Council Meeting Notes

In June the ANC held two important meetings. The council meeting was held on June 11, at which the board of directors was elected. [See below for directors, officers and committee heads.] At the council meeting, two long standing issues were discussed: traffic and school site selection. Astrid Dodds spoke for the traffic committee and urged people to attend a June 23 meeting at which Somerville and Cambridge would come together to discuss issues around the Beacon St. /Somerville Ave. bridge renovation. She also updated us on the traffic committee's progress to date. [A complete traffic report will be made in the October Whistler.]

The second meeting, held on June 30, was not organized prior to publication of The Whistler. It came about after the June Agassiz School Renovations Task Force meeting. Richard Rossi, Assistant City Manager and leader of the school building project for the City, could see that the neighborhood was not of one mind on a school site. He urged the neighborhood to work toward consensus.

The ANC agreed to develop a neighborhood wide process for voting, and a ballot was developed by all the independent Agassiz neighborhood representatives and representatives from the ANC who sat on the Task Force. The ballot, which reproduced architect's drawings of four sites, was hand delivered throughout the neighborhood. It both advised residents of the upcoming meeting on June 30, and it allowed voters to see the ballot prior to the meeting. Residents were allowed to vote in advance if they were unable to attend the meeting.

The ballot disturbed a group of Agassiz residents who believed that the current proposed size of the school to be too large. They mounted a petition drive to protest the size and a write in campaign to add an option to the voting which called for a small, improved school on the current site. This group believed that their option was popular in the neighborhood and should have been included in the ballot.

The desire for a small school has always been popular among Agassiz residents, and favored by many. The Task Force addressed that issue in length prior to issuing a report to the City Manager via the Superintendent of Schools last January. It was finally agreed to recommend that the Agassiz School should have two classrooms per grade from K-8, but only after much discussion and with a dissenting minority. The recommendation was based on issues that included: the Agassiz School...
The Whistler September 1992 -2- 

educational vision, educational needs of upper grade students, city wide need, city policy regarding middle school and state funding requirements. The five options put forth in the report were: 1. Renovate school and create new addition on the existing site, 2. Renovate school and create a new addition on adjacent property, 3. Demolish existing building and build a new building on existing site, 4. Build an annex building nearby and renovate/build on existing site, and 5. Move to a new site within the neighborhood. After the report was made, the Task Force did not consider a small school (status quo) that would be renovated as one of the options under negotiation.

The vote has been looked at in various ways by various coalitions. The only neighborhood consensus task force members could agree on after the vote was that the sites do not need more study and that the school should remain in the neighborhood. For this reason, the Agassiz Neighborhood Council did not feel that it could support any one position, and during the summer several independent groups began to actively seek support for their proposals. For more information on what has been happening this summer, see below.

Agassiz School Building Update

The following article represents various points of view that surfaced this summer. Since these articles were submitted, there has been a new proposal developed which has gained widespread support. See the attached flyer which defines the new proposal.

The following piece was submitted by Fred Willey

"We're going to get a new school for the kids in our neighborhood, not a Toxic dump site," said one of many frustrated members of the audience at the June 20 Agassiz Neighborhood Council Meeting at which hot opinions were exchanged over the location and plans for a new Agassiz School.

In agreement with this statement, apparently fearful that an opportunity might be lost because of short-sighted interests, over 200 residents of the Agassiz School district have signed a petition to the Mayor, the City Manager and his Deputy, and to the Cambridge School Committee members, the Cambridge School Superintendent, and all members of the City Council.

The petitioners also feel that the local not-in-my-backyard movement is, in fact, retrogressive educationally as well as unrepresentative of majority neighborhood opinion and that the argument for a down-sized school, or two schools, is, as one member of the group put it, "a mere wish on their part, a snare to entangle progress and a delusion that their fantasies should turn into realities, because, of course, they know that the state will not fund nor will the city build what they propose."

The group also felt that, lost in the vocal turmoil at the meeting and subsequently in a Cambridge Chronicle article of Aug. 8, was any argument based on sound and guiding principles of elementary school education for "all the children of Cambridge," as their petition words it. The primary educational needs of the children (see item #3 of their petition) are not only being ignored, but the strident voices of a few residents are dictating a political rather than an educational agenda, unless the city asserts its rightful role of leadership.

The petitioners argue that no single splinter group can claim the school and the streets as theirs to define - "our neighborhood" owned by "we the people" - when clearly Agassiz School, one of 14 elementary schools, is part of a city wide system managed by a School Department which...
The Whistler September 1992 -3-

for 10 years has operated under the Cambridge Controlled Choice Voluntary Desegregation Plan. What kind and how much of a consensus should the city expect, the petitioners ask? Hence their petition for government action.

Any new Agassiz School on any one of the 4 sites must be built, maintains the group, to operate under the long standing Cambridge Desegregation Plan. To reason otherwise is to argue undemocratically for the status quo of a dead past and against the educational privileges of “all the children of Cambridge,” including those who are bused to the Agassiz School from outside neighborhoods.

[Petition Below]

As citizens of Cambridge and residents of the Agassiz School neighborhood, convinced that all the children of Cambridge deserve the very best in education, and recognizing that the construction in some fortunate neighborhood of a modern $8,000,000 school, funded by the state, is now virtually guaranteed, we the undersigned urge the forces in city government to take action toward the building of a new Cambridge school.

Towards that end we therefore endorse the following 3 propositions:

1. that the new school to be built for the children of Cambridge should remain in the Agassiz neighborhood and retain its present name
2. that the new school to be built for the children of Cambridge be housed in one structure and that the school be composed of grades K through 8 with two classrooms per grade
3. that the Cambridge City Manager and his staff, the Cambridge School Committee, the Cambridge City School Department, and the Cambridge City Council move forward with speed and confidence in selecting a site and in drafting architectural plans so that the required state fiscal funding dates may be met before July 1, 1993, and so that the children of Cambridge and their teachers may the sooner benefit from such new facilities as a cafeteria, a faculty room, a large gym, an outdoor athletic field, a computer laboratory, a language laboratory, spacious classrooms and a genial physical environment for learning, all of which are presently lacking in the old, outdated Agassiz School built nearly 100 years ago.

The following article was submitted by
Ken Wexler and J.P. Massur

The City of Cambridge would like to build a new school in the Agassiz neighborhood, to replace the existing Agassiz School. The basic reasons that have been given are: First, the school is old and badly needs renovation. Second, there is a shortage of classrooms in Cambridge, for a large increase in projected school-age population. Third, if the State is to give a large proportion of the funds for the school, it will only do so if the school is of sufficient size and has a certain number of amenities. The City has been pursuing a path in which the current school will be replace by a larger school.

From the first time that the neighborhood was made aware of the school, it was clear that there is broad sentiment which agrees with the suggestion that the Agassiz School needs either renovation or replacement. However, there has been strong disagreement with the claim that the school needs to be as large as the plans suggest that it should be. There is a great concern in the neighborhood that the City’s plans will be extremely detrimental to the residential quality of our neighborhood, and in particular to the streets surrounding wherever the school will be.

The first plans that the City presented had the school remain at the same site. However, it was much taller than the present school, and came out to the sidewalk line. There was widespread and strong feeling in the Agassiz neighborhood that this plan was completely unacceptable. Not only would such a plan ruin the residential quality of Sacramento St. and of part of Oxford St., but the traffic problems that would ensue from the large increase in number of students were considerable. Furthermore, many residents and parents believed that one of the primary good qualities of the Agassiz School was its relatively small size, and they feared that increasing the size would result in a school of lesser educational quality. In addition, it was quite unclear that there were sufficient recreational facilities available for the increased number of students, especially for the older children (most of the increase in school population would be in Grades 6-8). At a special meeting of the Agassiz Neighborhood Council in September 1991 these concerns were expressed quite clearly and the great interest that residents had in this issue was shown by the large number of people attending.

Many meetings of the Agassiz Neighborhood Council, both before and after the September 1991 meeting discussed School plans. At all these meetings a predominant theme was that many residents were strongly opposed to a large school (both in bulk and in number of students) for the reasons given above. Many residents suggested that K-5 school would meet the needs of the neighborhood in terms of school bulk and number of students, while being educationally very appealing. There are definite precedents in the City of Cambridge for such schools: a K-5 school, a K-3 school and a 4-8 school already exist.

In late winter, 4 new site proposals were presented at

Preventive and Restorative Dentistry
QUALITY CARE WITH A GENTLE TOUCH

Elliot Kronstein, D.D.S.
492-6070

181 Concord Avenue Cambridge MA
located at the intersection of Huron and Concord
another large meeting. These sites were scattered around the neighborhood, but all were massive buildings and all were K-8, 400+ student schools. It was clear that the City was still insisting that a large school be built. In response, J.P. Massar and Kristin Quinlan gathered over 100 signatures of residents opposing this size school and asking the City to consider the building of a smaller school. These requests by the residents were systematically ignored.

A formal balloting in the neighborhood was finally undertaken, with written ballots handed out. These ballots were to be due by June 30, at the conclusion of a special meeting of the Agassiz Neighborhood Council. The four choices of site plans were offered and residents were asked to rank these choices. Other choices included a vague-worded statement about more study being needed, and an option to instead move the school out of the neighborhood. The vote appeared to have been organized by the City Manager’s Office, and Mr. Richard Rossi, Assistant City Manager, was in attendance at the June 30th meeting.

Many residents were quite shocked that no option on the ballot involved a smaller school, since there was such a large sentiment for such a choice. An ad hoc committee of neighborhood residents was formed, among whom were Camillakumari Wankaner, Marie Manis, Joe Provino, J.P. Massar, Ken Wexler, Carol Shea and Jerry Alexander, determined not to let the option of a small school pass into oblivion.

As the June 30 meeting there were angry sentiments expressed that process was very unfair and that the opinions of many residents were not being given a chance to be heard. It was clear that the City did not want to have a choice on the ballot that reflected the views of many residents. The ad hoc committee urged residents to write in Option G: "A Small Improved Neighborhood School (existing site plans are unacceptable)." Residents insisted that Option G be counted along with the other choices, and this was agreed to.

The results of the ballots were, to us, astounding. 336 ballots were cast. The first choices were distributed as follows:

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. G</td>
<td>(smaller school)</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. B</td>
<td>(Guidance Center)</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. C</td>
<td>(Lesley College)</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. A</td>
<td>(Agassiz extended)</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. D</td>
<td>(Garfield)</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. F</td>
<td>(more study)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. E</td>
<td>(out of neighborhood)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Almost 40% of the first-choice votes went to Option G, the smaller school. Yet Option G was a write-in vote and it is difficult for voters to make a write-in choice. In particular, many residents had voted before the meeting, or before the suggestion concerning Option G had been made, so these residents simply chose from the listed options. Yet the write-in received a strong plurality of almost 40% (near double the next choice).

Furthermore, the ballot stated: "do not rank options that are unacceptable to you." There was not one site-plan that was acceptable to a majority of the voters, with the unacceptable totals ranging from 59.2% to 74.1%.

In recent weeks it has become clear that this strong statement from the neighborhood has had an effect on responsible City officials. A school is now being discussed which meets many, though not all, of the objections that residents raised. The proposed school is on the current Agassiz site. It extends about 8 feet along Sacramento St. beyond the current school. No houses will have to be moved. A major reason that this is possible is that a full basement will be used for the gymnasium and other facilities which children are in only a small part of the day. There is still concern about the height of the school, although the situation has been improved by setting the fourth story back, and sloping it down to the street. It has also been stated that the City is in principle willing to spend funds to purchase land behind the school, taking it by eminent domain if necessary. This might make it possible to lessen the height of the school and/or provide some play space near the school.

There are still some major unresolved issues, in addition to the ones just stated. First, the number of children in the school is still to be a maximum of 440 (270 currently attend), and this is far too large a number. Many are worried about traffic problems. In the opinion of many, Sacramento Field cannot provide play space for the large increase in the number of children, especially older children. This is not only bad for Sacramento Field, it is educationally suspect. Finally, the school as proposed would not preserve any of the existing Agassiz structure, viewed as historically significant and with sentimental value by many.

The report on Long Range Planning and Demographics for the Cambridge Elementary School System projects about a 20% increase in elementary school population over the next few years. This is the primary motivation for increasing the size of Agassiz School — to help the City with its space problems. This is reasonable, but it is essential to point out that the Agassiz School, at any rate, will only help a bit; other schools will have to be built.

Many residents think that it might be fair to increase the number of students, to help out the City, even though the neighborhood is very dense, and will have problems coping with the increase. But these residents think that the neighborhood should only accept its fair share of the increase. If the school population is to increase by 20%, then the neighborhood might accept a 20% increase, that is, a school of some 325 students. This could be accomplished in a number of ways, either by reducing the number children per classroom, or be decreasing the number of classrooms including the possibility of a K-5 or K-6 school. In the opinion of many, this would be the best
thing to do educationally. K-5 or K-6 schools have become the norm nation-wide, and many residents think that Cambridge is remiss in not following this trend. Fifth or sixth grade is a time of changing educational practices (e.g., students are no longer in one homeroom, but have specialist teachers), and such a school would be advantageous. Cambridge has so far not chosen to go this way, and we cannot suggest that the whole system go this way. However, it is hard to see how the City wouldn't want to give a choice to parents who think that this method of education is superior.

The final design and size of the Agassiz School has not yet been determined. With continued good will on both sides, and the active participation of the neighborhood, it is our fervent hope that the Agassiz neighborhood will have a school that it can indeed be proud of.

The following piece was submitted by
Susan Sils 354-6572

An ANC Council Meeting devoted to the Agassiz School issue was held on June 30th 1992. The purpose of that meeting was to make a presentation and have a discussion of the four sites being considered by the Agassiz School Renovations Task Force for the improved Agassiz school, and to collect ballots regarding site preference. (See Council Meeting Notes Above.) Though much of the discussion focused on the issue of a smaller school, rather than on the positive or negative aspects of the site plans being presented, the ballots were collected, and along with those ballots turned in prior to the meeting, the results were tabulated. Those results of the tabulating, as reported by the Neighborhood Task Force Members to the City Manager, showed consensus on two issues: 1) The Agassiz School should remain in the Agassiz neighborhood; 2) There is no further study needed on the sites proposed. Three of the sites got almost equal amounts of support. They were: 2b (Guidance Center), 3 (Lesley College) and 1a (current site). Site 4 (Garfield and Massachusetts Avenue) received considerably less support. The write-in vote for G ("a small improved neighborhood school") was substantial (132 of first choice votes out of 336 or 40%), however the majority of voters (187 first choice votes out of 336 or 56%) chose to vote for an expanded school on one of the sites, as presented. For a complete tally and a copy of the letter which reported those results to the City Manager contact the Neighborhood Council at 349-6287. Since the June 30th meeting several groups of concerned residents have gotten together to discuss the issue of a new Agassiz School. One group organized by Fred Willey, of Sacramento St., generated a petition which expresses support for an expanded K-8, two classroom per grade school, to demonstrate to the city and the rest of the neighborhood that such support was widespread, and to encourage the city to proceed with the process. In addition there have been a series of smaller informal meetings of concerned residents, with Larry Weinstein of the School Committee, who have attempted to find some common ground with the hope that the process of site selection could continue and still be finalized by September. It appears, at this writing, that the effort has been a successful one. With input from the neighborhood, including some neighbors most directly impacted by the project, it was decided to focus on the current site. HMFF Architects has generated a plan which responds specifically to neighborhood concerns. Fed description of the new plan, as well as a ballot regarding this proposal, please see the attached flyer. Please join the ANC for a discussion of the new plan on Wednesday, September 16th at 7:30 PM at the Agassiz School 28 Sacramento St.

Ads and Announcements

The Agassiz Neighborhood Council is in need of a file cabinet. Please call Steve Winter at 349-6287 if you have one to donate. It is tax deductible.

The Agassiz Afterschool Players, ANC's own children's theater troupe, is looking for period hats, props and lightweight furniture. It doesn't have to be perfect, but it must look that way from the audience. If you have any donations, especially hats. call Carol Huntman, 354-5118.

CRIS RUSSIAN CLUB YARD SALE-

On Saturday September 26 from 10AM-4 PM there will be a multi-family yard sale at 73 Wendell St. (rain date 9/27) to fund a trip for students in St. Petersburg. $750 more is needed, and items include clothes, ice skates, radiator covers. If you'd like to contribute, call 354-6553.

CLEANING SERVICES

Neighborhood resident with great references available 1-2 afternoons/wk. for regular or occasional house cleaning. This is an affordable luxury at $9/hr. You supply cleaning products and tools. Call 354-6553 for more information.

Lesley College News

Pat Byrne, Executive Assistant to the president and our main liaison to Lesley College, will be leaving Lesley College to become Executive Director of the Cambridge Partnership. The Partnership, an agency that brings businesses and other community resources together to assist the Cambridge Public Schools, will be based at Lesley College.

There is no replacement yet for Ms. Byrne.

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Neighborhood News

ANC announces officers and committee heads for 1992/93. They can be reached by calling the council office, 349-6287.

Board Officers:
Chairperson: Kathleen Manion
Vice Chairperson: JoAnn Hoffman
Secretary/Clerk: Jim O'Neill
Treasurer: Andrea Averill
Parent Representatives: Rich Curran and Madeline Kleiner
Board Members:
David Chilinski, Chris Guerrero, Cynthia Snell

Committee Chairpersons:
Finance: Andrea Averill
Fund Raising: Rich Curran
Personnel: Chris Guerrero
Long Range Planning: Cynthia Snell
Traffic Issues: Jim O'Neill and Astrid Dodds
Planning Committee: Joel Bard
Nominating Committee: Carol Hantman
Agassiz School Renovation Liaison: Susan Sills

Additional committees will be announced later this fall.

The ANC will publish an Annual Report for 1991/92 this fall. Call us at 349-6287 for a copy.

New Community Room Ready for Use

Our community room will be available in September for use by members of the neighborhood for meetings, workshops, or events. For further information including availability and fees, please call the council at 349-6287.

Look next month for information on our Open House that will be on Sunday October 18th.

Long Range Planning

The Agassiz Neighborhood Council began a long range planning process this spring to create a five year plan to direct the agency.

This process will involve the board of directors, the staff, program participants and neighborhood constituents through needs assessments, interviews and committees. You are welcome to drop off unsolicited comments about the neighborhood council, and if you wish to take an active role in the planning, please let us know. All Long Range Planning correspondence should be c/o Chairperson Cynthia Snell.

Cambridge River Festival September 12

The Cambridge River Festival will be held on Saturday September 12 from 11AM to 7PM in River Press Park (rain date Sunday 9/13).

The festival will include international food and crafts fair, children's activities, visual arts installations, music and dance performances, and the Gospel Tent.

Call Bill Kulik at 876-5005x301 to volunteer.

Thanks to Donors

Special thanks to Ellen Friedman and George Feltin who contributed pianos to the ANC. And more thanks to David Chilinski who donated an IBM computer and printer. Those who have contributed dollars to our Community Room Fund are listed below:

Businesses and Institutions:
- Central Barbershop
- Rosie's Bar and Grille
- Dana Realty Co.
- The Food Source
- Three Aces Pizza
- Evergood Market

Residents:
- Alan Korb
- Andrea and Ron Kadomtza
- Barbara Post
- Carol Donovan
- Robert Lange
- Cynthia Smith
- Steve Inrich
- Eileen McCarthy
- George Potter
- Henry Shawah
- Howard and Maneve Medved
- Kathleen M. Manion
- Lew Sargentich
- Val Bradley
- Mark Harrington
- Mary Donaldson
- Miriam and Hiam Goldberg
- Richard Griffin
- Susan Keane
- Robin Rosenberg
- Stephen and Deb Gould
- Guillermo Velasco

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Carmela Bernadini
Carol Weinhaus
David Chilinski
Eric Blumenson
Eva Nilson
Betsy Fishman
Herbert Rosenfeld
John Hermanson
Ken and Sherry Wexler
Marjorie Rekant
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Ruth Mandalian
Devon Davidson
Mark Schuster

Remember to thank our advertisers when you do business with them. Their support has allowed us to increase our distribution and size.
Cultural Happenings

Celebrating Children photography by Marilyn London

A wonderful exhibit of color photographs will open September 1 and run through September 30 from 9-6 weekdays at the Sacramento St. Gallery, 20 Sacramento St. Cambridge. A Reception will be held on Saturday September 12th between 4-6 PM. Join us and meet the artist.

days, and full day vacation week programming is available as an option. The program is housed in the Agassiz School, and has its own staff of teachers who provide an afterschool snack and a schedule that includes physical activities, clubs, arts and crafts and cooking. There are specialists who provide focused activities in the arts, visual, performing, dance and music.

There are three terms each school year (Fall Winter and Spring), and children can register for as many terms as you wish. Cost is determined by term and number of days child attends.

Afterschool Child Care Grades K-4

This program is intended to provide quality child care and activities for children who attend everyday afterschool. The program opens early on Agassiz School release days, and full day vacation week programming is available at no additional cost. The younger children are housed in the Agassiz Community Center, with their own staff of teachers who provide an afterschool snack and activities in a cozy and secure atmosphere with their own outside play space. Occasionally activities are planned for this group in conjunction with the Activities Program located in the Agassiz School.

The older group of children (3-4th graders) are housed in the Agassiz School, and participate in the activities provided by teachers and specialists for the Afterschool Activities Program. Special projects and clubs are also planned.

The cost includes all vacations and half days. Tuition is $215 per month, and children must enroll for the entire school year.

Activities Grades 5-8

Specialists will provide focused, in depth courses and activities to children in grades 5 to 8, and these activities are either based in the Agassiz School or in the Agassiz Community Center. Children may enroll for up to three days of activities in each ten week session. Activities vary from term to term, but options usually include the arts, cooking, sports, and trips.

Children in grades 5-8 are not developmentally suited to the kind of child care provided for younger children. They will receive a snack each day, they may come early on Agassiz School release days (when suitable activities will be provided until their specialist arrives), but there is no vacation week child care program for this age group.

There will be three terms, Fall, Winter and Spring with one mini term between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Activities will vary from term to term. Cost is determined by term and number of days child attends.

Preschool

Sacramento Street Preschool is licensed for 18 children who attend five days a week from 9 A.M. to Noon. A snack is provided, and there are two teachers assisted by an aide when fully enrolled. The preschool calendar follows the Cambridge Public School Calendar, with all the same holidays and vacations. It is housed in the Agassiz Community Center.

Children must be at least 2 years and 9 months to begin, and they may stay until kindergarten. This is a traditional preschool with emphasis on socialization and developmentally appropriate activities. The small size of the school encourages an individual approach. This school attracts children of students from other countries, which contributes to a varied cultural atmosphere.

Children must enroll for the whole school year, and tuition is $245 per month from September through June.

Council Programs

Note to parents of 5-6th Graders: Call for a brochure to learn about our exciting and innovative arts programming that includes dance, drama, illustration and a gospel choir--the gospel choir is free!

Fall Agassiz Community School Programs

You will find a community school program in every Cambridge elementary school, and the Agassiz Community School currently includes: afterschool, preschool, summer camp and various miscellaneous special programs. All of our programs are licensed by the Massachusetts Office for Children. There is a director and each site has a head teacher. The usual ratio of students to teachers is approximately 1:10 for school age children and 1:6 for preschool children, with variations depending on the kind of activity and the age group being served. For a brochure or more information on any of the programs listed below, contact the office at 349-6287.

Agassiz Afterschool Programs
Afterschool Activities Grades K-4

This program is intended to provide quality child care and activities for children who attend afterschool for three days or less per week. The program opens early on Agassiz School release days, and full day vacation week programming is available as an option. The program is housed in the Agassiz School, and has its own staff of teachers who provide an afterschool snack and a schedule that includes physical activities, clubs, arts and crafts and cooking. There are specialists who provide focused activities in the arts, visual, performing, dance and music.

There are three terms each school year (Fall Winter and Spring), and children can register for as many terms as you wish. Cost is determined by term and number of days child attends.

Afterschool Child Care Grades K-4

This program is intended to provide quality child care and activities for children who attend everyday afterschool. The program opens early on Agassiz School release days, and full day vacation week programming is available at no additional cost. The younger children are housed in the Agassiz Community Center, with their own staff of teachers who provide an afterschool snack and activities in a cozy and secure atmosphere with their own outside play space. Occasionally activities are planned for this group in conjunction with the Activities Program located in the Agassiz School.

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The cost includes all vacations and half days. Tuition is $215 per month, and children must enroll for the entire school year.

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Children in grades 5-8 are not developmentally suited to the kind of child care provided for younger children. They will receive a snack each day, they may come early on Agassiz School release days (when suitable activities will be provided until their specialist arrives), but there is no vacation week child care program for this age group.

There will be three terms, Fall, Winter and Spring with one mini term between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Activities will vary from term to term. Cost is determined by term and number of days child attends.

Preschool

Sacramento Street Preschool is licensed for 18 children who attend five days a week from 9 A.M. to Noon. A snack is provided, and there are two teachers assisted by an aide when fully enrolled. The preschool calendar follows the Cambridge Public School Calendar, with all the same holidays and vacations. It is housed in the Agassiz Community Center.

Children must be at least 2 years and 9 months to begin, and they may stay until kindergarten. This is a traditional preschool with emphasis on socialization and developmentally appropriate activities. The small size of the school encourages an individual approach. This school attracts children of students from other countries, which contributes to a varied cultural atmosphere.

Children must enroll for the whole school year, and tuition is $245 per month from September through June.
# Community Calendar

## September 1992

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>September 7, Monday</td>
<td>Labor Day Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 10, Thursday</td>
<td>Cambridge Public School Opens</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 10, Thursday and 11, Friday</td>
<td>Agassiz Afterschool Fall Registration 20 Sacramento St.</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 12, Saturday</td>
<td>2:45-5 PM(agassiz Neighborhood Council)</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 12, Saturday</td>
<td>“CELEBRATING CHILDREN”  Photography show by Marilyn LondonSacramento St. Gallery 20 Sacramento St.</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 12, Saturday</td>
<td>11 AM-7 PM(agassiz Neighborhood Council)</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 14, Monday</td>
<td>First Day Agassiz Afterschool Programs</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 16, Wednesday</td>
<td>7:30 PM(agassiz Neighborhood Council)</td>
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<td><em>Agassiz School 28 Sacramento St.</em></td>
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**The Whistler**

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