

Maker: Kenya Lee, Community Officer

Motion

The Venice Neighborhood Council hereby establishes the **Schools and Parks Committee** as a Standing Committee of the VNC.

Mission Statement

*“The mission of the Schools and Parks Committee is to promote opportunities for children, families, and all community members to grow and thrive through safe, inclusive, and meaningful engagement in the educational, recreational, social, economic, and cultural life of Venice.

In carrying out its work, the Committee will focus on schools, parks, and related public venues, fostering collaboration among educators, parents, students, residents, community organizations, and local government to strengthen access, equity, and community well-being.”

Purpose and Scope

The Schools and Parks Committee shall:

- Serve as a neutral forum for dialogue and collaboration related to schools, parks, and youth-serving public spaces;
- Engage teachers, parents, students, caregivers, and residents in identifying community needs and opportunities;
- Support equitable access to safe, educational, and recreational environments.
- Advise the VNC on issues, policies, and initiatives impacting schools, parks, and related community spaces;
- Encourage partnerships that benefit the Venice community while maintaining compliance with all VNC ethical and conflict-of-interest standards.

Rationale

The Schools and Parks Committee is a necessary and timely forum for community engagement. Venice’s schools and parks are shared civic assets that benefit from coordinated input among residents, families, educators, and public agencies. Establishing this committee strengthens the VNC’s ability to support youth, families, and community well-being while advancing the Council’s mission to improve quality of life and civic participation in Venice.