



For New High School

LA Fonda School

Board Selects Eastside Area

By Alan Pugh
Sentinel Staff Writer

Trustees of the Santa Cruz High school district last night selected a near 50-acre site for the new \$1.7-million high school building. It is situated adjacent to the Watsonville-Santa Cruz freeway at the city's easterly limits.

Known as the "La Fonda" site, it was one of four presented to the board by members of a citizens site selection committee. The first alternate was the "harbor site" which extended southerly from Capitola road in the same area. The other two sites

were known as the "Paul Sweet" site and the "DeLaveaga" site.

Consulting architect Kal Porter outlined benefits of both sites and declared the La Fonda site the better of the two, both economically and topographically.

On-site land development on the La Fonda site would run about \$280,000 he told trustees. It is about \$40,000 more than similar expenses for the harbor site, but he explained that the harbor site doubtlessly would cost more since it was prime residential land.

No figures were given for actual land costs.

On motion of Trustee John Melendy, a resolution was passed giving District Superintendent D. A. Morrissey authority to take steps looking toward eminent domain procedures, and with cooperation of the county counsel to start land condemnation proceedings. It was pointed out that the condemnation action would not preclude negotiations, but that it would be instituted now in case it were needed later.

Morrissey said the district had set September, 1967 as target date for opening the new school and that haste was necessary.

The site is designated as a "triangular portion bordering on Highway 1 to the north, Soquel avenue to the south, the city's limits on the east and Park way on the west. Roughly, it is in the Arana Gulch area.

Porter said some of the land was heavily wooded and many of the trees would be saved and used in the landscaping for the new high school plant.

Morrissey pointed out that the location was in the area of population growth, and met all requirements of size, location, cost and topography.

Still on the building program, trustees accepted the bid of Victor Bogard of Santa Cruz for 24 new classroom units and other work at Soquel High school. Bogard was low with the bid of \$647,674 in a field of nine who sought the contract. Bids ranged up to the high of \$691,000, with the Bogard figure being \$70,000 below the architect's estimate.

In other actions, the board:

—Approved a data processing program with a monthly rental figure of \$1488.50 for equipment from International Business Machines. Both educational and school business processing will be done by the equipment.

Agreed to a contract with the

state for a job classification and salary survey at a cost of \$3500.

—Set West Side elementary attendance boundaries and discussed phasing out for the Garfield Park and Mission Hill elementary schools.

—Authorized expenditure of up to \$7000 for purchase of property on Weeks avenue for high school expansion.

—Called for a special meeting at noon, December 28 to award bids for the new Natural Bridges school.

Denied a request of Elton Thompson, director of curriculum, to attend Stanford and complete his doctor's degree.

Heard a comprehensive report on the school's special education program as it applied to the mentally retarded.

The board also awarded bids for high school art equipment, elementary and high school shop equipment, Westlake Elementary school paving, and for wrestling mats at Soquel high.

Site Of New School



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