

Scenic Foothills Community Council
Daniel Clift, President
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SFCC Resolution Regarding School Closures

Whereas

WHEREAS the Anchorage School District announced in November 2024 the intention to close seven elementary schools over the next three years as part of a district wide “Right Size” initiative, and

WHEREAS the list of schools to be closed includes three east Anchorage Schools in very close physical proximity to one another with Nunaka Valley only 1.5 miles from both Baxter and Wonder Park, and

WHEREAS closing three schools near one another disproportionately affects this community within Anchorage, approximately 32% of all affected students come from one small area of town, and

WHEREAS the Anchorage School District has amended their plan per the December 3rd meeting to reduce the number of closed schools from 7 to 4 and exclude Wonder Park from the list and identify that Baxter and Nunaka Valley shall be repurposed for Charter Schools, and

WHEREAS many of the parents of students in Baxter are 2nd language English speakers and were given little notification, they have had little opportunity to express their concerns and frustration.

Be it therefore resolved

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED this council applauds the effort of the Anchorage School District to consider feedback from the community and revise their proposed closures. We do, nonetheless, strongly encourage the Anchorage School District to spread out the school closures more proportionately instead of targeting one region.

If these schools become Charter Schools, we request preferential treatment and enrollment for children previously enrolled in that school.

We strongly oppose the closure of Baxter Elementary, specifically because of the hardship caused to special needs students often experiencing autism related issues. These students have been moved around repeatedly causing academic and emotional distress and they have only just settled into Baxter, which has offered a safe and therapeutic setting for these students. These students cannot advocate for themselves.

This Scenic Foothills Community Council after obtaining a quorum of 8 or more members, approved this resolution by a vote of [15] Ayes, [0] Nays, & [0] Abstains. Attested this December 5th.

Daniel H. Clift, Chair of Scenic Foothills Community Council,


