

Q & A : Fencing Martin Murphy Middle School

Q. Can the Community make arrangements to use the track? The most popular times are typically early morning and in the late afternoon.

A. Yes, with the proper agreements in place. The District has met with City of San Jose staff to discuss this option but no commitments have been made. An agreement with either the HOA or the City of San Jose would need to define the responsible party, ensure access hours are enforced and provide liability insurance. According to City of San Jose staff, a joint-use agreement typically takes 6-9 months to be completed.

Q. Will the public have access to the field during non-school hours?

A. Yes, with agreements in place. The District shares this interest and is working diligently with the City of San Jose to find a solution. As we work on an agreement, access will be limited to non-school hours. The District will continue the process of installing the fencing around the perimeter without gates until we receive State approval and an agreement is finalized.

Q. Is rental use still an option?

A. Yes. Rental use through Facilitron is still available during non-school hours.



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Q. Can the community provide input on the gate locations?

A. Yes, the District will take input on potential gate locations. The current plan provides for two gates and the school site will have priority in determining the gate locations.

Q. Will there be emergency exits out in the event of an emergency?

A. Yes. As required by the California Department of Education, panic hardware will be installed on the gates which allows for quick emergency exiting.

Q. After the fence is installed, will students still run through the park during PE?

A. Yes, teachers may direct student PE activities in public areas including the City of San Jose park area depending on the activity, as approved by site administration. Once the fence line around the field is installed, PE instruction will occur inside the enclosed fence line area.



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Q. What is the timeline?

A. The District began the fence installation on January 27, 2020. Projected completion of the fence (without gates) is expected in late February. Access to the site will be limited to before and after school hours. Signs for use will be posted.

Q. Can the fence be upgraded to possibly powder coated chain link or ornamental?

A. After receiving the bids, the District will be upgrading the new fencing to ornamental.

Q. Is it possible for the fenced off area to not include the track?

A. No. The school PE program uses the track for students while school is in session or when organized after school activities might utilize the track. The track is not available to the public during these times for student safety.



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Q. What is the need for a fence now?

A. Student safety is the utmost priority for the District at every site. The District requested the services of Knowledge Saves Lives which is a company with a team of law enforcement personnel to perform security assessments districtwide. The risk assessment identified the perimeter fencing as the number 1 measure of security to be implemented.

Q. As a taxpayer, shouldn't we have access to District property?

A. Yes, under circumstances allowed by the District. The property is owned by the District, not the city, the neighborhood, or the community. The District supports allowing its properties to be utilized by the public during non-school days/hours under a facilities use agreement or as agreed to with each City willing to enter into an agreement for joint use. The District is willing to actively work with each City to develop joint use agreements.

Q. Where can I get more information?

A. As additional questions and information is received this document will be periodically updated. If you have additional questions, please contact the following individuals on the next page.



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