



## ***e*Briefing: Update on Norton Space and Aeronautics Academy**

**January 1, 2007**

### **FACILITIES:**

A new site has been offered for the Norton Space & Aeronautics Academy (NSAA), the former Mill Center elementary school at 503 E. Central Avenue, San Bernardino, CA. This site is approximately 1 mile within the vicinity of the former Norton Air Force Base. Some upgrades will be needed before opening in September 2007, but since it is a former school and has been used by Head Start, it already has classrooms and a playground area.

### **CHARTER:**

The NSAA presentation and public hearing will be held on Monday, February 5 at 1:00 pm in Board Rooms A-B at the County Schools office, 601 North E Street, San Bernardino. The meeting will be a continuation of the County Board meeting that will begin earlier in the day. There will be a few brief agenda items just prior to the charter school, but please arrive about 12:45 pm to secure a seat.

Rick Piercy, President/CEO of the Lewis Center for Educational Research, will give a 10-minute presentation featuring the purpose and benefits of the NSAA charter school. San Bernardino County Board members will have received an advance copy of the petition and may have questions. After the presentation, the public hearing will be called and persons wishing to speak in support or opposed to the countywide charter will be given an opportunity to speak. There will be cards for those wishing to speak to fill out. The Board president will only allow those who have filled out cards to speak.

### **ARTICLES OF INTEREST:**

**Future School -Alvin Toffler tells us what's wrong -- and right -- with public education.** - Edutopia magazine, February 2007

Forty years after he and his wife Heidi set the world alight with *Future Shock*, Alvin Toffler remains a tough assessor of our nation's social and technological prospects. Though he's best known for his work discussing the myriad ramifications of the digital revolution, he also loves to speak about the education system that is shaping the hearts and minds of America's future. We met with him near his office in Los Angeles, where the celebrated septuagenarian remains a clear and radical thinker.

[http://www.edutopia.org/magazine/ed1article.php?id=Art\\_1750&issue=feb\\_07](http://www.edutopia.org/magazine/ed1article.php?id=Art_1750&issue=feb_07)

**Beneath L.A. Mayor's Fanfare Lies a Sound Framework** – The Los Angeles Times, January 22, 2007, Column by Bob Sipchen

<http://www.latimes.com/news/printedition/california/la-me-schoolme22jan22,1,2808061.column?coll=la-headlines-pe-california>

The Mayor Who Wants to Save the Children pranced onto the stage with Chuck Berry blasting: "Up in the mornin' and out to school / the teacher is teachin' the Golden Rule."

As it happens, I had plopped down in that Little Tokyo theater between Steve Barr, the founder of Green Dot public charter schools, and Caprice Young, the former board member who now heads the California Charter Schools Assn.

Marshall Tuck, who'd been Barr's right-hand revolutionary at Green Dot, is now part of the mayor's education reform team. He helped write the "framework." And, as Young pointed out, most of those dozen kids on stage were charter school students.

**Proposed Changes to Education Law Get Mixed Reviews** – Associated Press, January 24, 2007

[http://www.nctimes.com/articles/2007/01/25/news/politics/16\\_03\\_201\\_24\\_07.txt](http://www.nctimes.com/articles/2007/01/25/news/politics/16_03_201_24_07.txt)

Democrats and teachers' unions are criticizing the Bush administration for proposing to let school officials override collective bargaining agreements and state laws in an effort to reshape the No Child Left Behind law.

The recommendations are part of a plan that Education Secretary Margaret Spellings released Wednesday. It details changes the administration wants in the five-year-old education law, which is up for renewal this year.

The law seeks to ensure that all children can read and do math at grade level by 2014, requirements that have placed unprecedented demands on schools. They have had to increase testing, raise teacher quality and pay more attention to the achievements of minority children.

If you have any comments or questions regarding the *eBriefing*, contact Cheryl Thompson at 760-946-5414 ext 202 or email at [cthompson@lcer.org](mailto:cthompson@lcer.org).

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