

Neighborhood Liaison Committee Meeting

October 27, 2022

In attendance: Mary Fahey, Jerry Mullaney, Rachel Skiffer, Jason Langkammerer, Karen Caronna, Rodney Thompson, David Gross, Brandon Harami, Paige Berardo

Introductions (Jason Langkammerer)

Jason introduced Rachel Skiffer, Head-Royce's new Head of School, and Paige Berardo, from Communications who serves as note-taker for the meeting.

Start of the School Year (Mary Fahey)

Students have been back on campus since August 22nd. Head-Royce has started to bring back in-person events such as Back to School Nights, Parent Coffees, Admission Tours and Open Houses. We continue to enforce some COVID restrictions for guests such as pre-screening and asking for vaccinations. We are not completely open yet in terms of pre-COVID programming but are moving in that direction.

We are almost back to pre-COVID bus ridership and are only about 25 students from full ridership, which is positive. We currently have 379 students riding the bus now (split between Michael's and AC Transit). We have a total of 905 students enrolled. We just finished our first quarter and the emphasis of the school year is getting back to our full breadth of school traditions and happenings.

Karen commented that neighbors are still observing ongoing issues with traffic, insufficient number of monitors (with some monitors seen on their phones or sleeping), unauthorized parking, U-turns and jaywalking due to the lack of clear monitoring. She has also heard complaints about traffic issues up until 6:00 pm, with many student pick-ups still happening at that hour. She has also noted large white buses on Lincoln well after 4:00 pm, and a FedEx delivery at the gatehouse was observed. Mary noted these concerns and pointed out that FedEx (as well as USPS and UPS) deliveries on Lincoln are allowed under our conditions of approval, and that the white buses are the visiting team's transportation for after school athletic events.

Mary indicated that Head-Royce is working with the parent community to help them understand the queue process properly and can certainly reiterate that again. She was advised of the monitor who fell asleep and that person won't be coming back. The school is working hard with new monitors to train them properly. Mary believes that the correct number of faculty monitors on the street are in place as designated by the City. For special events, she determines the correct number of faculty monitors using a metric based on the size of the event.

Vegetation Management (Jerry Mullaney)

All fire inspections for this season have taken place and Head-Royce has passed all. Compliance Certificates have been posted on the neighborhood section of the website. Dealings with the Oakland Fire Department have gone very smoothly this year. The school now has a dedicated employee trimming vegetation and handling vegetation management on Lincoln. This has proven to be a good investment. This is an ongoing challenge due to the nature of vegetation growth.

We are no longer using gas blowers. Jerry hasn't heard any direct complaints regarding vegetation management through the summer and fall.

A question was raised regarding logs from felled trees on the south campus. Jerry said that the landscape architect we're working with asked for some logs to be preserved. He will look into how they're being stored.

Evacuation/Emergency Management (Jerry Mullaney)

At the last meeting Karen asked if the emergency evacuation plan could be shared. Jerry believed at that time that it was published in the Neighbor section of the school website but later learned that it had actually not been added at that time. This situation has been remedied and the plan is now published on the website in the Fire Prevention section of the Neighbor Page. Jerry pointed out that during the EIR process the school has engaged outside consultants and has taken note of city and neighborhood comments, and has enhanced the plan to incorporate these inputs. The plan now provides significantly more detail than the prior iteration found in the school's Emergency Preparedness Plan shared with the NLC a few years ago. Jerry indicated that, by the time the NLC group convenes again in the Spring, the plan document that is currently published on the school website is likely to be further updated and expanded. Since the EIR process is now in the final stages, Jerry would like to defer addressing specific questions related to the plan until the final EIR is published.

South Campus Update (Jason Langkammerer)

We are still waiting. We continue to hope to hear soon. The final EIR is due to be released, we hope in the next couple of months. As of now, there is nothing more to share.

The question was asked - who is the primary point person for the HRS expansion project team? Jason responded that there are a lot of people helping to coordinate various aspects of the project but Jerry is the primary point of contact. He receives information from the experts who are involved and relays information accordingly.

Jason thanks the attendees and the meeting adjourns at 12:35 pm.