

Only One School at the North End of Town

Traffic and congestion have arrived in our Fairmont neighborhood.

On January 22, 2025, the Pacifica School District closed Ocean Shore School without community input or impact analysis. The closure is final—OSS has been evicted from their Oceana Blvd location (which now stands empty), and our community is fractured.

This hasty decision has forced Ocean Shore students to transfer to Sunset Ridge, dramatically increasing enrollment and the number of parents driving and walking children to and from campus. Located at the busy intersection of Hickey and Inverness—both major thoroughfares—the school now faces serious traffic and safety challenges that were never assessed. The increased student population has created dangerous conditions for children walking and crossing Inverness and Hickey. I have personally watched frustrated commuter cars drive into oncoming traffic to get around the pickup and drop-off chaos!

With Sunset Ridge now filled beyond capacity, new students may be turned away, forcing Fairmont families to drive 15 minutes south on Highway 1 to Vallemar—the next closest school. For TK-5th grade students, public transportation requires adult accompaniment on SAMTrans buses, making this option impractical for most families.

Get involved. Pacifica School Board meetings occur every three weeks with opportunities for public comment. Access meeting information at pacificasd.org by clicking the Board Agenda/Policy button.

The school closure is just one example of this board's pattern of making consequential decisions without proper analysis or community engagement. When elected officials repeatedly fail to serve our community's interests, we have the power to hold them accountable. Consider this: Pacifica hasn't seen a contested school board position on our ballots in 11 years because the district has found ways to sidestep democracy. Only 2 of the current sitting members were actually elected by voters over a decade ago.

A recall effort is underway to replace board members who have demonstrated poor judgment and disregard for community input. Our schools need strong leaders who assess the full impact of their decisions, engage parents and taxpayers meaningfully, and make wise financial choices. We deserve a school district board that prioritizes collaboration, communication, and community confidence in their leadership.

This affects not just our schools or our neighborhood, but our entire Pacifica community.

Fairmont Subdivision Resident since 2013,
Crissie McBride