



KCC: a Facilities Briefing

Presented to the KPPCSD Board of Directors By
The Kensington Community Council
April 2022

Partners in Community Service Since 1960: KPPCSD and KCC



- Kensington is an unincorporated area of Contra Costa County, having no municipal government.
- We have a “Fire District” and a “Police Protection and Community Services District” (KPPCSD). KCC has always managed the recreation and community-building programs of the KPPCSD.
- KCC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit funded by contributions from the community through an annual fund drive and class and camp fees. KCC has been a contracted partner with KPPCSD since 1960.
- Kensington’s KCC-sponsored programs – after school, summer camp, and adult – operate out of KPPCSD’s Building E and the Community Center, in Kensington Park. KCC’s community-building movie nights, picnic and other events are also held in Kensington Park and the Community Center.

For generations, KCC's programs have supported Kensington with:

- **After school and adult enrichment classes** to foster fun, learning, and friendship. Adjacent to Kensington Elementary School, requiring no parent transportation from school to classes.
- **Exercise and sports activities** for children and adults.
- **Popular summer camps** at some of the most affordable rates in the area.



Current Enrollment

- **KASEP Spring Session 2022:** 54 weekly class periods with 441 spaces filled (about 200 individual students; many take more than one class).
- **Summer Camp 2022:** Nine one-week sessions, currently open for enrollment. Up to 540 campers can be accommodated over the summer.
- **Adult Classes:** Currently rebuilding this program after the long pandemic shutdown. Tai Chi is offered once a week at present.



Where does KCC hold classes and camp?

- **Building E, the “Recreation Building.”**

A former school, Building E was saved from the wrecking ball by visionary citizens. In the 1990s KCC made it what it is today, spending over \$300,000 to restore and customize Building E, providing a permanent home for Kensington’s recreation program.
- **The Kensington Community Center, including its lawn and amphitheatre.**

Kensington’s Community Center was remodeled and enlarged in 1987 with contributions from the community and KCC, and KCC contributed \$465,000 to the building’s more recent remodel.
- **Tennis Courts, Meadow, and other park areas.**



What is the financial arrangement for use of facilities?



- KPPCSD owns Building E, the Annex and the Community Center on behalf of all community members.
- KCC pays to KPPCSD \$1 per year, plus a monthly Community Center maintenance fee (currently about \$17,000 per year). All expenses, maintenance costs and improvements to Building E (exception: the roof, per contract) are managed and paid for by KCC.

Current KCC Staff in Kensington Park buildings

- Recreation Director, Office Assistant
- Nine teaching employees
- Six contracted teachers
- Summer Camp Director, Counselors and CITs, contractors
(between 20 and 30 total summer camp staff for 2022)



What must happen to ensure continuity of KCC's programs in Kensington?



As of April 2022, KPPCSD is considering converting Building E, KCC's hub, into Kensington's new police station.

- Since families rely on KCC's programs year-round, **there is no time of year when KCC can function without dedicated, specialized space.**
- Even a temporary relocation of KASEP classes and summer camps out of the immediate vicinity of Kensington Park would be a huge burden upon parents.
- Therefore, **the removal of KCC could not proceed until construction had been completed on adequate new or renovated space for KCC, in Kensington Park.**

If moved from Building E to another space, KCC would require the following, at minimum, to preserve its programs:

- 3 classrooms - two larger size that can be used for indoor sports class, carpentry, art
- At least one industrial size sink, preferred sink in each classroom
- Office space for 2 or 3 staff with space for confidential files, storage and windows
- Hydration station, water fountain, 2 Bathrooms, ADA compliant facilities
- Lead, asbestos & mold free facilities
- Lighting, alarm, camera, auto locking main door
- Storage - each classroom will need to have cabinets for supplies
- Larger storage for summer camp supplies, ping pong tables, tetherball, etc.
- Janitorial Closet
- Internet & phone service





Why does the Recreation Program need an office?

KCC's Director and Office Assistant manage and run all programs and KCC business out of the KCC office in Building E. This includes payroll and hiring; community events sponsored by KCC; liaising with Kensington Elementary; all (non-roof) maintenance and repairs on Building E .

The KCC office cannot be separated from the primary classroom complex. Much like the office in an elementary school, its functions are more varied and numerous than most people can comprehend, without having worked there! In addition to desks, files and equipment, in KCC's office you will find:

Kiddos not feeling well and/or needing bandaids (LOTS of bandaids); kiddos awaiting delayed/forgotten pickup (DAILY); kids needing a 'time out'; random kids from the park who need adult assistance; phones ringing all day long; teachers needing copies, supplies, or someone to watch kids during a bathroom break; lost and found.

Building E: KCC's home since 1999

The presentation of this briefing, in a spirit of cooperation and transparency, should not be interpreted as an endorsement of any proposal to displace KCC from our beloved Building E.

Beautifully suited to KCC's mission, and conscientiously maintained for over thirty years by KCC, and with its location in the heart of Kensington Park – fronting the meadow and steps from Kensington School – Building E, we believe, is already being put to its right and best use: as the home base for community service and recreation in Kensington.

