

May 9, 2025

Mr. Andy Field  
Director, Parks and Recreation  
202 C Street, MS 37C  
San Diego CA 92101

RE: Adjustment to Public Access at Birney Elementary Joint Use Field

Dear Andy,

San Diego Unified School District deeply values the collaborative partnership we've maintained with the City's Parks and Recreation Department through our long-standing Joint Use Agreements. We take pride in what we believe to be the largest and most enduring initiative of its kind in the country. Together, we have successfully addressed many challenges over the years—but one persistent issue continues to compromise the health and safety of our shared outdoor spaces: off-leash dog activity.

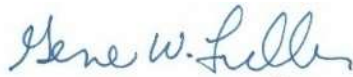
On Monday, May 28, 2025, during an unrelated evening community meeting at Birney Elementary, we observed dozens of off-leash dogs on the joint use field. As you know, this activity is a violation of municipal code and presents serious health and safety concerns for both students and members of the public.

Despite the City's efforts in opening the temporary off-leash dog park at the nearby Eugene Brucker Education Center—which continues to see regular use—unauthorized off-leash activity at Birney persists, despite the availability of this designated facility just 100 yards away.

Student health, safety, and campus cleanliness remain our highest priorities. Until a viable solution is identified—either through the elimination of off-leash activity at Birney or a commitment to daily feces removal—we must take immediate precautionary measures. **Effective immediately, the joint use field at Birney Elementary will be closed to public access on school days, and the attached signage will be posted to explain the reason for the closure. The field will remain open on weekends and holidays. This restricted schedule will also apply during the summer session from June 4 to July 3, 2025.**

We appreciate the shared commitment of both our organizations to maintaining safe, clean, and accessible spaces for students and the broader community.

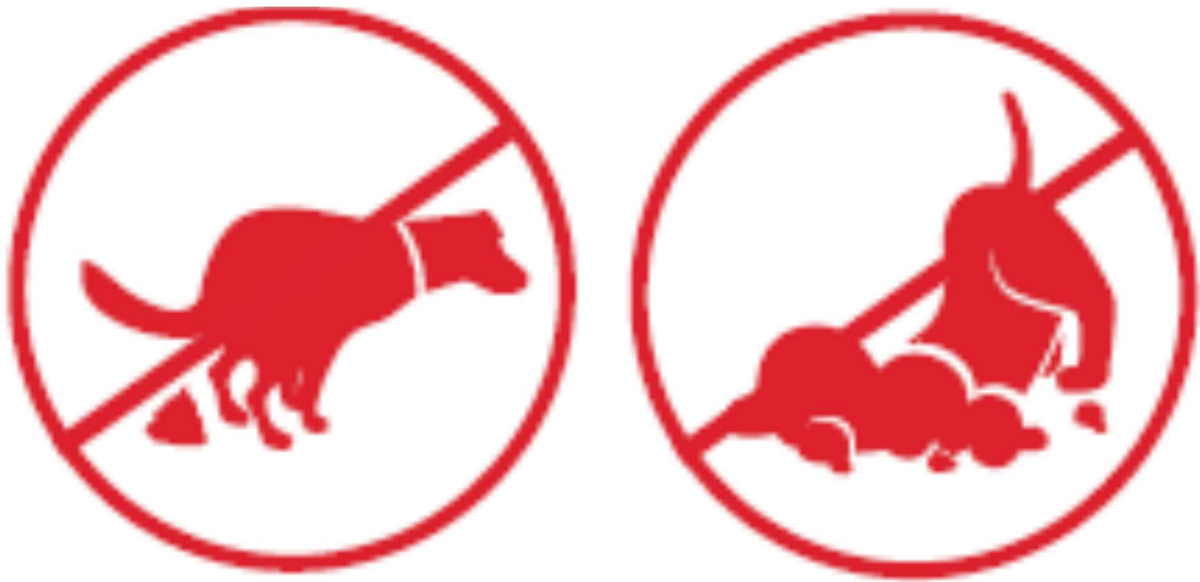
Sincerely,



Gene Fuller

c: G. Rosas  
L. Dulgeroff  
S. Scoggins  
L. Dulgeroff  
T. Tincknell

BIRNEY ELEMENTARY JOINT USE  
FIELD IS **CLOSED** TO PUBLIC USE  
ON SCHOOL DAYS DUE TO  
**OFF-LEASH DOG ACTIVITY.**



To keep these fields open, clean, and safe for everyone, all users must follow City regulations, including SDMC 44.0301.1 and SDMC 63.0102

