

WINNETKA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

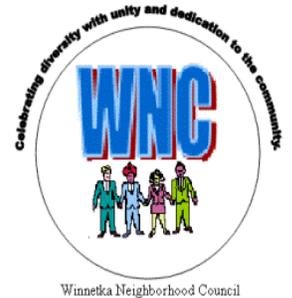
PO Box 3692, Winnetka, CA 91306

(818) 648-6219

www.winnetkanc.com



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June 21, 2007

Ms. Marlene Canter
Board of Education
Los Angeles Unified School District
333 South Beaudry Ave, 24th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear Ms. Canter:

I am writing on behalf of the Winnetka Neighborhood Council (WNC). For most of the last year the WNC has been actively opposing the addition of a new school to the Sutter Middle School grounds. Many of our Board members have attended the two community meetings held here in Winnetka and have observed, met with, and discussed how our stakeholders feel about this project.

In March we voted 11-0 to reaffirm our position against the placement of Valley Region Elementary School No. 10 on the grounds of Sutter Middle School at our March 13, 2007 meeting. The WNC has been opposed to this project since its inception and we communicated our concerns in a June 2006 letter to the LAUSD School Board.

The Board has asked me to contact each of the LAUSD Board of Education Members, along with Mr. Brewer to let you know the Community is simply not in support of this school. Not only do we have serious safety and traffic concerns but we are also concerned with the saturation of elementary schools in our community. Within a couple of miles of this location we have Fulbright, Winnetka, and Limmerick Elementary Schools. We simply do not need another elementary school.

The latest concern is the EIR and the levels of chemicals found in the soil on the campus. The WNC requests that you decide to drop the idea of an elementary school at this location or at the very least not make a final decision on this new school until the chemicals have been removed or the full extent of the problem is truly known. Without beginning the clean up and seeing what the real danger is on the site, it would not be prudent to plan to build a school there.

Finally, I would like to call your attention to a serious concern for our community and that is the crime that originates from Sutter Middle School. Rarely does a month go by that I do not hear about graffiti problems in our community and the constant effort the LAPD puts into arresting those that commit these crimes. In most cases those vandals are students at Sutter. We do not need to expose younger minds to this type of influence.

Rather than list all of our concerns again, I've attached a copy of the original letter that we sent out to our City Council Members and our LAUSD Board member. The letter clearly outlines several areas of concern and why we do not feel the community needs this school.

On behalf of the WNC Board, we would like to ask you to vote no on this project and ensure that we do not build a school that we do not want nor need.

Thank you,

JJ Popowich
President
Winnetka Neighborhood Council

Cc:
Marguerite Poindexter Lamotte, Board Member
Monica Garcia, Board Member
Jon Lauritzen, Board Member
Marlene Canter, Board Member
David Tokofsky, Board Member
Julie Korenstein, Board Member
Mike Lansing, Board Member
Jefferson Crain, Board Member
David Brewer, Superintendent