and always part of the solution," stated Campbell.

Eric Hall, Chair of C.A.S.H., thanked Mr. Brooks on behalf of the organization. Specifically, Mr. Hall highlighted Mr. Brooks's efforts to assist school districts in navigating the often compli-

cated process of getting their facility projects approved. More broadly, Mr. Hall stated that Mr. Brooks was always accessible, approached his work with a sense of humor and lightness, and most of all, stood for service.

Following Mr. Brooks's retirement party and at the State Allocation Board meeting on June 23, 2004, the Board presented him with a Board Resolution. In addition to outlining his multitude of professional accomplishments while serving the needs of California's school children, in a moment of humor, they highlighted his other passion, which some say nearly rivals his passion for helping kids – his love for his fully-restored 1966 Mustang.

Wherever Mr. Brooks chooses to focus his dedication as he enters a new phase of his career and life, he will leave a long and successful legacy of integrity and commitment. The education community is losing one of its most loyal and dedicated public servants. 

~ Ian Padilla

Call for Articles

The *CASH Register* is always accepting articles from C.A.S.H. members on topics that relate to the school building industry. Following are guidelines to follow when submitting an article:

- Articles must be no longer than 3 pages, typed, single-spaced (Approximately 1,000 words).
- Articles should relate to facilities issues and school maintenance.
- Articles must be general in nature and not a promotional

piece about specific company or product.

- Articles can be reprinted from other sources (Please get permission in advance).
- If pictures are available, they can be used to enhance the article. Photos sent electronically should be Greyscale, .JPG files, 300dpi at 100% of the size they will be printed at (4" x 300dpi for inside photos).
- Articles must be received by the 15th of the month. Example: articles received by October 15, will appear in the October issue

that is distributed in early November.

If you have an article you would like to submit, please send it to:

CASH Register Editorial Office
1130 K Street - Suite 210
Sacramento, CA 95814
By fax to (916) 448-7495
By e-mail to sfife@m-w-h.com

For more information, please call the C.A.S.H. office. Other questions? Call the C.A.S.H. office at (916) 448-8577.

Settlement Agreement on Williams Lawsuit Appears Imminent

The *Sacramento Bee*, the *San Jose Mercury News*, and the *San Diego Union-Tribune* have reported today that the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and the Administration are close to reaching a settlement in the *Williams* case.

As you will recall, the *Williams* lawsuit claims that the State has not provided adequate funding for instructional materials, qualified teachers, or the adequate maintenance of school buildings. For reference, the ACLU filed the *Williams* case over four years ago on behalf of children in 18 different school districts, in response the Davis administration counter sued and, most recently, the multiple lawsuits have been consolidated into a single class-action lawsuit, but has not gone to trial.

Governor Schwarzenegger stated that, "...it is a shame that we as a state have neglected the inner city schools.


It's terrible. It should have never happened. Every child is guaranteed to get equal education, equal quality teachers, equal textbooks, homework materials, all this of this stuff ought to be equal, but it hasn't been. And this is why the State was sued...All anyone has to is just go to those schools, and I've gone to those schools because of my after-school programs... so, of course, we are settling that lawsuit...we are very close in settling that, and it is part of the budget negotiation..."

Although a timeline for the settlement and the specific details are not yet available, a general framework has been established:

- \$188 million set aside to fund programs that address the issues raised by the plaintiffs: instructional materials, teacher quality in underperforming schools, and poorly maintained facilities.

- Phase out of Concept 6 (Year-round program where students attend school for 163 days as opposed to the standard 180 days)

Concerning further impacts on budget negotiations, we anticipate that the Deferred Maintenance Program will be proposed to be fully-funded at \$250.3 million. We also anticipate that phasing out Concept 6 will be accomplished by using Proposition 55 funds. It is important to note that the emerging settlement agreement does not appear to include a fundamental overhaul of the State's current school finance or school facility formula for funding school districts, a concern to many education organizations.

We will provide you with more detail as information becomes available. 

– Ian Padilla


SB 409 Agreement Reached

SB 409 (Hollingsworth) proposed to allow school districts to exclude restricted accounts, and so make their Routine Restricted Maintenance (RRM) account contribution only on the unrestricted portion of their general fund. The implications were significant because if the RRM contribution is calculated based on the district's total general fund, more funding would be available to maintain school buildings. On the other hand, if the RRM contribution is made based on the school district's general fund less restricted accounts, less funding would be available to maintain school buildings.

After much debate on this issue within the education community, an agreement has been reached:

- RRM calculation for school based on 2% of total budget expenditures for one year (2004-05). This essentially extends the budget deal from last year that reduces the required contribution from 3% to 2%.
- RRM calculation for county office of education 3% of unrestricted funds. This change is actually a return to current law.
- Half a percent of this still counts toward the local deferred maintenance match.

- Adds following provision: "... including other financing uses..." with reference to total budget expenditures. This an intriguing provision which appears to expand the base used to calculate the RRM contribution.

Finally, this bill is on the fast track. We anticipate that it will be heard on the Assembly floor tomorrow, and if approved, will move to the Senate floor most likely on Saturday. 

– Ian Padilla

The Complexities Of Opening A New School

By Tom F. Bishop



Editor's Note: The following is an open letter to the community from Tom Bishop, superintendent of the Del Mar Union School District.

Recently, there have been questions raised about the Del Mar School District's enrollment planning strategies. Let's review the facts. The Del Mar Union School District will have sufficient classrooms in the years ahead to accommodate increased student enrollment. The district has been planning for enrollment growth for the past 15 years. Since 1992, the district has planned and constructed four new schools (Carmel Del Mar, which opened in 1992; Ashley Falls, which opened in 1998; Sage Canyon School, which opened in 2000, and Torrey Hills, which opened in 2002). These

four Carmel Valley schools currently have a combined enrollment of 2,630 students, housed in "state of the art" facilities. The most recent test scores for these schools are well above test scores for most elementary schools in San Diego County and California. The district's successful planning efforts over the past 15 years have helped to meet the educational needs in fast growing Carmel Valley.

The construction of a new school is a complex event that requires a minimum of two years for planning and construction. Some of the phases of planning and construction include: identification of funds to purchase the site; safety research on a proposed site, including completion of the EIR; actual purchase of the site; collaboration with the city of

San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation so that viable joint use school/park plans are developed and approved by the city; state approval of the site location; collaboration with the city of San Diego regarding infrastructure (roads); hiring of an architect to develop the educational specifications for the new facility; development of educational specifications (the process is a collaboration between the architect and administrators/teachers); school board approval of the educational specifications; completion of construction drawings; review and approval of the construction drawings by the school board and three different state agencies, (State Fire Marshal; the California State Department of Education, which makes certain that the new school will meet the educational needs of handicapped students; and the Department of State Architect, which makes certain that the new school can withstand a 7.5 earthquake; review and approval of a local transportation plan/access, city of San Diego review and approval of local circulation/road plan; identification of funds to construct the new school facility; bidding and award of the construction contract; actual construction, which usually lasts 12 months; punch list review; and occupancy.

Perhaps the most challenging aspect in the process is securing adequate funds to purchase the site and construct the new facility. Securing funds is a complex task in itself that may include: establishment of a community facility district; collection of community facility district annual special taxes; sale of bonds to secure funds to purchase the site and construct the school; and application to the state of California for land purchase and construction funds (Prop 55 funds). The facility cost of a 750-student elementary school is currently about \$17 million, while the price of land has increased dramatically in the past few years.

That the Del Mar Union School District has completed the challenging


cycle of new school construction three times since 1997 is a strong indicator of a high quality facility planning program. The construction of four schools during the past 12 years is a solid indicator that we are meeting the facility goals established through the 1998 Strategic Planning process. DMUSD administrative staff has spent more time on facility planning since 1998 than on any other Strategic Planning goal. The result of that strong effort is felt every day in the four new schools in Carmel Valley that currently serve 2,630 students.

After more than three years of complex preparation, the district recently began the actual construction of the district's seventh school (fifth in Carmel Valley) one month ago, and it should be completed by September 2005. The completion of numerous preparatory tasks has enabled the long-awaited construction phase of School #7 to begin.

The district has also begun the process to build School #8 (sixth in Carmel Valley). Staff will proceed through the multiple phases and complex tasks in a timely manner. The district has never sacrificed educational quality to rush the design and construction of a school. In addition, the district has never opened two new schools in successive years because of the negative fiscal impact on the district's outstanding program. Hiring the staff for a brand new school is very expensive task. Typically, the district's payroll expense jumps by about \$500,000 each time (new principal, new office staff, new custodial staff; new specialist teachers) that we open a new school. The district's payroll expense for a new school increases considerably when the cost of 15-25 new classroom teachers is included. During the past 10 years the district has deliberately spread out the opening of its new schools over multiple years to lessen the financial impact on the district's existing program. This strategy has worked effectively so that

each time we have opened a new school we haven't made program cuts at the other schools. This strategy has also helped us to reproduce our outstanding program at each of the four new schools in Carmel Valley.

I hope this information will help the parent community understand the complexities of school construction, as well as some of the fiscal impacts of opening a new school. From my interactions and collaboration with the parent community, there is strong support for the district's current balance

of fiscal responsibility, outstanding educational program at all sites, and vigilance in managing enrollment growth. Until the undeveloped areas within the boundaries are "built out", thereby allowing the stability that parents understandably want, the district will maintain a strong facilities planning posture that will ensure the timely construction of new schools in the Del Mar Union School District. 

The preceding article was provided courtesy of the Carmel Valley News/Del Mar Village Voice. It ran in the June 11, 2004 edition.

Profile Your Work in an Upcoming Issue of the CASH Register

In every issue of the *CASH Register*, we feature a "school profile" – an article and photos of a school recently built or modernized by C.A.S.H. member firms. The text and photos for the profile are contributed by the member architect and/or construction manager responsible for the project.

The *CASH Register* is currently accepting school profiles for 2004/2005.

To submit your school profile for publication, please complete the enclosed application and return it with the following materials to: *CASH Register* Editorial Office, 1130 K Street, Suite 210, Sacramento, CA 95814 or E-mail: sfife@m-w-h.com

CASH REGISTER SCHOOL PROFILE POLICY

- ▶ Profiles should be between 1 and 1-1/2 pages of typed text (approximately 500 words). The profile article must focus on the design and/or construction of the profiled school and cannot be a promotional piece about a specific company or product.
- ▶ Profiles should include one 4" x 6" black-and-white photo and one 5" x 7" black-and-white photo. Photos may be sent electronically to sfife@m-w-h.com. Electronic photos should be grayscale, .jpg files with an actual-size resolution of 300dpi.
- ▶ Profiles are featured in the *CASH Register* in the order they are received.

The *CASH Register* school profile feature is a cost-free way to showcase your company's work to the school facilities industry in California. The *CASH Register* is published 11 times a year (January through November) and has a monthly readership of 2,000, including member school district superintendents, business managers, facility planners, architects, maintenance personnel, contractors, developers, financial institutions, attorneys, licensed professionals, construction inspectors, and consultants.

For more information, please contact Shannon Mahoney in the C.A.S.H. office at (916) 448-8577 or sfife@m-w-h.com.

Schools Sprout in Lincoln



A Housing Boom, With Its Cash Influx, Leads The District To Build More Campuses

By Laurel Rosen – Bee Staff Writer

The Lincoln High School football team has been playing at McBean Park since 1955, but no one seems too sentimental about moving on to greener pastures.

Ask folks for their memories of games and graduations at the community park a mile from the high school,

and here's what they say: The turf is worn out. Parking is hell. The bleachers face the sun. The bathrooms are port-a-potties. The park is designed for baseball, not football.

This fall, the school's awkward tenure at the park will end. Ground was broken earlier this month for a \$6 million athletic complex at Lincoln High that includes a football stadium.

It's the kind of facility found at many suburban high schools, but it will be the first of its kind in Lincoln.

The stadium project is just one way the Western Placer Unified School District is catching up with the housing boom that has transformed Lincoln from small farming community to rapidly expanding suburb. Crews broke ground this month on two new schools and are almost finished building another campus.

Lincoln's population has tripled since the late 1990s - to approximately 25,000 - and thousands more houses are to come.

With developer fees and property taxes, all the new houses have provided an influx of cash to the school district. Superintendent Roger Yohe said schools in new subdivisions will open at a rate of one or two a year for the next three to four years. Then the building likely will taper off a bit before picking up steam for a final boom a few years later.

District enrollment - now about 4,000 - is expected to grow to 10,000 by 2007 and to 15,000 in 10 to 15 years. In the coming decade, the Western Placer district will likely become one of the fastest-growing districts in Placer County, said Bud Nobili, superintendent of the Placer County Office of Education, because growth there will take off as expansion in the now-booming school districts in Rocklin and Roseville begins to slow.

Bringing an athletic complex to Lincoln High helps assure the windfall doesn't benefit only students in new homes, Yohe said.

"There is already some perception about the new Lincoln and the old Lincoln. There is some concern about the haves and the have-nots," Yohe said. "The kids who are new to Lincoln get the brand new schools, and the kids in the interior of Lincoln get the older schools."

That's why plans are under way, he said, to renovate Glen Edwards Middle School and Carlin Coppin Elementary School - older campuses in town.

So much building will take place that Yohe created a position to oversee construction. Ken Gammelgard, director of site development, is hiring staff, coordinating with architects and contractors, and ordering furniture.

"I'm making sure all the details ... are taken care of so that we can hand a key to the principal that's hired and say, 'Here's your school,'" Gammelgard said.

The first school to open is Twelve Bridges Elementary School, in the master-planned community slated to have about 4,400 homes. It's scheduled to open later this year, and about 200 workers are on site - wiring, pouring concrete, installing roofs and installing furniture.

Ground has been broken on Twelve Bridges Middle School, scheduled to open in August 2005. Until then, the city's existing middle school campus will remain covered with portable classrooms for the influx of new students, Gammelgard said.

And crews broke ground earlier this week on an elementary school in the Foskett Ranch development, set to have about 400 homes. The school also is scheduled to open in August 2005.

Four more schools are being designed, Yohe said, with at least two more coming after that. By the time the district is finished building, Yohe expects the town to offer three high schools and three middle schools.

Twelve Bridges High School is expected to open in August 2007. The third high school will be built some years later on 40 acres set aside at the Lincoln High School farm.

Plans for the Twelve Bridges campus include a library to be shared by the high school, the city and a proposed Sierra College campus. The community college and the school district may join in building an athletic stadium, said Lincoln Mayor Spencer Short. But until they do, Twelve Bridges football games will be played at the new Lincoln High School stadium.

In addition to an artificial turf field that can be used for football and soccer


games, the complex at Lincoln High will include a track, two baseball fields, two softball fields and three tennis courts. It will become a focal point for the community, Yohe said, as students and families gather for pep rallies and graduations.

And compared to McBean Park, he said, the new stadium will offer more seating, more parking, better bathrooms and bleachers that don't face the sun.

One man who hopes to be in the stands for Lincoln's first game at the new stadium in November is Gene Bennett, who played on the school's

first football team and scored the team's first touchdown in 1949. Back then, the team played on a baseball field at the high school.

For years after he graduated, Bennett announced games at McBean Park, standing at the top of a paint scaffold. Yet he said no love will be lost in moving out of the old park; he's been pushing for a new stadium for years.

"I'd hoped I'd see it before I die," Bennett said, "and by God I think I'll make it." 

The preceding article was provided courtesy of the Sacramento Bee. It ran in the June 21, 2004 edition.

CASH Register Advertising Policy

The *CASH Register* is published 11 times a year (January through November) and is circulated to school district superintendents, business managers, facility planners, architects, maintenance personnel, contractors, developers, financial institutions, attorneys, licensed professionals, construction inspectors and consultants throughout California. Distribution is approximately 1,800 copies.

The *CASH Register* will accept advertising from C.A.S.H. members only.

- Ads may identify specific products and services only and may not include specific prices for such products and services.
- Ad position is not guaranteed - we reserve the right to place and position all advertisements.
- All ads will be printed in black ink unless other arrangements are made.

Your ad must be submitted electronically in an Adobe .pdf file (300dpi at actual size - 100%). Ads need to be to the C.A.S.H. office by the 15th of the month prior to publication; with full payment, not a purchase order. Please make checks payable to "C.A.S.H."

Please send your film and advertising request form to:

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Size	Duration	Rate
Quarter-Page (3-1/2" W x 5" H)	1 month	\$275.00
Half-Page (Horizontal only, 7-1/2" W x 4-1/2" H)	1 month	\$600.00
Full-Page (7-1/2" W x 10" H)	1 month	\$1800.00

If you have any questions, please call Shannon Mahoney in the C.A.S.H. office at (916) 448-8577.



Sierra Vista Elementary School

SCHOOL DISTRICT: VAL VERDE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
ARCHITECT: DC ARCHITECTS
CONSTRUCTION MANAGER: PCM3, INC.

The idea of “no child left behind” was a major concept in the design of this prototype school for one of the fastest growing school districts in California. Located in an area where affordable housing has attracted families of all nationalities and cultures, this District had to develop an elementary school that could be quickly adapted to various sites and still provide a quality education to the diverse students and leaders of tomorrow.

The School District assembled a committee comprised of administrative

staff, maintenance personnel, teachers, principals and community leaders, as well as a core design team. The core design team was comprised of the Superintendent, Director of Facilities, Director of Maintenance, Construction Management and Architectural team. This team guided the educational specification process to achieve a school that is consistent with the wishes of the community and meets the educational needs of the District.

The School District has been able to develop and construct a high quality

facility while being classified as a “financial hardship” district by the Office of Public School Construction (OPSC). Staying within the limited budget of the State School Facility Program and still producing a facility the community can view with pride has been a tremendous achievement for the School District.

This has been accomplished by listening closely to the needs of the community. The School District has tried to develop “community schools” that are within walking distance of the new housing development. This has been a great challenge, because many of the new homes are being developed within a flood inundation plane where schools are not easily constructed without costly mitigation. The District and their land consultant have been very diligent in providing the most optimum locations possible for the many schools that will be needed for this growing community.

Sierra Vista Elementary School has been developed as individual buildings (or “building pods”) to allow for the easy reuse and site adaptation for future elementary schools. The key elements that were developed by the Educational

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Jeff Baratta

Jeff Baratta has been a C.A.S.H. Board member since 2001 and a member of C.A.S.H. since 1994. Mr. Baratta has served on the conference planning committee since 1995 and chaired the Finance and Planning Strand for several years. Currently he serves as the Chair of the Budget Committee to the Board of Directors. Mr. Baratta also serves on the Board of Californians for School Facilities. This California organization provides lobbying support at the Federal level for funding such as the Qualified Zone Academy Bond (QZAB) program and the Federal Renovation program. Mr. Baratta also had an opportunity to testify before the Full Congressional Ways and Means Committee on behalf of the QZAB program.

Jeff is a shareholder of the firm Stone & Youngberg LLC. Stone & Youngberg provides investment banking services to educational entities throughout California. Between 1990 and 1994, Jeff served the Vallejo City Unified School District and the Albany Unified School



District as the Chief Business Official. Jeff brings a unique perspective to the Board as both an issuer and underwriter.

Jeff lives in Marin County with his two children Jeffrey (15) and Danielle (13). They both attend the local public schools, Tamalpais High School and Mill Valley Middle School. Jeff and his children enjoy various outdoor activities including snowboarding, soccer, bicycle riding and backpacking. Jeff has a special penchant for Ducati motorcycles as well. 


Sierra Vista Elementary School

Continued from page 10

Specification committee and incorporated into the design include:

1. A facility capable of providing an equal education for every student.
2. Sound functional arrangements within each building.
3. Easily supervised restroom areas (the vanity sinks are located outside the actual toilet area).
4. Resource room adjacent to each classroom to allow for "pullout" space for individual or group learning.
5. Pleasant exterior learning spaces adjacent to the classrooms.

6. A community multi-purpose building to be utilized both during school hours and after school hours.
7. Easy access for parent drop off and separate bus drop off areas.
8. A facility that blends with the current and future homes.
9. Durable construction materials that are easily maintained.
10. Central courtyards for student gatherings.

Sierra Vista Elementary School is a success story for the School Facility Program. This project is an example of the quality education that can be provided within facilities developed with the children in mind. 

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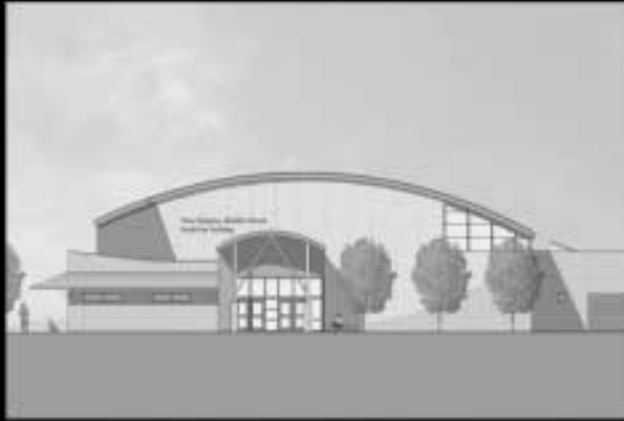
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C.A.S.H. Meetings, Conferences & Workshops

July 27, 2004 Tuesday	The Cost of Building Schools in California: The Current Bidding Climate and Solutions for Your District Workshops Doubletree Hotel, 2001 Point West Way, Sacramento, CA
July 30, 2004 Friday	The Cost of Building Schools in California: The Current Bidding Climate and Solutions for Your District Workshops Ontario Airport Marriott, 2200 E. Holt Blvd., Ontario, CA
August 4, 2004 Wednesday 11:00 a.m. - Noon	C.A.S.H. General Membership Meeting TBD
August 24, 2004 Tuesday	C.A.S.H.-CEFPI Workshop Planning, Building & Modernizing Schools in California Doubletree Hotel, 2001 Point West Way, Sacramento, CA
August 25, 2004 Wednesday 11:00 a.m. - Noon	C.A.S.H. General Membership Meeting California Chamber of Commerce 1215 K Street 14 th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814
August 27, 2004 Friday	C.A.S.H.-CEFPI Workshop Planning, Building & Modernizing Schools in California Ontario Airport Marriott, 2200 E. Holt Blvd., Ontario, CA
October 19, 2004 Tuesday	Workshop TBD Hilton Costa Mesa Hotel, 3050 Bristol Ave., Costa Mesa, CA
October 20-21, 2004 Wednesday -Thursday	C.A.S.H. Fall Conference Hilton Costa Mesa Hotel, 3050 Bristol Ave., Costa Mesa, CA
February 28, 2005 Monday	C.A.S.H. Annual Conference Golf Tournament Woodcreek Golf Course
March 1-3, 2005 Tues.-Thurs.	C.A.S.H. 26th Annual Conference Sacramento Convention Center, 1301 L St. at 14 th St., Sacramento, CA

Monthly C.A.S.H. meetings are held from 11:00 a.m. to Noon in Sacramento. The monthly meetings are always scheduled to coincide with the monthly meetings of the State Allocation Board on the fourth Wednesday of the month, except in November and December, to enable C.A.S.H. members to attend the SAB's afternoon session. Both SAB meetings and General membership meetings are subject to change.



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