

TO: BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

FROM: SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

VIA: FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Facilities Services Division (School Building Planning)  
Communication No. 1 to the Board of Education on February 13, 2001

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF A PREFERRED SITE FOR VALLEY NEW HIGH  
SCHOOL NO. 1, 55.98032  
(CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE)**

### **PROPOSAL**

It is proposed that the Board of Education approve a preferred site for the proposed Valley New High School No. 1. The requested Board action will enable the District staff to pursue and complete the State mandated California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process and return the project to the Board at that point for final action.

### **BACKGROUND**

The following site, shown on Attachment A, has been identified as the preferred site for this school. District staff has met with California State University, Northridge (CSUN) personnel to discuss a proposal to build a high school on the university campus for local Valley students with a focus on preparing students for college and future teaching careers. The high school will help meet the need for new classrooms in the San Fernando Valley and help lessen overcrowding. The school will also educate future teachers by partnering with CSUN, which has one of the state's largest teacher preparation programs.

The project will be the first new LAUSD high school in the Valley in nearly 30 years and the only LAUSD high school sited on a university campus. The school will have subject tracks in visual arts and media, and health and human services. Students will have the opportunity to graduate highly proficient in math, science, and foreign languages.

The District would obtain from CSUN an approximately five-acre site on Zelzah Avenue, and as part of the project, would also gain the shared use of various CSUN facilities. Those are expected to include approximately 10 acres of adjacent athletic fields, and certain science and language laboratories. In even exchange, via sale or lease, the District would transfer to CSUN the District-owned former Prairie Street school site located adjacent to the University's core campus. The CSUN site is undeveloped and available for use, will not require removal of homes or businesses, and serves an area in need of additional school capacity.

The Facilities Committee reviewed this report on January 25, 2001.

Approval of this project is also subject to review by the Board of Trustees of the California State University system.

**BUDGET IMPLICATION**

Funding for this project is included in the June 29, 2000 Priority Master Plan which was approved by the Board on July 25, 2000. This project can be completed within the Master Plan budget of \$26,400,000. The school is planned to have 800 students in attendance at any one time with a total year-round enrollment of approximately 1,200.

**RECOMMENDATION**

IT IS RECOMMENDED that the Board of Education approve the site listed below for use as a site to relieve overcrowding in the San Fernando Valley and that the Superintendent be authorized to execute documents necessary to facilitate this transaction.

**Valley New High School No. 1, (California State University, Northridge)**

**Site Location:** A vacant portion of the CSUN campus located along the west side of Zelzah Avenue at Halsted Street, approximately ½ mile north of Nordhoff Street. The site is located between the CSUN tennis courts and student housing.

**Site Description:** A vacant parcel comprising approximately five (5) acres

IT IS ALSO RECOMMENDED that the Board of Education authorize Budget Services and Financial Planning Division to establish expenditure authority as outlined in this board report.

**DESEGREGATION IMPACT STATEMENT**

This action has been reviewed and does not require a Desegregation Impact Statement.

PREPARED BY:

Respectfully submitted,

KATHI LITTMANN  
Director School Building Planning

ROY ROMER  
Superintendent of Schools

PRESENTED BY:

ROBERT BUXBAUM  
Interim Chief Facilities Executive

## Attachment A

<b>Communication No. 1, 2/13/2001</b>	
<b>Project No. 55.98032</b>	Valley New High School No. 1 (CSUN)

### Valley New High School – CSUN Campus

<b>Address:</b>	CSUN Campus – Zelzah Court
<b>Boundary Location:</b>	West side of Zelzah Avenue at Halsted Street approximately ½ mile north of Nordhoff.
<b>Assessor’s Parcel Numbers:</b>	2764.014.904 Subject to Lot-line Adjustment or Subdivision
<b>Size:</b>	Approximately 5 acres (net)
<b>Commercial/Residential Detail:</b>	
Single Family:	None
Small Apartment:	None
4-Plex:	None
Commercial:	None
<b>Seats:</b>	
Total Seats:	800 two-semester seats or 1,200 year-round seats.
<b>Estimated Budget</b>	
Total Cost:	<u>\$26,400,000</u>