

Windward School Annual Neighborhood Meeting
Tuesday, December 13, 2016
5:30 p.m.

Pursuant to duly given notice, the Windward School Annual Neighborhood Meeting was held in the Center for Teaching & Learning at Windward School, 11350 Palms Boulevard, Los Angeles, California on Tuesday, December 13, 2016.

Proposed Goal: Hold an annual public community meeting at Windward School to improve our neighborhood partnerships; inform Mar Vista neighbors of upcoming plans, school events, etc.; field concerns from neighbors; and find avenues for continued conversation.

Representing Windward School:

Tom Gilder, Head of School
Dawn Barrett, Director of Institutional Advancement & Operations
Jacqueline Varney, Assistant Director of Operations

Representing Community Organizations:

Len Nguyen, Senior Field Deputy for Councilmember Mike Bonin
Greg Castelnovo-Tedesco, Mar Vista Zone 4 Director
Rob Kadota, Chair of Mar Vista Community Council
Bill Koontz, Past Chair, Mar Vista Community Council
Michael Millman, Vice-Chair PLUM Committee

5:30 p.m. Meeting held in the Center for Teaching and Learning, 2nd Floor.

5:40 p.m. Tom Gilder (Windward's Head of School) opened the meeting, offered greetings, and introduced the evening's agenda.

Rob Kadota (Chair of Mar Vista Community Council) gave a brief update on recent MVCC business. Mr. Koontz expressed continued appreciation for Windward's positive impact and community-focused work within Mar Vista. He thanked Windward for sponsoring local activities like the *Mar Vista Fall Festival* and hosting numerous MVCC monthly meetings (*aging in Place, Public Safety, PLUM*).

Mr. Kadota introduced **Greg Castelnovo-Tedesco** (Zone 4 Community Director) and asked him to give an update on the homeless issues.

Len Nguyen (Senior Field Deputy for Councilmember Mike Bonin) gave an update on the Councilmember's latest activities.

Mr. Nguyen noted the long-standing cooperation between Windward and the District Office on efforts to support Mar Vista and help improve the community. He commended Windward for continually being responsive to feedback from neighbors and helping to navigate local issues with city officials.

Dawn Barrett (Windward Director of Institutional Advancement and Operations) provided updates on security and operational measures at Windward. A variety of steps continue to ensure that the area around campus remains a safe and welcoming environment for Windward families and neighbors alike, including:

- Crossing guards at Palms Boulevard during high traffic hours for both neighbors and students.
- Conducting increased patrols on perimeter streets to monitor parking; and deploying enhanced parking lot management during major scheduled school events to help maintain smooth traffic flow.
- Continued dedication to traffic mitigation efforts, by adding additional bus routes and having routine traffic assessments performed and implementation of recommended improvements.
- Windward has encouraged dialogue with immediate neighbors of the campus and furnished them with a round-the-clock point of contact so that any issues or questions may be immediately addressed. Recent example – hedges added behind athletic field bleachers for improved views from neighborhood homes.
- Quarterly newsletters are distributed to support improved communications and provide immediate contacts for any issues that may arise.
- The Windward in the Community web page includes all Steering Committee minutes, local news, and links for easy access.
- Invites to campus events/programs – guest speakers, performing arts events, screenings, musical performances, homecoming, summer camps, etc.

Jeff Marder thanked and complimented Windward for the school's proactive course of communication and, especially, for acting promptly to address any inquiries made regarding school facilities and operations.

Tom Gilder gave an update on the new strategic plan that was approved by the Board of Trustees. The strategic plan addresses a long-term master campus plan with development focused on the site of an apartment complex currently owned by the school on the southeast corner of campus. This would be potentially be in conjunction with the redevelopment on the footprint of the existing main structure that currently faces Palms Boulevard. As noted in the 2014 Neighborhood Meeting minutes, Mr. Gilder strongly emphasized that *any* future plans for campus additions, if proposed, would be thoroughly vetted with neighbors and the Mar Vista Community Council. In addition, prior to starting any construction efforts, the school would first approach the community through public hearings as it has historically done.

Mr. Gilder concluded by reminding attendees that their input and feedback—whether in the form of a phone call or participation in a community forum like this one—is vitally important to the school's ability to address any issues. Windward places a high priority on transparency, partnership, and open communication with fellow neighbors; if a concern ever arises, please contact the school so that necessary steps can be taken.

Mr. Gilder closed the evening by thanking all attendees for their time and expressing gratitude for the opportunity to talk and work together on improving our community.

6:40 p.m. Meeting adjourned.