

CONEJO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

FACT SHEET

Sycamore Canyon Enrollment

1. As part of the adopted CVUSD 2003-2004 goals, the Board of Education requested that the Superintendent complete a demographic analysis of the enrollment projections (5 years out) for all District schools. This task was completed in spring of 2004.
2. One important finding in the study was the prediction that the housing capacity at Sycamore Canyon School in grades K-8 could be insufficient to accommodate all eligible students in grades K-5. Depending upon a conservative or mid-range estimate of this capacity shortage, the number of impacted students could be as low as 50 or as high as 150. Capacity at the middle school level is predicted to be sufficient to house all area students.
3. Staff communicated this finding and the implications of the issue to the Board of Education in early July. In this report, staff identified two issues which needed attention and a decision by late August. First, staff indicated that any action to increase the permanent capacity of student housing on the Sycamore site would need to be made by late August to ensure its completion by the start of school in 2005-2006. Staff further recommended that some communication be given to new homebuyers that one option under review to address the enrollment challenge could be to change the boundaries of new housing units to Cypress Elementary School. Notification of this option should not be considered an endorsement of this option as viable or non-viable.
4. The final staff recommendation was to update the community on this issue as soon as possible and involve representatives of the community in the long-range planning decisions. The date of August 11 was selected for the first community meeting – one at 9:00 a.m. and one at 6:00 p.m., both in the Sycamore Canyon School Multipurpose Room. Wide publicity was undertaken for these meetings including publishing the dates in the homeowner newsletter, a publicity release to the local papers and school initiated correspondence to area families.
5. Two approaches to this issue have been identified to date. One approach is to identify the “most equitable” strategy to re-direct the 50-150 students to other elementary sites. The second approach would be to identify the best strategies to increase the capacity of the school to serve all eligible students.
6. District staff have identified the second approach, increasing school capacity, as the most desirous option to pursue and will present ideas to accomplish this goal at the community meeting on August 11.