

Information Item: 5/8/2024

Site Safety and Security-Fencing

A major topic of conversation in all site master plan committees was the safety and security of school campuses. The highest demand at all sites was fencing, both between school buildings and to separate the school from neighboring parks.

- **Student & Staff Safety**

> While active shooters are a well-known concern when thinking of student and staff safety while on campus, fencing helps address many other safety concerns that affect our campuses, such as:

- ❖ *Transients who have open access to campuses and often need to be escorted out by school site staff.*
- ❖ *Litter, feces, and drug paraphernalia are often found on campuses each morning. School site staff are not equipped to clean and dispose of biohazardous materials.*
- ❖ *Members of the community (strangers) access campuses while school is in session without site staff knowledge. This often includes folks walking their dogs off-leash, which poses a bite risk to students.*

- **Cost of Non-Public Placements**

> A population of SRCS students often run away or “elope” from campuses. The District may be bringing back many of these students from SCOE programs, which will need to be a consideration in our facility design updates.

- ❖ *Open campus design makes it difficult for staff members to supervise these students or guarantee their safety properly, especially on campuses with no drop-off/pick-up areas, such as Steele Lane.*
- ❖ *Due to a lack of appropriate facilities, some students receive a nonpublic school placement. As placements of this type are very expensive, it has a direct impact on special education costs and erroneously inflates the required fiscal maintenance of effort. This has a direct impact on our unrestricted general fund, due to increases in the contribution to special education.*

- **Asset Preservation**

> The use of bond dollars to improve our campus facilities is an investment into our permanent assets.

- ❖ *Securing our campus perimeters allows for proper supervision of our facilities and, therefore, allows them to be preserved for much longer and to a much higher degree.*
- ❖ *Facilities with a secure perimeter, have fewer work orders due to a decrease in incidents of vandalism and graffiti, which typically occur after school hours.*
- ❖ *School sites are used as dumping grounds for trash and other hazards, including furniture, tires, oil, and other garbage that the site custodial staff cleans up for 2-3 hours each day.*

The following snippet provides an example of fencing that would address some of the issues mentioned above at two of our elementary sites. These projects have been identified as high need by the site principals and their respective stakeholders and may be recommended for consideration at an upcoming meeting.

Fencing Estimates for HLES and ALES: This is to separate schools from the neighboring parks only.

8' High No-climb Black Fencing						
Location	Quantity	Unit	UP	Gates	Gate UP	Total
Helen Lehman Elementary School	277	lf	200	1	1,500	\$56,900
Abraham Lincoln Elementary School	620	lf	200	2	1,500	\$127,000
					Total	\$183,900