



New School Update: Normal Heights Elementary School

As part of Proposition MM, San Diego Unified School District is constructing 12 new and three rebuilt schools to alleviate overcrowding in the city's most densely populated and rapidly developing areas.

Here is an update on the new Normal Heights Elementary School:

- **School opens:** OPEN! September 5, 2006
- **Principal:** John Aguilar
- **Vice Principal:** Maria Gomez
- **Status:** Construction is completed.
- **Location:** 3750 Ward Avenue, San Diego, CA 92116. Normal Heights in Mid-City. The site is bound by Edna Place and East Mountain View Drive on the north, the alley between 38th and 39th Streets and the proposed 39th Street Park on the east, the alley between Madison Avenue and Ward Road on the south, and the alley behind existing residential units, immediately east of East Mountain View Drive/Madison Avenue on the west (a.k.a. Alternative Site A).
- **Purpose:** Normal Heights Elementary has eased overcrowding at Adams Elementary and Franklin Elementary.
- **New school size:** The new school can accommodate 600 students in grades K-5 on 5.9 acres.
- **Acquisition and relocation:** The new school required the acquisition of 40 parcels, and the relocation of 154 households consisting of 300 residents. Of the 154 households, 12 used their relocation funds to become first-time homeowners.
- **Name of new school:** The school is named for the surrounding neighborhood area, which in turn is named for the former San Diego Normal School, a teacher's college and forerunner to San Diego State University.
- **Campus features:** 28 classrooms, 58,000 square feet of facilities, 5.9 acres, 58 parking spaces, joint-use field for soccer and baseball, multipurpose room, library/media center, lunch shelter, elevator and accessibility features, kitchen, faculty lounge, workroom, administrative center and energy-efficient design features. A colorful design will reflect the artistic nature of community, and a "grand hallway" through the campus will provide after-hours access from the west via a curvilinear sidewalk with lamppost lighting. In addition, six trees were monitored/saved during construction.
- **Project partners:** Soltek Pacific and Zagrodnik + Thomas Architects

ABOUT PROPOSITION MM

- ❖ Proposition MM is a \$1.51 billion bond measure passed by 78% of San Diego voters in 1998. It funds the construction of 12 new and three rebuilt schools and modernization of 161 existing schools.
- ❖ Of the new schools, six are completed, seven are under construction, and two are in development. Of the existing schools to be modernized, 108 have been completed.
- ❖ The Proposition MM program has earned numerous awards, including two Golden Watchdog Awards from the San Diego County Taxpayers Association for efficient use of taxpayer dollars.
- ❖ 90% of construction dollars have gone to local firms, and 38% have gone to emerging and minority businesses.
- ❖ As Proposition MM only addresses \$1.51 billion of nearly \$4 billion in critical facilities needs, the school district is developing a follow-on bond measure for voter approval in 2008.

Contact Information: Facilities Management Communications, (858) 637-6297

www.sandi.net/propmm
Revised 08/29/06