



San Diego Unified School District

OCEAN BEACH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

4741 Santa Monica Ave. San Diego, CA 92107-2208

Marco Drapeau, Principal



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Date:

To: Vince Hall, Chief Executive Officer Feeding San Diego

Info: Representative CA 52nd District Scott Peters

California Senate President pro Tempore Toni G. Atkins

California State Assembly 78th Assembly District Todd Gloria

City of San Diego Mayor Kevin Faulconer

Councilmember District 2 Jennifer Campbell

Cindy Marten, Superintendent San Diego Unified School District

Dr. Mike McQuary, Board of Trustees San Diego Unified School District

Alicia Saake, Chief Operations Officer Feeding San Diego

Re: Expanding a Food Distribution site in Ocean Beach for Our Students and Families

We are requesting that Feeding San Diego consider expanding current weekly food distribution in the Ocean Beach community to daily food distribution to help address food insecurity concerns that have arisen due to San Diego Unified School District's (SDUSD) temporary closure due to Coronavirus-19.

The Peninsula Cluster Foundation part of SDUSD has three underserved Title I schools west of Interstate 5, Ocean Beach Elementary (OBE), Cabrillo Elementary and Dewey Elementary schools. Students served by Title 1 schools include at-risk students such as children with limited English proficiency, homeless students, students with disabilities, and children of military families.

Title 1 status is determined within the first full year a school has been in existence with at least 40% of students eligible to receive free and reduced breakfast and lunch. San Diego Unified School district's closure of all district schools until May 2020 due to Coronavirus-19 concerns has unintentionally caused food insecurities to children who rely upon free and reduced breakfast and lunch meals provided by their elementary schools to supplement their diets.

Although Feeding San Diego already distributes food weekly to the Ocean Beach Community at Sacred Heart Church every other Tuesday for 2 hours and Ocean Beach Emergency Food Inc every Monday for 3 hours, we feel that this is inadequate during this extraordinary time to help the most vulnerable segment of our population.

Currently 1 in 6 children in San Diego struggle with hunger and 1 in 8, or nearly 400,000 people, in San Diego County are food insecure. In the 92107-zip code where Ocean Beach Elementary is located there are over 2800 families who are below the poverty level. In the 92106-zip code where Cabrillo and Dewey Elementary schools are located there are over 1200 families who are below the poverty level in addition to a large military family presence at both schools.

Due to the fact that there are currently NO SDUSD food distribution sites west of Interstate 5 and that the closest SDUSD food distribution center is over an hour away from Ocean Beach via public transit, we feel very strongly that a very vulnerable and significant portion of our community is being underserved, requires additional food security help in this extraordinary time and that Feeding San Diego is positioned to help fill a much needed service.

Thank you for the support that you have provided to our community in the past and we appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to continued dialogue with your respective offices and any other interested parties.

Sincerely,

Marco Drapeau
Principal
Ocean Beach Elementary

Andrea Schlageter
Chair
Ocean Beach Planning Board

Rebecca Vogel
Principal
Cabrillo Elementary

Mark Winkie
President
Ocean Beach Town Council

Jessica Fernandez
President
Ocean Beach Elementary PTA

Mandy Havlik
Member
Peninsula Community Planning Board