August 24, 2017

TO: Members of the Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization (County Committee)

FROM: Keith D. Crafton, Secretary

County Committee

SUBJECT: Regular Meeting of the County Committee—Wednesday, September 6, 2017

The next regular meeting of the County Committee will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 6, 2017, in the Board Room of the Los Angeles County Office of Education, at 9300 Imperial Highway in Downey. Reserved parking spaces will be available on the east side of the building for County Committee members.

Attached is the agenda for the meeting of September 6, 2017.

If you have questions, please call me at (562) 922-6110.

KDC/AD/EH:ah
Attachments
AGENDA

LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION
(COUNTY COMMITTEE)

Regular Meeting

Los Angeles County Office of Education
Board Room
September 6, 2017
9:30 a.m.

I  Information
D  Discussion
A  Action

I. CALL TO ORDER – Chairperson Mr. Frank Ogaz

II. FLAG SALUTE – Chairperson Ogaz

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – Chairperson Ogaz  I, D, A

The minutes of the regular meeting of the County Committee, held on
June 7, 2017, will be submitted for approval. (Enclosure)

IV. PRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC – Secretary  I, D, A

Mr. Keith Crafton

Any persons present desiring to address the County Committee on any
proper matter may do so at this time. (Form to be completed and submitted
to the secretary)

V. COMMUNICATIONS – Secretary Crafton  I, D, A

The Secretary may apprise the Committee of any pertinent informational
correspondence or newspaper articles.
VI. PETITION TO ESTABLISH TRUSTEE AREAS AND TRUSTEE AREA VOTING, WITHIN THE ANTELOPE VALLEY JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT (HSD) – Secretary Crafton

The Secretary will present a petition to establish trustee areas and trustee area voting within the Antelope Valley Joint Union HSD.

VII. UPDATE ON REVIEW OF COUNTY COMMITTEE POLICIES – Chairperson Ogaz

The Chairperson will request a report from the County Committee policy review subcommittee.

VIII. UPDATE ON THE CALIFORNIA VOTING RIGHTS ACT (CVRA), TRUSTEE AREA AND ELECTION ISSUES – Secretary Crafton

The Secretary will provide an update on CVRA activities and election changes in Los Angeles County.

IX. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – Secretary Crafton

There are no current bills to report.

X. UPDATE ON LOS ANGELES USD REORGANIZATION PROPOSALS – Secretary Crafton

The Secretary will provide an update on school district reorganization proposals affecting the Los Angeles USD. (“Summary of Los Angeles USD Reorganization Proposals”). (Attachment 1)

XI. UPDATE ON LOS ANGELES COUNTY REORGANIZATION PROPOSALS, EXCLUDING THOSE AFFECTING THE LOS ANGELES USD – Secretary Crafton

The Secretary will provide an update on school district reorganization proposals affecting Los Angeles County school and community college districts, other than the Los Angeles USD. (“Summary of Los Angeles County School District Reorganization Proposals [excluding those affecting the Los Angeles USD]”). (Attachment 2)

XII. UPDATE ON THE COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION – Secretary Crafton

The Secretary will provide an update on the County Committee annual election and the related event sponsored by the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools and the Los Angeles County School Trustee Association.
XIII. ADDITIONAL COMMUNICATIONS, CONCERNS, OR ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

XIV. ADJOURNMENT
The Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization (County Committee) met on Wednesday, June 7, 2017, at the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) in Downey. The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m., by Chairperson Frank Ogaz.

Members Present

Frank Bostrom
Owen Griffith
John Nunez
Suzan Solomon

Members Absent

Ted Edmiston
Nicole Kluft
Frank Ogaz
Susan Andriacchi
Maria Calix
Joel Peterson
AJ Willmer

Staff Present

Keith D. Crafton, Secretary
Jeff Young, Staff
Allison Deegan, Staff
Eric Hass, Staff
Anna Heredia, Staff
Diane Tayag, Staff

Mr. Frank Ogaz called the meeting to order.

Mr. John Nunez led the flag salute.

It was MOVED by Mr. Frank Bostrom and SECONDED by Mr. John Nunez that the minutes of the regular meeting held on May 3, 2017, be approved. Motion carried. Votes were:

Mr. Frank Bostrom  Yes    Mr. Frank Ogaz  Yes
Mr. Ted Edmiston  Yes    Ms. Suzan Solomon  Yes
Ms. Nicole Kluft  Yes
Dr. Owen Griffith  Yes
Mr. John Nunez  Yes

Secretary Keith Crafton recommended that the presenters speak when the item that they are here for is addressed.

Secretary Crafton directed the Committee to their folders, which contain articles relating to school district organization issues, including the California Voting Rights Act.
Susan Cristopher, Board Member President of the Castaic Union SD addressed the Committee.

Demographer Doug Johnson presented his report and the maps.

Ms. Stacy Dobbs, Board Member of the Castaic Union SD addressed the Committee.

Dr. Allison Deegan presented the feasibility study and recommended that the petition and the map presented, be approved.

Mr. Bostrom made a motion to approve the petition and the map that was presented. Mr. Nunez seconded. Motion carried, votes were:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Vote</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Frank Bostrom</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Frank Ogaz</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Mr. Ted Edmiston</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Ms. Nicol Kluft</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Owen Griffith</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Mr. John Nunez</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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Mr. AJ Willmer was not present at the meeting, Dr. Deegan will speak on his behalf.

Dr. Deegan stated that a conference call will take place with LACOE General Counsel, Vibiana Andrade together with the sub-committee.

Discussion also occurred regarding the process of voting on conditions.

Secretary Crafton reported that CVRA issues are recurring in the Los Angeles County area.

There are no current bills to report.

Secretary Crafton reported that staff will continue to work with Senator Ben Allen’s office to bring legislation forward. Discussion will continue in the Fall.

There are no updates at this time.

Discussion occurred regarding the upcoming elections.

10:48 a.m. Adjournment
Summary of Los Angeles Unified School District Reorganization Proposals

September 2017

The following is a summary of school district reorganization proposals affecting the Los Angeles Unified School District (USD) that were at various stages in the school district organization process as of August 14, 2017.

RECENT INQUIRIES REGARDING REORGANIZATION (within the last two years)

Formation Proposals/Last Activity Date

- Inner City USD / January 2016

Transfer of Territory Proposals/Last Activity Date

- None
Summary of Los Angeles County School District Reorganization Proposals  
(Excluding those affecting the Los Angeles Unified School District)  

September 2017

The following is a summary of school district reorganization proposals [exclusive of those affecting the Los Angeles Unified School District (USD)] that are at various stages in the school district reorganization process as of August 14, 2017.

PETITION TO ESTABLISH TRUSTEE AREAS AND TRUSTEE AREA VOTING WITHIN THE ANTELOPE VALLEY JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT (HSD)

On July 5, 2017, the Antelope Valley Joint Union HSD submitted a petition to establish trustee areas and trustee area voting. The petition is being presented to the County Committee on September 6, 2017.

*Status: Public hearing to be scheduled  
Status Date: August 14, 2017

PETITION TO TRANSFER TERRITORY FROM THE GLENDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (USD) TO THE LA CANADA USD

On November 23, 2015, LACOE received a request for a petition pursuant to EC §35700, to transfer certain territory from the Glendale USD to the La Canada USD. The request was submitted by chief petitioners Ms. Nalini Lasiewicz, Mr. Thomas G. Smith, and Mr. Nick P. Karapetian. The petition was forwarded to County Counsel to determine its legal compliance regarding format and content. On January 13, 2016, County Counsel deemed the petition sufficient. Staff returned the petition to the chief petitioners on January 15, 2016.

On June 29, 2016, the chief petitioners submitted signed petitions for review. On June 30, 2016, staff conveyed the signed petitions to the Registrar-Recorder for signature verification. On July 18, 2016, staff received notice from the Registrar-Recorder that there were sufficient signatures to move the petition forward. Chief Petitioner Smith subsequently resigned from his role.

The petition was presented to the County Committee on September 7, 2016. The County Committee held two public hearings (October 26, 2016, in the La Canada USD, and
November 2, 2016, in the Glendale USD). In mid-February, 2017, the two districts resumed negotiations in an attempt to find amicable solutions, but as of mid-April, were not able to resolve issues. A feasibility study was presented to the County Committee at the May 3, 2017 meeting, after which the Committee gave a preliminary approval to the proposal. Staff will now undertake a CEQA review of the proposed petition and advise the County Committee at a future meeting. At that time, the County Committee will take a final vote on the petition.

Status: CEQA study commencing
*Status Date: August 22, 2017

PETITION TO TRANSFER TERRITORY FROM THE CENTINELA VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT (HSD) AND LAWNDALE SD TO THE WISEBURN USD

On May 15, 2014, LACOE received a request for a petition pursuant to EC §35700, to transfer territory from the Centinela Valley Union HSD and the Lawndale SD to the Wiseburn USD. The request was submitted by chief petitioners Ms. Shavonda Webber-Christmas and Mr. Bill Magoon. The petition was forwarded to County Counsel to determine its legal compliance regarding format and content. On June 20, 2014, County Counsel deemed the petition sufficient. Staff returned the petition to the chief petitioners on June 23, 2014.

On October 15, 2014, the chief petitioners submitted signed petitions for review. On October 15, 2014, staff conveyed the signed petitions to the Registrar-Recorder for signature verification. On November 6, 2014, staff received notice from the Registrar-Recorder there were insufficient signatures to move the petition forward. Staff notified the chief petitioners, who elected to gather additional signatures. On December 4, 2014, the chief petitioners submitted additional signatures, which were submitted to the Registrar-Recorder on December 5, 2014 for signature verification. On December 22, 2014, the Registrar Recorder notified staff that the additional signatures were validated, and the petition had sufficient signatures to move forward.

The petition was presented to the County Committee on January 7, 2015. Two public hearings were held March 2, 2015, one in each of the affected districts. A feasibility study was presented on July 8, 2015, at which time the County Committee preliminarily approved the transfer, pending further collection and review of additional fiscal data, and an environmental review. Supplemental requests for information were sent to the affected districts and to the chief petitioners, with replies received from all parties. The supplemental information, and the results of a CEQA consultant’s review of the petition’s environmental impact was presented to the County Committee on May 4, 2016. Additional information brought forward on May 4, 2016, resulted in additional questions and further information
gathering, after which the proposal was reexamined at the County Committee meeting on September 7, 2016. At that meeting, the proposal’s preliminary approval was affirmed, and the petition area was selected to be the voting area.

On October 5, 2016, the Lawndale SD filed a Notice of Appeal with the County Committee, and on October 18, 2016, submitted their rationale and evidence for the appeal of the County Committee’s decision. Staff has forwarded the administrative record and oral recordings of the proceedings to the California Department of Education, who will prepare the matter to go before the California State Board of Education at a future meeting.

Status: Petition on appeal to the State Board of Education
Status Date: November 18, 2016

FORMATION—MALIBU USD (CURRENTLY LIES WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE SANTA MONICA-MALIBU USD)

On July 23, 2015, LACOE received a request for a petition from chief petitioner Mr. Seth Jacobson, a community member who is a Malibu resident. Mr. Jacobson, along with two other chief petitioners, wants to form a separate Malibu USD from territory within the boundaries of the existing Santa Monica-Malibu USD.

Staff reviewed the request and forwarded a draft petition to County Counsel on July 27, 2015, for a legal compliance review regarding format and content. We received notification on July 30, 2015, from County Counsel informing us that the draft petition was legally acceptable. The petition was mailed to the chief petitioner on July 31, 2015, for circulation within the petition area. Staff is informed that signatures have been gathered, but not yet presented for signature verification, as the petitioners negotiate with the district. A joint committee appointed by both the district and the City of Malibu has released a study addressing the implications of this petition. Staff is reviewing this study.

Status: Petitioners in negotiation.
Status Date: March 18, 2016

PETITION TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF TRUSTEES FROM FIVE TO SEVEN WITHIN THE POMONA USD

On April 8, 2015, LACOE received a request for a petition pursuant to EC §5020 to increase the number of trustees from five to seven within the Pomona USD. The request was submitted by chief petitioner Mr. John Mendoza. The petition was forwarded to County Counsel to determine its legal compliance regarding format and content. On April 27, 2015,
County Counsel deemed the petition sufficient. Staff returned the petition to the chief petitioner on April 29, 2015, for circulation.

This is a separate petition, distinct from the other petitions requested by Mr. Mendoza, and requests some of the same changes within the Pomona Unified School District (the addition of two governing board members). It was submitted under EC §5020(c) and, based on the number of registered voters in the Pomona USD, requires valid signatures from at least 10% of the registered voters within the petition area. If valid and certified by the County Committee, this petition would trigger a vote within the district, before which the County Committee may hold one or more public hearings on the proposal.

**Status:** Petitioner is gathering signatures.  
**Status Date:** May 26, 2015

**FORMATION—ALTADENA USD (CURRENTLY LIES WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE PASADENA USD)**

On January 17, 2006, LACOE received a request for a petition from chief petitioners Ms. Maurice Morse, Ms. Shirlee Smith, and Mr. Bruce Wasson, three community members who are residents of the area known as Altadena. The chief petitioners want to form an Altadena USD from territory within the boundaries of the Pasadena USD. The petition request was returned to the chief petitioners on January 20, 2006, because it lacked an adequate description of the area pursuant to EC §35700.3.

On February 10, 2006, LACOE received a revised request for a petition. Staff reviewed the request and forwarded a draft petition to County Counsel on February 22, 2006, for a legal compliance review regarding format and content. We received notification on March 6, 2006, from County Counsel informing us that the draft petition was legally acceptable.

On March 7, 2006, staff forwarded the draft petition to the Registrar-Recorder for verification that the description of the proposed boundaries of the Altadena USD was sufficiently clear (so registered voters residing within the proposed petition area could be identified with specificity). The Registrar-Recorder confirmed that the description was sufficient on March 10, 2006.

The petition was mailed to the chief petitioners on March 14, 2006, for circulation within the petition area. The Registrar-Recorder estimated the chief petitioners must collect approximately 7,000 valid signatures to meet the criteria set forth in EC §35700(a).
On September 23, 2010, chief petitioners delivered signed petitions to LACOE. Staff submitted the petitions to the Registrar-Recorder on September 27, 2010, for signature verification. On October 22, 2010, the Registrar-Recorder notified staff there were insufficient valid signatures (less than the required 25 percent of the registered voters within the petition area). Staff notified the chief petitioners of the insufficiency, and at Mr. Wasson’s request, returned the petitions to the Registrar-Recorder for a signature audit. Staff also advised the chief petitioner regarding the collection of additional signatures. Upon notification by the Registrar-Recorder of a sufficient number of valid signatures, staff will present the petition to the County Committee at the next regular meeting.

On January 4, 2011, staff conferred with a representative from the Registrar-Recorder’s office, who informed us that no audit of petition signatures had been done yet, and they clarified the cost of signature verification. On February 15 and March 1, 2011, staff contacted the Registrar-Recorder and were informed that the signature audit had still not been done. On May 12, 2011, staff from the Registrar-Recorder’s office advised LACOE that an audit of the petition’s signatures was underway. On November 28, 2011, the chief petitioner Mr. Wasson notified LACOE of the death of one of the co-chief petitioners, Ms. Morse. Mr. Wasson stated that another chief petitioner would not be named.

In August of 2014, staff confirmed that petitioner is still interested in collecting additional signatures.

Status: Petition insufficient; chief petitioners may gather additional signatures.
Status Date: December 5, 2011

FORMATION—MALIBU USD (CURRENTLY LIES WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE SANTA MONICA-MALIBU USD)

Status: Petition in circulation.
Status Date: February 21, 2008

FORMATION—LA MIRADA USD (CURRENTLY LIES WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE NORWALK – LA MIRADA USD)

Status: Petition in circulation.
Status Date: March 20, 2007

Unification Proposals/Last Activity Date

• None
Transfer of Territory Proposals/Last Activity Date

- Azusa USD to Glendora USD/October 2016

Formation Proposals/Last Activity Date

- Malibu USD (Santa Monica-Malibu USD)/March 2017

Trustee Areas and Governing Board Size/Last Activity Date

- Antelope Valley CCD / June 2017
- Covina Valley USD / June 2017
- *El Monte City SD / August 2017
- El Monte Union HSD / March 2016
- Walnut USD / May 2016
- Whittier Union HSD / January 2017

* = indicates activity since last meeting

This document was prepared by staff to the County Committee.