

Good evening <appropriate title here>.

I'm Keith Shillington, and I reside at the north edge of Leucadia. First off, I want to thank you for your time and attention tonight.

I've always been fond of powerful questions, the powerful question for tonight is:
What is the lesson?

Every action this board takes can, and should be, viewed as object lessons for our children. Human children have an annoying capacity to do as we do, not to do as we say.

I want to examine the vision and mission of the district against the utilization of the school district's property in the Village of Encinitas framed by "E", "F", "3rd" & "4th" streets.

"...embrace diversity and innovation and be proactive in creating collaborative learning experiences." and "...work in partnership with family and community preparing children to be leaders in a diverse, ever-changing world."

I'm inviting you to please consider the proposal DEMA is placing in front of you as a golden opportunity to embrace diversity and innovation working in partnership with family and community to create a space where students of all ages can exercise their love for life-long learning.

The DEMA proposal creates a laboratory where this district's vision of utilizing a strong research-based curriculum, students will be empowered with direct experiences, otherwise non-existent resources and fresh timely information we all need to be successful.

I remember when the three "Rs" were "readin' ritin' and 'rithmetic" - in today's world the three "Rs" are "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle."

In my personal continued education, beyond my 18 years in California institutions, one most important lesson I've learned is "thinking outside the box." I understand from reading your exchanges with the City that the school district's "box" is pretty strictly defined by the state, and the nature of that box changes over time; such that the property in question is no longer adequate to house a "school" as currently defined.

This district's vision which focusses on high academic standards, accountability and service to the community will be served by retaining this unique gift of property as a public asset. DEMA's proposal addresses your most immediate need by transforming the property from a cash drain to a source of cash flow. Much like the parable of the goose that lays the golden egg; is it not better to nurture the goose; or shall we serve it for the holiday meal?

DISTRICT VISION

The District's focus on high academic standards, accountability and service to the community will result in success for our diverse students. Our students, as participants in a global information society, will be in the forefront of technology. They will embrace diversity and innovation and be proactive in creating collaborative learning experiences. Opening the window to the world, students will be motivated to gain knowledge in mathematics, science and language arts. With dedicated adults demonstrating a love for life-long learning, our students will begin a journey using the arts and physical activities to encourage students' multiple intelligences and learning styles. Utilizing a strong research-based curriculum, students are empowered with experiences, resources and information they need to be successful.

DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to assist our children to value learning and to be successful in school, society and work by providing a challenging and nurturing learning experience. We work in partnership with family and community preparing children to be leaders in a diverse, ever-changing world.