December 16, 2015

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

FROM: Keith D. Crafton, Secretary

SUBJECT: Regular Meeting of the County Committee—Wednesday, January 6, 2016

The next regular meeting of the County Committee will be held at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, January 6, 2016, in the Board Room of the Los Angeles County Office of Education, located at 9300 Imperial Highway in Downey. Please note the later starting time for this annual organizational meeting. 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 January 6, 2016.

If you have any questions, please call me at (562) 922-6144.

KDC/EH:ah
Attachments
AGENDA
LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION
(COUNTY COMMITTEE)

Regular Meeting
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Board Room
January 6, 2016
11:30 a.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER – Chairperson Mr. Frank Bostrom

II. FLAG SALUTE – Mr. Bostrom

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – Mr. Bostrom

The minutes of the regular meeting of the County Committee, held on October 7, 2015, will be submitted for approval. ([Enclosure])

IV. NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR NEW OFFICERS – I, D, A

Mr. Bostrom

The Nominating Committee, consisting of Mr. John Nunez (Chair), Ms. Nicole Drapkin, and Ms. Maria Calix, will submit its recommendations for chairperson and vice-chairperson for 2016. The County Committee will vote on the nominating committee’s recommendations. The new officers will assume their duties immediately.

I, D, A

* Sent to Committee
V. RESULTS OF THE ANNUAL COUNTY COMMITTEE 
ELECTION OF MEMBERS CONDUCTED ON 
OCTOBER 19, 2015 – Secretary Keith D. Crafton

The Secretary will provide the results of the annual election of members to the County Committee that was conducted at Superintendent’s Fall Convocation on October 19, 2015.

VI. ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE – County Committee Chairperson

The County Committee Chairperson will administer the oath of office to the re-elected County Committee Members for the Third, Fifth, and At-Large supervisorial districts, as well as the newly-elected member for the Second supervisorial district.

VII. PRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC – Secretary Crafton

Any person 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.)

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS – Secretary Crafton

IX. PETITION TO ESTABLISH TRUSTEE AREAS AND TRUSTEE AREA VOTING IN THE SAUGUS UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT (SD) – Secretary Crafton

The Secretary will present a petition to establish trustee areas and trustee area voting within the Saugus Union SD.

X. PETITION TO TRANSFER TERRITORY FROM THE LAWNDALE SD AND THE CENTINELA VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT (HSD) TO THE WISEBURN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (USD) – Secretary Crafton

The Secretary will present an update on the petition to transfer territory from the Lawndale SD and Centinela Valley Union HSD to the Wiseburn USD.
XI. **UPDATE ON THE CALIFORNIA VOTING RIGHTS ACT (CVRA) AND TRUSTEE AREA ISSUES** – Secretary Crafton

The Secretary and staff will provide an update on Glendale USD, the San Diego CVRA presentation, the upcoming February in-service, and other CVRA activities in Los Angeles County and statewide.

XII. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE** – Secretary Crafton

The Secretary will provide an update on current legislation and discuss the legislative advocacy process. (Attachment 1)

XIII. **UPDATE ON COUNTY COMMITTEE WEBSITE** – Secretary Crafton

The Secretary and staff will provide an update on the County Committee website.

XIV. **UPDATE ON REVIEW OF COUNTY COMMITTEE POLICIES** – County Committee Chairperson

The Chairperson will request a report from the County Committee policy review subcommittee on their preliminary review of the policies.

XV. **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 2)

XVI. **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 3)
XVII. EVALUATION OF THE SECRETARY AND STAFF TO THE COUNTY COMMITTEE – County Committee Chairperson

The County Committee will adjourn to closed session pursuant to Government Code 54956.9(e) to discuss the Public Employee Performance Evaluation. The Evaluation Subcommittee, consisting of Ms. Suzan Solomon (Chair), Mr. Frank Ogaz, and Ms. Maria Calix, will present an evaluation and recommendation of the Secretary and Staff to County Committee members. The County Committee may take action to either modify the evaluation or to accept the evaluation as presented.

XVIII. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION – County Committee Chairperson

At the end of the closed session, the County Committee will reconvene in open session and report on any action taken.

XIX. ADDITIONAL COMMUNICATIONS, CONCERNS, OR ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

XX. ADJOURNMENT
The Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization (County Committee) met on Wednesday, October 7, 2015, at the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) in Downey. The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m., by Mr. Frank Bostrom.

**Members Present**

Frank Bostrom  
Maria Calix  
Nicole Drapkin  
Ted Edmiston  
Owen Griffith  
Joan Jakubowski  
John Nunez  
Frank Ogaz  
Suzan Solomon  
AJ Willmer

**Members Absent**

Joel Peterson

**Staff Present**

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

Mr. Frank Bostrom called the meeting to order.

Ms. Suzan Solomon led the flag salute.

It was **MOVED** by Mr. Frank Ogaz and **SECONDED** by Ms. Suzan Solomon that the minutes of the regular meeting held on July 1, 2015 be approved. Motion carried.

Secretary Crafton stated that there were no presentations from the public.

Secretary Crafton directed the Committee to review articles in their folders that pertain to CVRA activity.
Secretary Crafton stated that the process is moving along, staff has contracted with Terry Hayes and Associates to prepare the CEQA report. A request for more information from the Chief Petitioners and also the districts involved will be submitted. We currently have received information from the L.A. County Assessors’ office that staff will use as part of the final report. The time frame is approximately 3-6 months.

Secretary Crafton stated that there is lots of activity. Several districts including Saugus Union School District and the Santa Clarita Community College District are moving to trustee areas.

Secretary Crafton stated that Dr. Allison Deegan presented at the Annual School District Organization Secretaries Summit on October 2, 2015.

Secretary Crafton stated that several bills are waiting to be signed by the governor.

Secretary Crafton stated that the website continues to be updated.

Mr. AJ Willmer stated that the Committee met and that they are working on four main points as follows:
- A change of term for the upcoming vacancy for the County Committee.
- Definition of “mail” to include “e-mail”
- Issues of time allotment for future public hearings
- Adjusting terminology to define “bylaws” or “policies”

Secretary Crafton stated there are no updates to report.

Secretary Crafton stated there is lots of activity. There are several potential petitions having to do with districts such as Santa Monica Malibu, Hawthorne School District, and Monrovia USD/Arcadia USD.

Discussion occurred regarding election voter turnout, and what can be done to increase it.

Secretary Crafton announced that Joan Jakubowski is retiring, the Committee thanked Ms. Jakubowski for her service.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:40 a.m.
**LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION (COUNTY COMMITTEE)
LEGISLATIVE REVIEW – JANUARY 2016**

**BILL NUMBER/AUTHOR:**
Assembly Bill 278 / Hernandez

**INTRODUCTION DATE:**
02/11/15

**LAST ACTIVITY/DATE:**
07/07/15: Failed passage after second Assembly Comm. Hearing; reconsideration granted.

**DESCRIPTION OF BILL**

This bill would require the legislative body of a general law city with a population of 100,000 or more to adopt an ordinance, without voter approval, for the election of the members of the legislative body to be by district.

**POTENTIAL IMPACT OF BILL ON LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMITTEE, SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION PROCESS AND/OR LOS ANGELES COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

It is not yet clear how this bill would impact Los Angeles County school districts. It may trigger increased activity related to the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA).

**RECOMMENDED POSITION**

Staff recommends the following position:

- **Watch**  
  Bill should be monitored by County Committee staff, but no action taken at this time.

- **Approve**  
  County Committee supports the bill’s concept, but will not actively work for passage.

- **Support**  
  County Committee actively supports the bill.

- **Oppose**  
  County Committee actively opposes the bill.

- **Disapprove**  
  County Committee disapproves of the bill’s concept, but will not actively oppose passage.
BILL NUMBER/AUTHOR:
Assembly Bill 480 / Harper

INTRODUCTION DATE:
02/23/15

LAST ACTIVITY/DATE:
05/28/15: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee.

DESCRIPTION OF BILL

Existing law establishes procedures for the reorganization of school districts, including, but not limited to, unifying school districts by consolidating all or part of one or more school districts, as specified. This bill would require the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) to conduct a study of potential benefits and impacts of school district unification. The bill would specify topics to be included in the study.

POTENTIAL IMPACT OF BILL ON LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMITTEE, SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION PROCESS AND/OR LOS ANGELES COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

If the study outlined in the bill is conducted by the LAO, it could provide valuable insights for any district, LACOE or the Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization (County Committee) in analyzing unification petitions. Much of the bill language focuses on examining the benefits of unification, and that information could be helpful to any school districts considering this move. The County Committee, in its review of unification petitions, is assisted greatly by the availability of neutral analytical information and would likely make great use of the data developed by this study. Further, the County Superintendent of Schools, who serves as the statutory Secretary to the County Committee, may find the information developed by this study to be useful. Another of the points for study emphasized in the bill is the impact of the Local Control Funding Formula on unifications – that issue has been little studied statewide as it has only impacted three districts so far – however, one of those districts is in Los Angeles County (Wiseburn Unified School District).

RECOMMENDED POSITION

Staff recommends the following position:

☐ Watch Bill should be monitored by County Committee staff, but no action taken at this time.
☐ Approve County Committee supports the bill’s concept, but will not actively work for passage.
☒ Support County Committee actively supports the bill.
☐ Oppose County Committee actively opposes the bill.
Disapprove  County Committee disapproves of the bill’s concept, but will not actively oppose passage.

DESCRIPTION OF BILL

This bill would establish separate procedural requirements for an action to form a new school district within the boundaries of a single school district within a single county. This bill would authorize an action to be initiated by a petition signed by at least 10% of the number of qualified electors who voted in the last gubernatorial election and who reside within the boundaries of the proposed school district, or by resolution of a local agency. The bill would require the county board of education to hold a public hearing. [emphasis added]

POTENTIAL IMPACT OF BILL ON LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMITTEE, SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION PROCESS AND/OR LOS ANGELES COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

This bill as written could potentially substantially impact the school district organization process.

RECOMMENDED POSITION

Staff recommends the following position:

- **Watch**  Bill should be monitored by County Committee staff, but no action taken at this time.
- **Approve**  County Committee supports the bill’s concept, but will not actively work for passage.
- **Support**  County Committee actively supports the bill.
- **Oppose**  County Committee actively opposes the bill.
- **Disapprove**  County Committee disapproves of the bill’s concept, but will not actively oppose passage.
AMENDMENTS REQUIRED

If staff’s recommended position is based on the need for amendments to the bill language, suggested alternative language is attached.

CORRESPONDENCE REQUIRED

If staff’s recommended position is based on the need for correspondence to the bill’s author, the Governor or other governmental officials, a draft of suggested language is attached.

Please direct all comments to Mr. Keith D. Crafton, Secretary to the County Committee at (562) 922-6144.
Summary of Los Angeles Unified School District Reorganization Proposals

January 2016

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 December 14, 2015.

RECENT INQUIRIES REGARDING REORGANIZATION (within the last two years)

Formation Proposals/Last Activity Date

- None

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)

January 2016

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 December 14, 2015.]

PETITION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF TRUSTEE AREAS AND TRUSTEE AREA VOTING, WITHIN THE SAUGUS UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT (SD)

On November 20, 2015, a board resolution was received from the district to implement its trustee area plan. The County Committee will review the petition and hold public hearing in the district within 60 days.

*Status: County Committee public hearing to be scheduled in district
Status Date: December 14, 2015

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 that 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 did have 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, as well as an environmental review. Supplemental requests for information were sent to the impacted districts and to the chief petitioners.

Status: Additional financial review and environmental study to be conducted.
Status Date: December 14, 2015

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.

Status: Petition in circulation.
Status Date: September 22, 2015

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.
Please note that 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 choose to 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 that 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 will need to collect approximately 7,000 valid signatures in order 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 that 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

- Monrovia USD to Arcadia USD/September 2015
- *Glendale USD to La Canada USD/December 2015
Formation Proposals/Last Activity Date

- Pasadena USD to La Canada USD/April 2013
- Temple City USD to Arcadia USD/March 2012

Trustee Areas and Governing Board Size/Last Activity Date

- *Glendale USD / December 2015
- Pomona USD / June 2015

* = indicates activity since last meeting

This document was prepared by staff to the County Committee.