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ATTACHMENT 3

AGENDA #3a(12)

Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools
Lincoln Center, 750 S. Merritt Mill Road
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27516-2881

The Board of Education

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Neil G. Pedersen
Superintendent

Valerie Foushee, Chair
Board of Education

January 6, 2003

The Honorable Kevin Foy
Mayor of Chapel Hill
Town Hall, 2nd Floor
306 N. Columbia Street
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

Dear Mayor Foy:

At its regular business meeting on August 26, 2002, the Chapel Hill Town Council adopted a petition introduced by Councilwoman Flicka Bateman to initiate conversations with the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education and the Orange County Commissioners about prospects for locating a third high school in the southern part of Chapel Hill. Since that time representatives from the Board of Education, the Towns of Chapel Hill and Carrboro, and Orange County have actively pursued all known prospects of suitable sites in the southern part of our school district.

We are sure that you have heard from citizens about a desire for our Board to discuss the possibility of using a portion of the Southern Park land for a high school site. We have heard the same reports from citizens as well. We believe that this idea has significant merit and should be considered. We continue to find problems with the remaining properties available for school construction. Not only are these parcels of land less than ideal, the projected costs for site acquisition and preparation make them cost prohibitive within the current project's budget.

We believe that workable solutions may exist to co-locate the long awaited Southern Community Park and the much needed third high school. We, therefore, request the opportunity to meet with you and members of the Council to consider the feasibility of constructing a high school and community park on the Southern Park site, possibly by acquiring adjoining properties. We look forward to you setting aside time for that discussion.

Sincerely,



Valerie P. Foushee, Chair,
Board of Education

Cc: Members of the Chapel Hill Town Council
Chapel Hill Town Manager
Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools
Board of Education