



Board of Education Report

File #: Rep-499-14/15, **Version:** 1

Amendment to the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Define the International Studies Learning Center Addition Project

Action Proposed:

Staff proposes that the Board of Education amend the Facilities Services Division (FSD) Strategic Execution Plan (SEP) to define the International Studies Learning Center Addition Project.

The proposed project includes:

- The construction of approximately 45,000 square feet of new school facilities on a portion of the Legacy High School campus, including:
 - 16 classrooms
 - Administration area
 - Lunch shelter and lunch room
 - Staff and student restrooms
 - Outdoor basketball/volleyball courts
 - Parking lot expansion
 - Multi-purpose room/gym including a changing room area with lockers, restrooms, showers and coach's office
- The removal of at least 14 classrooms within relocatable buildings and associated site improvements at South Gate Middle School

The proposed project will be undertaken and completed in phases:

- Construction of new school facilities anticipated to start in the second quarter of 2017 and be completed in the first quarter of 2019
- Portable removal at South Gate Middle School anticipated to commence in the second quarter of 2019 and be completed in the third quarter of 2021
- Site improvements at South Gate Middle School anticipated to commence in the third quarter of 2021 and be completed in the first quarter of 2022

The proposed project is located in Board District 5 (Kayser) and Educational Service Center South.

Background:

The International Studies Learning Center opened in 2004, and currently serves approximately 900 students in sixth through twelfth grade. The school operates on two separate school sites, however it is run by one Principal. The two schools are nearly three miles apart, which creates operational and instructional challenges.

The middle school program has operated on a portion of the Southeast Middle School campus since the school was first established. Initially the high school program operated in classroom space at South East High School, however in 2012, the program was moved to the Legacy High School site.

South Gate Middle School opened in 1941. The school currently serves approximately 2,200 students - twice as many as Southeast Middle School and five and a half times more than the middle school portion of International Studies Learning Center. Furthermore, approximately fifty percent of the school's classrooms are located in relocatable buildings, which has made the campus one of the densest middle school sites in the District.

Once construction of the new school is completed, the middle school students enrolled at the International Studies Learning Center will be relocated from the Southeast Middle School site to the Legacy High School site, thus aligning the span school on one site. With the completion of the new school facilities at the Legacy High School site, classrooms in relocatable buildings at South Gate Middle School will be removed, and a middle school zone of choice will be established to align enrollment in the area. The zone of choice will include South Gate Middle School, Southeast Middle School and International Studies Learning Center.

Expected Outcomes:

Staff anticipates the Board of Education will approve the proposed action to define the International Studies Learning Center Addition Project. The proposed project will enable International Studies Learning Center to operate on one site, reduce the District's reliance on relocatable buildings at South Gate Middle School, and will align middle school enrollment in the South Gate area.

Board Options and Consequences:

Approval of this proposed action will authorize staff to proceed with the project. If the proposed action is not approved, International Studies Learning Center will continue to operate on two school sites. Furthermore, for the foreseeable future, approximately half of the classroom capacity at South Gate Middle School will continue to be in aging and deteriorating relocatable classroom buildings. Additionally, South Gate Middle School will continue to serve twice as many students as nearby Southeast Middle School, a new school that opened in 2004

Policy Implications:

The proposed action is consistent with the District's commitment to address unmet school facility's needs, and the Board of Education's goals for the School Upgrade Program that schools should be physically safe and secure, school building systems should be sound and efficient, and school facilities should align with instructional requirements.

Budget Impact:

The budget for the International Studies Learning Center Addition Project is \$39.7 Million. The proposed project will be funded by Bond Program funds targeted specifically for school upgrades and reconfigurations to support specialized instructional programs in the School Upgrade Program.

Issues and Analysis:

The Office of Environmental Health and Safety (OEHS) will be evaluating the proposed project in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) is anticipated. Certification of the EIR or MND, and project approval by the Board of Education is required prior to a project proceeding into construction.

Bond Oversight Committee Recommendations:

This item was considered by the School Construction Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee (BOC) at its meeting on May 28, 2015. Staff has concluded that this proposed FSD-SEP amendment will help facilitate implementation of the FSD-SEP, and therefore, it will not adversely affect the District's ability to successfully complete the FSD-SEP.

Attachments:

Informatives:

Aligning International Studies Learning Center and South Gate Area Enrollment

INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE
Los Angeles Unified School District
Office of the Superintendent

INFORMATIVE

DATE: May 7, 2015

TO: Members, Board of Education
Members, Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee

FROM: Ramon C. Cortines
Superintendent of Schools 

SUBJECT: LONG-TERM FACILITIES SOLUTION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL STUDIES LEARNING CENTER AND VISION FOR ALIGNING MIDDLE SCHOOL CAPACITY IN THE SOUTH GATE AREA

Since returning for the third time as Superintendent, I have spent a considerable amount of time on facilities related items, and have identified specific issues that I would like to address. I realize I can't fix everything, so I am trying to focus on items that will have the most significant impact on our students and the long-term stability of this District.

One of the facilities issues that I would like to solve is in the South Gate area. The International Studies Learning Center, a span school serving students in sixth through twelfth grade, is run by one Principal, but operates on two separate campuses (Legacy High School and Southeast Middle School) that are nearly three miles apart -- this is problematic. Secondly, South Gate Middle School, a beautiful older school, has more than 2,000 students, and more than half of its classrooms are in relocatable buildings -- this is also problematic for me.

I have been working with the Facilities team to develop a project to solve these issues and I am pleased to inform you that we have developed what I think is a good solution. The proposed project will provide a new classroom building at the Legacy High School site to allow for the International Studies Learning Center to serve its middle and high school students on the same campus. The project will also include the removal of relocatable buildings from the South Gate Middle School campus located near the front door of the school. This will reduce the capacity of this large middle school by approximately 400 students and align the middle school enrollment by creating a middle school zone of choice. The creation of a middle school zone of choice would likely occur for the 2019-2020 school year, once the project is completed.

I look forward to presenting the proposed project to the Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee later this month, and to the Board of Education in June.

c: Michelle King
Nicole Elam-Ellis
David Holmquist
Kenneth Bramlett
Dr. Ruth Perez
Thelma Melendez
Mark Hovatter
Krisztina Tokes
Tom Rubin

SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION BOND CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

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L.A. City Controller's Office
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AARP

Barry Waite
CA Tax Reform Assn.

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L.A. Co. Auditor-Controller's Office

Joseph P. Buchman – Legal Counsel
Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP

Thomas A. Rubin, CPA
Oversight Committee Consultant

Timothy Popejoy
Interim Bond Administrator

Daniel Hwang
Asst. Administrative Analyst

RESOLUTION 2015-29

BOARD REPORT NO. 499-14/15

**APPROVAL OF THE 2015 FACILITIES SERVICES DIVISION
STRATEGIC EXECUTION PLAN TO DEFINE THE INTERNATIONAL
STUDIES LEARNING CENTER ADDITION PROJECT**

WHEREAS, District Staff proposes that the Board of Education amend the Facilities Services Division (FSD) Strategic Execution Plan (SEP) to define the International Studies Learning Center Addition Project as described in Board Report 499-14/15, a copy of which is attached hereto in the form it was presented to the BOC and is incorporated herein by reference, and which has a proposed budget of \$39.7 Million (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Project includes the construction of approximately 45,000 square feet of new school facilities consisting of 16 classrooms, an administration area, lunch shelter and lunch room, staff and student restrooms, outdoor basketball/volleyball courts, parking lot expansion, and multi-purpose room/gym; and

WHEREAS, the Project will include the removal of at least 14 classrooms within relocatable buildings and associated site improvements at South Gate Middle School; and

WHEREAS, the International Studies Learning Center opened in 2004, and currently serves approximately 900 students in sixth through twelfth grade. The school operates on two separate school sites; however it is run by one Principal. The two schools are nearly three miles apart, which creates operational and instructional challenges; and

WHEREAS, the International Studies Learning Center/South Gate Area Middle School Alignment Project will enable International Studies Learning Center to operate on one site, reduce the District's reliance on relocatable buildings at South Gate Middle School, and will align middle school enrollment in the South Gate area; and

WHEREAS, the middle school program has operated on a portion of the Southeast Middle School campus since the school was first established. Initially the high school program operated

**RESOLUTION 2015-29
APPROVAL OF THE 2015 FACILITIES SERVICES DIVISION
STRATEGIC EXECUTION PLAN TO DEFINE THE INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
LEARNING CENTER ADDITION PROJECT**

in classroom space at South East High School, however in 2012, the program was moved to the Legacy High School site; and

WHEREAS, South Gate Middle School opened in 1941. The school currently serves approximately 2,200 students – twice as many as Southeast Middle School and five and a half times more than the middle school portion of International Studies Learning Center. Furthermore, approximately fifty percent of the school's classrooms are located in relocatable buildings, which has made the campus one of the densest middle school sites in the District; and

WHEREAS, with the completion of the new school facilities at the Legacy High School site, classrooms in relocatable buildings at South Gate Middle School will be removed, and a middle school zone of choice will be established to align enrollment in the area.

Whereas, the proposed Project is consistent with the District's commitment to address unmet school facility's needs, and the Board of Education's goals for the School Upgrade Program that schools should be physically safe and secure, school building systems should be sound and efficient, and school facilities should align with instructional requirements.

WHEREAS, District Staff has concluded that the proposed SEP amendment will facilitate implementation of the FSD SEP, and therefore, it will not adversely affect the District's ability to successfully complete the FSD SEP.

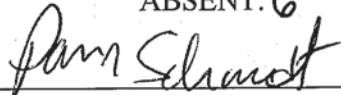
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The School construction Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee recommends that the Board of Education approve the Amendment to the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Define the International Studies Learning Center Addition Project described in the Board Report No. 499-14/15 a copy of which is attached hereto in the form it was presented to the BOC and is incorporated herein by reference.
2. This resolution shall be transmitted to the Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education and posted on the Bond Oversight Committee's website.
3. That a written response as required by the Charter and Memorandum of Understanding between the Oversight Committee and the Board be provided to the Oversight Committee within 30 days, reporting either on action taken or proposed to be taken in response to this resolution and each recommendation herein.

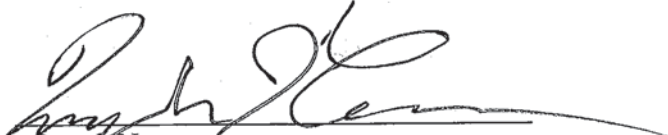
ADOPTED on May 28, 2015, by the following vote:

**RESOLUTION 2015-29
APPROVAL OF THE 2015 FACILITIES SERVICES DIVISION
STRATEGIC EXECUTION PLAN TO DEFINE THE INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
LEARNING CENTER ADDITION PROJECT**

AYES: 8
NAYS: 0
ABSTENTIONS: 0
ABSENT: 6



Pamela Schmidt
Vice-Chair



Quynh Nguyen
Secretary