TO: Board of Trustees
FROM: Dr. Gari Browning
DATE: July 9, 2008
SUBJECT: Consideration of an Increase in Facility Use Fees

Recently, the Board requested a presentation on the District’s facility use fee structure. The last time the fee structure was reviewed by the Board was in July, 2004. Given the length of time since the last review, staff took this opportunity to perform a thorough study of comparable facility rental rates at many of the local community college districts that comprise the Bay Ten. The results of this study indicate very clearly that the District’s fees are well below the average charged by our neighboring districts, especially regarding our non-profit rates.

Another area that must be addressed is in the amount we currently charge for our direct cost support staff. Per the Civic Center provision of the Education Code districts can charge facility users the actual cost of direct services provided to those users, e.g. custodial, security, maintenance, etc. This is true for both for-profit and non-profit users. Current rates are about $5 per hour less than the District pays these staff members to support facility users. This, in effect, means the District is currently using its general fund budget to support groups that are renting our facilities.

Given the current uncertainty about the final makeup of the 2008-09 State Budget, staff feels it is prudent for the Board to review our facility use fees and increase them where appropriate. Many of the District’s operating costs have increased dramatically over the past few years, most notably utilities and salaries, and approval of these increases will mean additional revenue to the District to help offset the effects of these increases.

A rate comparison and proposed fee increase schedule is attached. Staff is further recommending that the fee increase not become effective until September 1, 2008 to provide time to notify regular users of our facilities.

RECOMMENDATION

The President/Superintendent recommends that the Board of Trustees authorize an increase in facility use fees effective September 1, 2008 as delineated in the attached schedules.