

Sequoia trustees take steps to dispose of high school site

By Robert Rudy
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REDWOOD CITY — Trustees of the Sequoia Union High School District Wednesday night formally declared San Carlos High School surplus property, the first legal step necessary to dispose of an unused school site.

The 41-acre site on Melendy Drive is closing in June because of declining enrollment and a shrinking budget in the school district.

Still to be decided by trustees is whether the hilltop campus will be sold or leased and to whom. San Carlos city officials have expressed interest in acquiring some of the site. There also has been talk that the San Francisco 49ers have outgrown their Redwood City training site and may want to move to San Carlos High.

Gary Gillmor, a property consultant hired Wednesday by trustees to help dispose of the high school site, said it probably will be one to two years before the site is sold or leased.

San Carlos High School is estimated to be worth about \$8 million. That figure, however, is neither an actual sale

price nor an official appraisal, Gillmor said.

Gillmor, the former mayor of Santa Clara, also is working for the district in its attempts to dispose of the Ravenswood High School site in East Palo Alto.

On that matter, the board voted to extend from May 28 to June 30 the deadline for public agencies to declare an interest in the site. The extension is part of an informal compromise worked out between the district and two San Mateo County supervisors on disposition of the 28-acre site.

The district will give the East Palo Alto community and the Board of Supervisors until June 30 to decide if they can muster the funds to buy some of the school site.

There has been general agreement among East Palo Alto officials that part of the school site should be used for community needs. The school district would like to have the land rezoned for medium-high density for residential development.

The supervisors will hold a special meeting May 18 to hear testimony and possibly act on rezoning the Ravenswood site.

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