

A May election is a phantom election – Pete Mehra

I urge the Board to take its proposal for a new/hybrid High School to the electorate in November rather than in May. The last bond proposal was rejected in a November election and they are the ones who should decide if they want to reverse their decision. A May election is a "phantom election" -- past experience has shown that only about two thirds of the electorate votes in November.

The "need for urgency" has been used as an excuse for about 10 years by the Board in each of its attempts to gain approval of a new building. The fact that the voters have rejected each of the proposals has not resulted in collapse of the BHSD or its programs.

A thoughtful debate by the Community over several months is needed AFTER the Board has made a decision on a specific plan. At this time there is no specific proposal. Jamming a decision though the electorate in a "sham election" where everyone does not vote is, very shortly after a decision is made is in my opinion, irresponsible and deceitful. It is not the level of integrity we -- parents and taxpayers -- expect of our students, representatives and leaders. It is exactly the type of conduct that creates suspicion and breeds divisiveness within the Community.

Once the Board makes a decision on what it wants to do -- in very specific terms -- let's have a thoughtful discussion in the Community as to its worthiness. The town halls presently underway should be held AFTER a decision by the Board!