

# San Dieguito board discusses memorial

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ENCINITAS — Plans to build a war memorial on the San Dieguito Academy campus inched closer to approval Thursday with a board discussion of a policy governing memorials on San Dieguito Union High School District campuses.

The policy — which sets guidelines for memorials proposed by outside organizations — is scheduled to be voted on by the board on Feb.

7. Last month, members of the San Dieguito War Memorial Project proposed building a memorial on the Santa Fe Drive campus to honor five alumni killed in the Vietnam War.

David Gonzales, the group's president, told board members on Thursday that he has identified a sixth graduate who was killed in Vietnam — Army Pfc. Raymond Nelson Curley from the class of '64.

Gonzales also questioned

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language in the draft policy that specified memorials must acknowledge school graduates and not those who also attended district schools.

One of the fallen former students did not graduate before going to war, he said, and another completed most of his schooling at San Dieguito before switching to another high school.

Student representatives on the board said that they be-

lieve that a soldier deserved having his name on the memorial if he or she grew up in the community.

"If it was someone who grew up in this area," said Kathryn Peck, a Sunset High School student, "he's still a part of this town."

Jordy Lievers, a La Costa Canyon High School student, told the board that even if a student didn't graduate from the school, "...he still made connections there."

San Dieguito High School, as the school was then called, opened in 1937.

Gonzales also said that during World War II, some

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— KATHRYN PECK

Sunset High School student

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students didn't finish high school and many lied about their age so they could join the fight.

The board's draft policy would establish a committee to review the memorial's design, materials and place-

ment.

The committee would include a student, a staff member and a school administrator as well as a business services administrator from the school district office.

The consensus of the committee would be presented as a recommendation to the district superintendent.

Board members also asked that the superintendent then present recommendations to the board for final review and approval.

The memorial proposed by the veterans' group would be an obelisk with the names of alumni killed in Vietnam on

one of its four sides. The other sides would recognize graduates killed in other wars.

Gonzales told the board he was using government Web sites and school yearbooks to identify San Dieguito soldiers killed in action.

He said that once the memorial project is complete, the group will rename itself San Dieguito Veterans and raise funds to create a scholarship fund.

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