

The Parent-Faculty Organization of Harbor View Elementary School

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To the School Board of the Newport-Mesa Unified School District:

Thank you for all of your work on behalf of our students and schools. We appreciate you.

With both a school day of record-breaking heat and receipt of NMUSD's Collegiate Calendar informational flyer in one week, we parents at Harbor View Elementary School have questions and concerns for you:

1. We understand that Harbor View Elementary School is in line for the installation of air conditioning. **May we please have that installation soon?** 10/24/17 rang alarm bells for us. Its 102°F high temperature caused an unhealthy environment in all of our classrooms, concern for our students' and teachers' health, and many educational minutes to be wasted (as all moved slowly, most watched movies, some dealt with nausea, and there was vomiting suggesting heatstroke). Please see our School Nurse's report for the day concerning the influx of students with heat-related issues to HV's Health Office. Parents arrived and many students left school early that day. Please see our Office's In/Out roster. Pulling our students from school without District approval never seems like a good parental move. HV's Staff hadn't the option to leave the unhealthy work environment. The timely installation of air conditioning at Harbor View would solve this problem. **When is the work scheduled for HV?**
2. Recently the windows of our Multipurpose Room and one Kindergarten classroom were tinted. HV Staff states that this did seem to keep temperatures in those rooms cooler than other rooms on 10/24/17. **May we please have ALL windows on HV's campus tinted?** In the future window tinting could help improve air conditioners' efficiency, reduce power use, and perhaps improve classroom safety in case of (God forbid) an active shooter on campus. We'd like all windows tinted (regardless of aspect (S, W, N, or E)) as reflections bounce between them.
3. **How will the District handle future days of extreme heat for its few schools without air conditioning in place?** Will minimum days be called - or no school? Will there be warning the previous day for working parents to make arrangements? We are aware that other school districts (including San Diego, Long Beach, Malibu, and Santa Monica) called for whole district minimum or no school days on 10/24/17. Irvine approached the situation on a school by school basis. We heard nothing from NMUSD. It would be strange in the future to have our primary school students out of school (due to an out-of-date facility/lack of air conditioning/unhealthy environment) while siblings in middle and high school (with A/C) and friends at other elementary schools (with A/C) received education.
4. Our playgrounds require shade as an option for our students' health. **Would you please add shade structures to our playgrounds?** Harbor View hasn't any trees or shade structures on its Lower Playground. Students use the new solar panels for shade on its Upper Playground. Our students need the option of protection from sun and heat at recess, August/September through June.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our questions. We look forward to your reply.

The Executive Board of the Harbor View Parent-Faculty Organization

Erin Crane & Elizabeth Young (Co-Presidents), Elisa Steingruebner (Vice President of Public Relations), Becky Bazyk-Galipeau & Christine Tingley (Co-Vice Presidents of Finance), Kelly Fennell Greenberg & Coleen Mugel (Co-Vice Presidents of Ways & Means), Anne Warmington (Vice President of Membership), Michelle Lebron (Vice President of Community Outreach), Jessica Lindseth-Olson (Vice President of Enrichment), Jennifer Spotts (Recording Secretary), and Lucie Galvin (Correspondence Secretary)