



DON BENITO ELEMENTARY (K-6)

3700 Denair Street
 Pasadena, CA 91107

(626) 351-8895

Year Built: 1953

Site Acreage: 8.90

Grade Levels: K-6

Enrollment: 805

Permanent Capacity: 575

Classrooms:

Permanent: 23

Portables: 12

Assessment Summary:

Don Benito Elementary is nestled in the hills of Pasadena's Hastings Ranch area. The school is a high grade-score achieving campus with an enrollment figure far exceeding its permanent classroom capacity. A key feature of this school is its porosity and lack of an identifiable main point of entry. Its administrative area is accessible (but not by ADA standards) from Denair Street via a long stairwell or by meandering through the campus from the lower parking lot on Valley View Ave. or from Hastings Ranch Dr. on the west side. Because of these characteristics, it is recommended that a new administrative building be constructed on the accessible and central location along Hastings Ranch Dr., adjacent to the present drive way.

Longer term planning features would replace the school's portable building stock with the addition of a new permanent building centrally sited on the east end, next to the existing parking lot. The building would include an elevator to connect the lower and upper playgrounds.

Apart from needed upgrades to its electrical, lighting and plumbing infrastructure and separation of water meters, other improvements include the modernization of the Cafeteria, Kitchen and Multi-purpose Room and the construction of a new lunch shelter.

Installation of shade structures is recommended in those areas where they are needed, mainly the playgrounds and fields, the kindergarten play area, and the drop-off/pick-up zone.