



La Porte Independent School District

February 27, 2009

Dear Parents of Bayshore Elementary School Students:

I want to assure you that we are continuing our work toward building a new Bayshore Elementary School for our children and update you on our progress.

At the Feb. 24 LPISD Board of Trustees meeting, our Board voted to approve the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of just under \$18.8 million for construction of a new Bayshore Elementary School. By doing so, the Board prompted the final purchase of the proposed Bayshore site at McCabe Road and Highway 146, and as a condition of the approval, required ABS Consulting to do a Phase 2 risk analysis of the site. These actions were grounded in the belief that our Bayshore students should not be displaced any longer than necessary and with the hope that they will have their own campus home for a meaningful period of time next spring.

LPISD had previously contracted with ABS Consulting to conduct a Phase 1 risk analysis of the existing and proposed Bayshore sites. On the afternoon of Feb. 24, the district received the report on the Phase 1 analysis, which considered several worst-case scenarios for maximum credible fire, explosion, and toxic release as well as hurricane hazards. This report, as well as other information related to the new school and site, is available under the "Bayshore Elementary Information" link on the home page of our LPISD web site, www.lpisd.org.

The Phase 1 risk analysis did not recommend abandoning the proposed site. Furthermore, QC Laboratories' environmental study, completed in January 2009, identified the site as having "a low risk for potential contamination from offsite facilities" and recommended no further testing. As discussed in our Feb. 24 Board meeting, it is possible that, as part of the Phase 2 analysis, ABS Consulting could find a reason that the school should not be built at the proposed site; however, all current indications are that this is not very likely. Please know that if the Phase 2 analysis determines the site to be unsafe, we will abandon the project.

The Phase 1 risk analysis has already provided us with guidance which has been incorporated into the building and mechanical system design as well as determined where the building is best placed on the proposed site. The Phase 2 analysis will be more in-depth and provide greater detail, helping our architects and engineers provide the best school possible. The results of the Phase 2 study will also be helpful to us as we review the safety, security, and emergency response plans not only for Bayshore, but for all LPISD campuses.

While many of us would have liked to build at the existing site, our studies have shown this is not practical due to several factors, including the average elevation, the site's size and configuration, and the limitations these impose on overall site usage and design. Be that as it may, the district remains committed to providing an elementary school in the southeast La Porte/Shoreacres area and has been working diligently to make this happen for our Bayshore families. Thank you for your patience.

Sincerely,

Lloyd W. Graham
Superintendent of Schools

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*Superintendent
of Schools*

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