

Board of Trustees Agenda Item

Board Meeting Date: 8/8/2011

Title of Item: Education Center Acquisition Update

Background and Analysis:

After meeting in closed session on August 8, 2011 to review the price, terms and conditions associated with each of the alternative sites, Onizuka Air Force Station and 895 Kifer Street in Sunnyvale, the Board of Trustees will announce its preferred site and direct staff to negotiate the terms and conditions of an agreement to acquire a property to serve as a permanent home for the education center.

After the Board announces the selection of the preferred site, Executive Director Allen will identify the next steps in the acquisition process.

Recommendation: (information only)

Submitted by:	Charles Allen, Executive Director
Additional contact names:	Kevin McElroy, Vice Chancellor
Is backup provided?	Yes

Background

A District-wide search effort was initiated in February 2011 for Foothill College, for the purpose of locating a permanent site for the Foothill/Middlefield Education Center that currently resides in approximately 50,000 square feet of rented facilities at the Cubberley Community Center at 4000 Middlefield Road in Palo Alto. The Cubberley site is owned jointly by The City of Palo Alto (7.92 acres) and the Palo Alto Unified School District (31.55 acres). The Center serves approximately 4,000 students each quarter with FTE enrollment of 1,100.

Vision Statement

It is the goal of the District to locate a permanent home for this Education Center with a state-of-the-art facility serving Silicon Valley through programs and partnerships that seamlessly transition individuals from high school to community college to the university and the workplace as well as offering a rich array of lifelong learning opportunities.

Mission Statement

The mission of the new Education Center is to serve a highly diverse student population by offering support services and credit and noncredit programs in basic skills, transfer, and workforce preparation, as well as not-for-credit, fee-based community education. The target audiences are high school/regional occupational program graduates, workers who are training, retraining, or upgrading skills, and lifelong learners.

Programming for the new Education Center is to be year-round and will leverage partnerships with other colleges and universities, high schools, regional occupational programs, community based organizations, local government, business, and industry. Support services will include placement testing, orientation, educational planning, job placement, internships, financial aid, tutoring, student activities, and veterans' services.

The Education Center will specialize in "gateway" curricula that lead to family-sustaining jobs while laying the foundation for continued studies in higher-level career areas.

The Process

In February 2011, PPV outlined a multi-step acquisition process for the new Education Center. This report represents the completion of the 2nd step of the acquisition process involving the solicitation of offers. Board approval will be required to move to the next step of the process which will include exclusive negotiations for the preferred site.