



Oak Park Elementary School District 97

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TO: The Board of Education
FROM: Dr. Carol Kelley
SUBJECT: Relocation of the Multicultural Center
DATE: April 26, 2016

After reading the article and editorial in January 27th's *Wednesday Journal* regarding District's 97 Multicultural Center, David Saleb contacted me to share the Oak Park Public Library's history of involvement in conversations about the Multicultural Center (as told to him by Jim Madigan).

Stewardship over significant special, historical collections is an important part of the library's strategic plan. Thus, David asked if I would like to discuss how the library may assist with the Multicultural Center.

Felicia Starks Turner and I met with David to discuss whether the library could assist District 97 in finding a space to house the Multicultural collection that is currently housed at Julian. Following this conversation, David shared that the library would be interested in working with District 97 regarding the future of the collection, and he intends to draft a proposal to bring our collection to the Oak Park Public Library Dole Branch. He recently confirmed that his board is very open to this idea.

At this time, I am requesting the board to consider this proposal (see attached), and move forward with this option as they see fit. By relocating the collection, we open up needed space at Julian Middle School and make this wonderful collection available to the entire community. Housing the collection within the public library could be a perfect solution. I am in full support of this proposal.