



8500 E. Jackrabbit Rd  
Scottsdale, AZ 85250

Telephone: 480-484-6100  
Web site: [www.susd.org](http://www.susd.org)

**October 4, 2017**

Dear Hopi Community,

We hear you. Please know that we value your feedback on the new Hopi Elementary School design. Allow us now to address some of your concerns. We encourage you to read this information completely, then join us for a parent forum at Hopi on Monday, October 16 at 6:00 p.m.

REGARDING INPUT:

First, on the matter of input, we want to reiterate that the Hopi Rebuild Committee has met 16 times and will continue to meet. This committee has had input well beyond whether to put brick on the façade. That insight has led to everything from the placement of the Kindergarten classrooms to an increased number of playgrounds. We encourage you to reach out to committee members for more on their input. A list of committee members can be found in the Hopi section of [bond.susd.org](http://bond.susd.org).

Additional input has been sought at two community meetings and a half dozen meetings with neighbors and other stakeholders. We continue to listen to that input and take action. Here are the latest changes/additions, based on feedback from the September community meeting and the most recent committee meeting:

- We are bringing back the baseball field from an earlier design phase.
- An additional bicycle pathway has been added along the north entrance, to create a safe pathway without crossing the bus lane.
- We are adding outdoor learning spaces. These will be north and east of the classroom building and will be covered and have tables, to encourage teachers to take students outdoors. In addition, the garden area will be expanded to include chairs and covered tables for extended learning opportunities.

REGARDING NATURAL LIGHT:

The addition of outdoor learning spaces is a direct result of community concerns about natural light in classrooms. Natural light was made a priority in this design, but there were also some unique challenges. Hopi is the smallest elementary school site in the District, and keeping kids on campus (rather than moving them off-site for 18 months) limits the space available for placing new buildings.

In order to remain a single-story building and maintain fields and play space on the amount of acreage we have, we do have a classroom building with interior rooms.

Six of the 32 classrooms do not have windows. Instead, each of these six rooms will have four 2' x 2' skylights, providing natural light. These skylights will be dimmable, to allow teachers flexibility to darken room when needed, as they provide more than adequate light. This is a green concept, as the lights in the room automatically dim as the natural light floods the room, for energy efficiency. Any other interior classrooms have windows, placed high, to bring in natural light, in addition to skylights. All classroom corridors are also supported by natural light.

#### MYTH-BUSTING:

We understand it can be hard to see detail in artist renderings, so here are some additional facts to correct the most common pieces of misinformation:

- Hallways are 10-feet wide, with natural light
- Most classrooms have two, 5' x 5' windows, not one. The science room has one window and a door with a window, rather than two windows.
- All workers, including subcontractors, are required to have fingerprint clearance cards, which require both state and federal background checks. To be clear, this is the same background check process our teachers go through.
- Bicycle routes exist from the northwest, southwest and southeast. The sidewalk on Lafayette will remain. Based on recent feedback, we have added a pedestrian/bicycle path north of the bus lane drop-off, to eliminate crossing the bus lane. The architect has created a map to show pedestrian and bike paths, which you can find below as well as on [bond.susd.org](http://bond.susd.org).
- The new plans call for many more trees and more foliage than the current campus.
- Both indoor and outdoor recreational space will increase in the new design. Please see the table below for a side-by-side comparison.
- 80% of the student tile artwork will be moved to the new school, including the Hopi Hawk.
- In SUSD, procurement, permitting and bid processes are always followed, according to city and state regulations.
- Various stages of design have been shared publicly for months – online, in newsletters, on display in the Hopi front office, at committee meetings and at Governing Board meetings. The final floor plans and exterior designs have been available online for weeks.

#### ADDITIONAL CLASSROOM BUILDING DESIGN NOTES:

We have discussed lighting in the new classroom building, but want to further explain the need for a single classroom building versus the 12 separate buildings we have now. A singular classroom building is more secure and more energy-efficient than multiple buildings, and it allows us to keep the building to one story while maintaining outdoor field and play spaces.

The current breezeways are corridors, not learning spaces. In the new design, we will better support outdoor learning by adding four covered learning spaces, to the north and east of the classroom building. Those new spaces are in addition to the existing outdoor learning spaces along the north and

west sides of the multi-purpose building and the south and west sides of the administration building, which are already part of the design.

#### REGARDING TRAFFIC:

The number of parking spaces and the length of on-campus traffic lanes for drop off/pick up are determined through city codes and fire lane requirements that did not exist when Hopi was first built. This does mean more pavement on campus, unavoidably, but the good news is that it will get more traffic off the streets and alleviate congestion for our neighbors.

The District continues to meet with the city about the placement of the entrance on Rubicon, but ultimately, it will be up to the city to decide how to handle access and egress. We will continue to work with city traffic engineering, which determines traffic control methods.

#### REGARDING ENROLLMENT:

The plan for Hopi is to build a K-5 Comprehensive Elementary School. The new design allows for appropriate Kindergarten drop-off. There are no plans for preschool at this time. Any discussions about preschool were in consideration of all future possibilities, which must be anticipated when designing a school to last the next 50 years.

The new school is designed for, ideally, 700 K-5 students. To answer one of the community's most pressing questions, yes, enrollment will be capped in the future to meet this new school size, in accordance with Governing Board policy, but it will not happen overnight. Reduction in student enrollment will take an estimated two years.

#### REGARDING FLOOD CONTROL:

The new design provides flood control through underground water retention with a capacity of 96,940 gallons. We have combined our current use of flood irrigation with a sprinkler system to provide optimal turf growth. We have the option to receive or not receive the flood irrigation. It has been monitored and used in the past, and will continue in the future. This results in a cost savings to the District.

#### REGARDING "STARTING OVER":

We thank everyone who has provided feedback over the last six months. Your input has made the new design better for our students and staff. Not every opinion can be implemented into the design, but every opinion is heard and considered. To be clear, we are not changing the footprint, but we are willing to continue to improve the design elements with continuing feedback from the community.

Just in the last week, as the result of listening and hearing your feedback, the baseball field has been brought back into the design, outdoor teaching spaces have been added, and an additional bike path has

been added on the north side. These changes are in addition to the improvements already made by listening to the input of committee members and the community over the last six months.

We hope you will continue to reach out, not only to the Governing Board and members of the District team, but also to The Hopi Rebuild Committee, the PTA, Principal Jagodzinski and the staff at Hopi Elementary. Your voices are important to us, and we thank you once again for sharing your concerns as we strive to come together as a community to build the new school that was promised to those who make Hopi special: our students, teachers and the vibrant Hopi community.

We hear you, and we are still listening.

Sincerely,

Dr. A. Denise Birdwell

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. Denise Birdwell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

## Comparison of current Hopi campus spaces and proposed design

	Current	Proposed
<b>Parking spaces</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>124</b> <b>Required by City Code #702</b>
<b>P.E. space</b>	<b>2,022 sq ft</b>	<b>9,929 sq ft</b>
<b>Playground &amp; Field Space</b>	<b>124,407 sq ft</b>	<b>136,557 sq ft</b>
<b>Outdoor Courts</b>	<b>4 Basketball courts</b>	<b>3 Basketball courts</b>
<b>Outdoor Learning</b>	<b>5,553 sq ft at Library Courtyard</b>	<b>22,819 sq ft (4 spaces)</b>

1. Parking spaces - City of Phoenix Ordinance #702

Assembly Space 5,406 sq ft /60 sq ft = 90 spaces required

Employee Parking 71 employees/3 = 24 spaces required

Library 1,929 sq ft / 190 sq ft = 10 spaces required

Total = 124 required and provided parking spaces

2. Vehicle queuing requirements per site in Phoenix (based on current enrollment of 800+)

4 LFT (linear feet) per student ideal = 3,200 LFT

2 LFT per student minimum = 1,600 LFT

Providing 2,461 LFT as maximum space available on this site

# Bicycle and Pedestrian Routes

