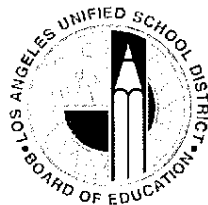


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ROY ROMER
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

September 30, 2005

The Honorable Greig Smith
Councilmember, City of Los Angeles
200 N. Main St., 4th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Councilman Smith:

As you know, the Porter Ranch community has felt very strongly that a new school should be constructed within their community to help accommodate new students moving into this area of rapid residential growth. We have been aware of this sentiment; however, up until this point, our focus has necessarily been on meeting more longstanding need elsewhere in the District.

Measure Y, the Safe and Healthy Neighborhood Schools bond measure, will be on the ballot this November, and will allow us to finish the job of fulfilling our long standing promise to return all students to a neighborhood school on the traditional nine-month calendar. Given that this will be the last bond for some time, we included funding for a school to be located within Porter Ranch. To that end, the Porter Ranch project is listed in Measure Y (page 8 of the attached excerpt) as "*Valley Region Grades K-8 A: a new Kindergarten to 8th Grade School of approximately 1,047 seats, located in or around the Chatsworth Senior High School attendance area.*"

This letter is to inform you that, if the bond does pass, we will immediately begin site selection activities that will involve the master developer of Porter Ranch, Shapell Industries, your office, and the Porter Ranch community to analyze the site LAUSD presently has rights to, as well as other alternative sites within the developer's control, to determine the best possible location for both school and community use. You will also note that, although previous discussions have centered on an elementary school, this will be a K-8 school, providing more facilities for the surrounding community and a better educational environment for these students.


District staff has met on several occasions with officials from Shapell Industries and with your office to discuss all possible sites, and have committed to a partnership with them as we move forward. We look forward to not only building this school, but maximizing its joint use potential with the surrounding community.

We are very hopeful that Measure Y will pass so that this long-desired school can finally become reality, and we look forward to working with you on this project.

Sincerely,


Roy Romer
Superintendent


Marlene Canter
LAUSD Board President


Jon Lauritzen
LAUSD Board Member