



A NEW HOME FOR THE SANTA BARBARA MIDDLE SCHOOL JEFFERSON CAMPUS – 1321 APS

On June 1st Santa Barbara Middle School took official occupancy of the Brooks Jefferson campus at 1321 APS. We moved our administration into our new offices in July and we are on track to complete our facelift of this beautiful building by the end of August and welcome our students on September 7th. We are thrilled to have the opportunity to provide a world-class education in this special neighborhood and appreciate the warm welcome we have received from many of our new neighbors and the dozens of current and past SBMS families who live on the Riviera. Being a good neighbor is very important to SBMS, and as we have done in the past with our Garden Street neighbors, we intend to build a long and positive working relationship with new the entire Riviera Community. We understand that the Riviera is beautiful and unique place and we intend to become a valuable asset and resource for our neighbors.

SBMS believes that sharing information about our school's philosophy, program, and intended use of the campus is critical step in creating a healthy, working relationship. To this end, we have; presented information to the Riviera Association at it's November and April meetings, walked the neighborhood going door to door to introduce ourselves, listened to questions, shared our program, hosted three neighborhood receptions at the homes of RA members, and met with the Chair of the Riviera Association Committee for the SBMS more than a dozen times. SBMS is working with the Riviera Association to provide a monthly forum and process for communication and cooperation beginning in September. We are grateful to the Riviera Association for providing a constructive platform to share our program with the neighbors and to learn about the concerns and priorities of the neighborhood.

We understand that there are many questions and concerns regarding our move and intended use of the site and we will continue to be responsive. SBMS will use the campus strictly within the bounds of the Conditional Use Permit and in full accordance with the city's prescription and direction. We have added a link to our website and posted an update of our most recent outreach efforts and information regarding our intended campus usage.

If you need more information about Santa Barbara Middle School or you have questions please visit our website at www.sbms.org or call Lilli Doner, SBMS Office & Site Manager at 682-2989.

Sincerely,

Brian McWilliams

GETTING TO KNOW US - MISSION STATEMENT & EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

Santa Barbara Middle School is an independent middle school that includes grades 6-9 and is dedicated to providing an excellent, well-rounded education. Our mission is to cultivate in our students a passion for life and learning, a deep sense of trust, strength and courage to succeed at life's challenges, and compassion and respect for others. We believe if you put a mountain in front of a child and show him he can climb it, the sense of accomplishment and self-confidence he gains will fuel him all his life. Our holistic program includes rigorous academics, robust creative arts and sports, a strong commitment to community service, and a nationally acclaimed outdoor education program that fosters a sense of individual accomplishment in an interdependent community. Finally, it is our philosophy that we educate our students for life, during the critically formative middle school years

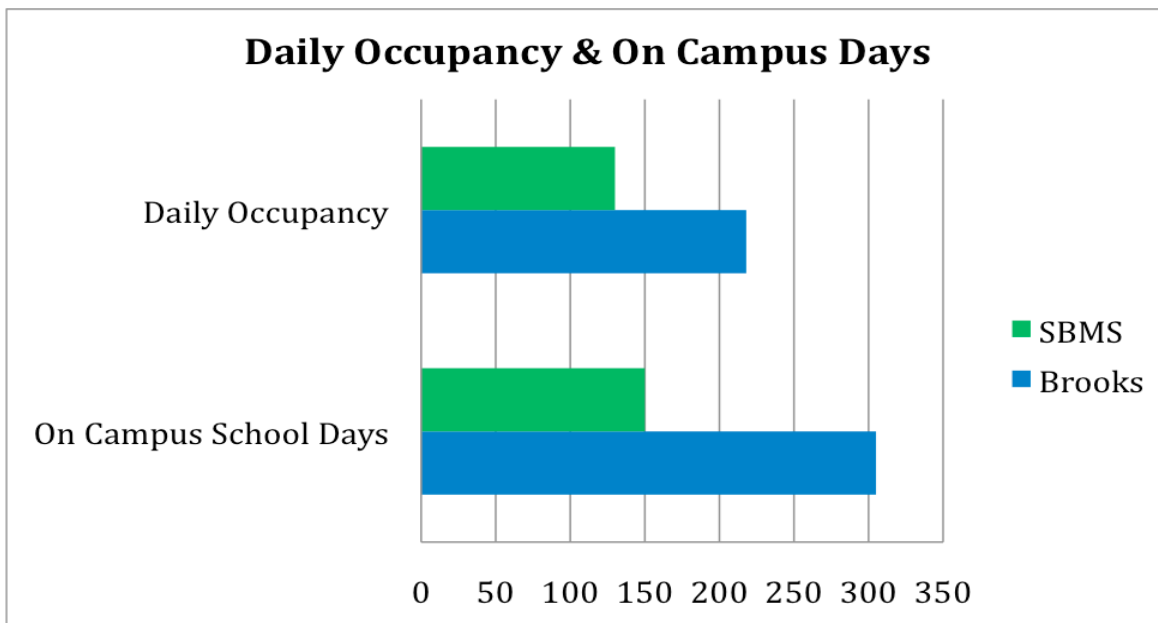
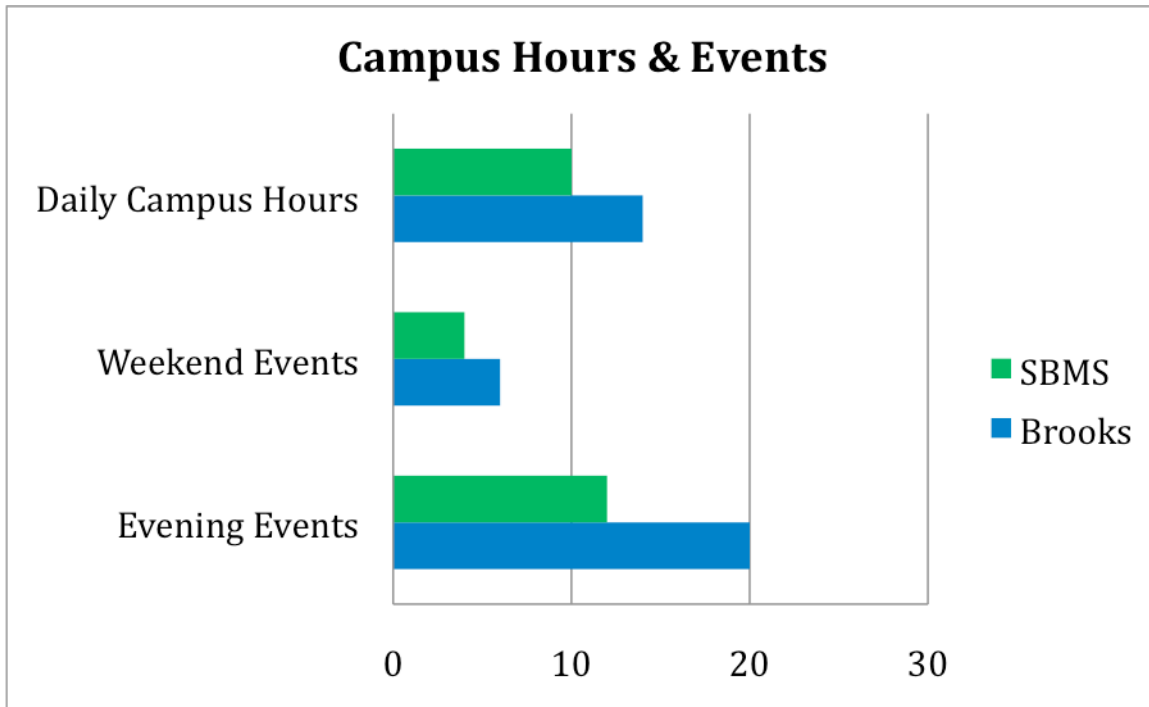
Updated Operations and Activities Information

As noted above, SBMS has a unique and innovative approach to education. Below we've provided a brief summary of the school's operations and activities.

- Our enrollment for next year is projected to be around 122 students.
- There are currently about 20 full-time and about 10 part-time staff members.
- Estimated Daily Occupancy, including students, employees, and guests, for next year is projected to be in the range of 140-155.
- The academic school year runs from September to June. The campus is in full operation for academic classes approximately 150-155 days per year.
- Our outdoor education program includes several field trips that require the students to be away from campus 20-25 days per year, with limited use / occupancy of the school during that time.
- The school typically hosts 8-12 evening events per calendar year that include parent meetings, Back to School Night, Open House, Academic Fair, and drama performances.
- We host an average of three to six weekend events annually including two Open Houses, assessment test taking, and a Parent Education & Work Days.
- School team sports include volleyball, soccer, coed flag football and basketball that occur in 6-8 week sessions. Practice times currently take place during school hours (2:30-3:40 PM) as part of our regular P.E. program, and we typically host 4-6 home games per team after school until about 5:00 PM. Soccer and flag football games will be held on other school campuses.
- 9th Grade Graduation (approximately 20-35 students) will be held off campus.

CAMPUS USE – BROOKS INSTITUTE & MIDDLE SCHOOL OPERATIONS

As we noted above, Santa Barbara Middle School's presence on the Jefferson campus will be less than that of the current occupancy of Brooks Institute. Brooks Institute is geared toward adult education and the campus has been consistently accessible to their adult students in order to accommodate the need to use the photo labs and equipment at odd (non-traditional) hours during the day (opening as early as 7:00 AM until as late as 11:00 PM) for a greater part of the year. Below two graphs are provided that compare daily and annual projected vs. current use and operations.



SBMS AT THE JEFFERSON CAMPUS – OPEN FOR BUSINESS, SEPTEMBER 2011

SBMS & NEIGHBORHOOD CONCERNS

In our meetings with neighbors and the Riviera Association we've identified 4 or 5 major areas of concern regarding our move to 1321 APS. These include managing traffic, mitigating noise, maintaining views, understanding outdoor activities, and controlling unauthorized use of the campus in the evenings or weekends. We have updated this information page since it's original submittal to our neighbors and Riviera association members in October and again in April.

TRAFFIC

- SBMS is working on a variety of options to manage traffic flow to and from campus. For our own safety reasons we will require all families to drop off and pick up their children in our parking lot below the building and to refrain from parking and/or stopping on APS. We will provide close supervision of drop-off and pick up and require parents to follow strict guidelines for safety and flow.
- Some neighbors have suggested asking the city to impose a school zone speed reduction in front of the school to slow commuters who have begun using this corridor to safer speeds. We would support any efforts or consensus of our neighbors in this regard.
- SBMS is exploring ways to expand our carpool options and to provide an environmentally friendly vanpool alternative. Currently, we estimate that nearly 20% of our students already carpool, and we hope to increase that number with a more determined effort.
- SBMS estimates that an average of 25% of our students have historically come from neighborhoods south of town with a majority using the APS corridor between 7:45 and 8:15 to get to our former Garden Street campus. Most of this morning transportation will now occur after 9am and will not continue through to the Moreno and other intersections, thus reducing traffic congestion from its current peak hour flow.
- SBMS will remain open and flexible with regard to future traffic patterns and will work with neighbors to come up with solutions and improvements that will benefit the neighborhood and the school.

NOISE

SBMS appreciates the aesthetic value of this peaceful neighborhood and will work to manage noise levels associated with operating a middle school.

- We will be adding additional signage to the inside periphery of the property to restrict usage to lower impact activities and temper noise.
- SBMS is exploring options to reduce typical school-related noise with alternatives for bells, creative scheduling and architectural design. There will be no outside placing of bells, PA or chimes etc.
- Architectural plan has been designed to minimize noise and activity wherever possible. Lunchroom has been placed in the center, most insulated location of the building.
- Schedules, calendar and activities have all been modified to address noise concerns to the most reasonable extent possible.
- Our Office/Site Manager, Lilli Doner will be the lead contact person to receive and record all input and feedback from our neighbors and to address concerns. Her contact information is Lilli@sbms.org - 805 682 – 2989. Please CC Brian McWilliams, Head of School, in all site related matters at Brian@sbms.org.
- SBMS has asked the Riviera Association to host monthly meetings to help SBMS and our neighbors communicate and work together. More information will be forthcoming from the association soon.
- Again, we expect to work with our neighbors to be proactive, responsive and accommodating for all reasonable requests.

VIEWS & LANDSCAPING

Over the last few years, Brooks has deferred much of its landscaping and tree maintenance. Many neighbors above the campus have requested that we revive previous Brooks/neighbor arrangements to maintain views and keep trees healthy and trimmed.

- SBMS is working with our neighbors to create a mutually beneficial arrangement for tree care and view maintenance.
- SBMS will be making a significant investment to beautify and enhance landscaping and the overall appearance of the property and provide a green buffer for the school and our neighbors. We hope to submit a modest landscape plan to the city as soon as our neighbors are satisfied with it.

- SBMS is exploring native, fire-resistant landscaping options to beautify the campus. SBMS believes that future landscaping and irrigation efforts will help make the campus more fire resistant.

FIELD DEVELOPMENT

SBMS plans to use the field for recreational use to support the mission and goals of our school.

- We intend to repair and upgrade the irrigation system to keep the field watered all year round. This will allow us to water more landscaping and beautify the periphery of the property and slope between the parking lot and field.
- SBMS plans to grow a grass field that will be used for normal recreational activities related to student use at Middle School. The edges of the field will be designated as low impact zones for light usage and less noisy activities.
- Team sports, such as volleyball and soccer, flag football, and other outdoor activities will be played in designated areas of the field.
- SBMS will have a small vegetable garden with a few small raised planter beds tastefully designed. The beds will be located somewhere on the field area or on upper campus.
- SBMS will be creating a circular meeting area, which we call our “Kiva” on the west side of the field. It will consist of a circle of wooden stumps and flagstone surrounded by a hedge or shrubbery. We currently gather students in our Kiva for an hour or so about once a month. We also have one-on-one meetings with newly enrolled families in our Kiva in late spring and summer. There is no lighting, electricity or poured concrete related to this circular collection of stumps and logs.

UNAUTHORIZED USE

SBMS shares the neighborhood concern about unauthorized use of the campus after school hours, on weekends and at other times that school is not in session. We support efforts to discourage non-school and unauthorized use of our grounds for safety, fire and liability reasons. We will work with our neighbors to protect the peace and privacy of the area.

- We are using Mission Security Company to help keep our campus and the neighborhood secure. They will be performing nightly checks of the campus and will patrol campus during Bowl shows and 4th of July.
- SBMS will upgrade the security of gates, fences and entries onto the campus.
- Field, courts and outdoor equipment will be designed to be secured during the weekends to prevent unauthorized usage.
- We believe that these design efforts combined with new security patrols and repaired fencing will greatly benefit the neighborhood and school.

OTHER ISSUES

SBMS remains committed to open communication, and reasonable accommodations that will address unexpected issues as they arise; we intend to be good neighbors.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

If you need more information about Santa Barbara Middle School or you have questions please visit our website at www.sbms.org or call Lilli Doner, SBMS Front Office & Site Manager at 682-2989.