

Long Term Facilities Plan: Possible School Consolidation

April 24, 2018

Background: Recent Budget Meetings

AUSD staff provided data on student enrollment per classroom teacher

- AUSD enrollment is lower per teacher than comparison districts
- Variance is most dramatic at middle and high schools

Board members provided direction to staff class sizes to contractual limits

- Eliminating under-enrolled sections will result in more consistent class sizes across the District
- It also will result in fewer course offerings at small schools

Community members asked the Board to explore consolidation of schools to:

- Potentially enable the District to provide a salary increase
- Potentially enable the District to provide a more comprehensive secondary program for all students

Background: Previous Discussions on Consolidation

After the passage of the 2014 Measure I Bond, community members asked AUSD to explore the viability of consolidating AHS and EHS. In response, AUSD:

- Held three meetings to solicit community input (1/29/2015; 2/5/2015; 2/17/2015)
- Convened a public Board Study Session (2/24/2015)
- Surveyed the community
 - 1161 people responded
 - 84% said they would prefer for AUSD to maintain two high schools

Agendas, video, and background on these community meetings are available on the [AUSD website](#).

Current Facility Status of Alameda & Encinal High Schools

This spring's public comments about merging the schools were made in the context of changed circumstances:

Alameda High School

- HAHS being renovated using Measure I Bond funds
- 45 new classrooms and 10 new science labs are being added
- Once completed, Alameda High will have a net increase of approximately 38 new classrooms

Encinal High School

- Encinal undergoing modernization
- Some work may need to be delayed

Recap of Recent Discussion

Recent process has led the District to again consider the consolidation of Alameda and Encinal High Schools

- Realization that District has excess facility capacity at secondary schools
- Realization that operating two schools creates inequities in class sizes and course offerings between the two schools

Consolidation presents the opportunity to maintain or improve course offerings for all secondary students

- Course offerings that may not have been offered due to low enrollment may become viable with a single, larger, comprehensive high school

Board Guidance

Desired next steps for staff would be to develop:

- Timeline of the process of evaluating consolidation of schools, including:
 - Evaluation of combined academic program
 - Facility evaluation
 - Demographic projection
 - Student engagement
 - Staff engagement
 - Community engagement (including city partners)

Some short-term decisions will have to be made, including:

- Pause some EHS work
- Other?