

# Green Acres school, neighbors are locked in debate over gate

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LIVE OAK — A dispute over a popular student shortcut to Green Acres Elementary School remains unresolved, although no further incidents have been reported this week.

Residents of Spencer Court, whose private road is used as a shortcut to the back of the school, met Tuesday with school administrators and officials of the Live Oak Elementary School District, said David Paine, Green Acres principal.

Paine said the "cordial" meeting lasted about an hour, but no resolution was reached. The district trustees are tentatively scheduled to discuss the issue Oct. 1.

The furor started when a Spen-

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cer Court resident, fed up with vandalism of passers-by, installed a locked gate between the private road and the school, barring stu-

dents from what parents maintained was the safest route to the school.

Surveyors later determined that the gate was on school district property.

School officials have let the gate and lock stay — the Spencer Court residents have the key — while they try to reach agreement regarding whether students can walk on Spencer Court to the school.

"We don't want to do anything unilateral," said Paine. "We're not just going to take the gate or lock off until we can resolve this with communication," said Paine.

Paine said the residents have continued to unlock the gate before and after school to allow students access.