December 21, 2018

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 9, 2019

The next regular meeting of the County Committee will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 9, 2019, in the Board Room of the Los Angeles County Office of Education, at 9300 Imperial Highway in Downey.

Please note that the later date and start time is due to the annual luncheon which will be held after the regular 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 9, 2019.

If you have questions, please call me at (562) 922-6131.

KDC/AD/EH:ah
Attachments
AGENDA

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

Regular Meeting
Los Angeles County Office of Education
January 9, 2019
11:00 a.m.

I Information
D Discussion
A Action

I. CALL TO ORDER – Chairperson Mr. AJ Willmer

II. FLAG SALUTE – Mr. Willmer

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – Mr. Willmer

The minutes of the October 3, 2018 and November 7, 2018 regular meetings of the County Committee will be submitted for approval. (Enclosure 1)

IV. NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR NEW OFFICERS – Mr. Willmer

The Nominating Committee, comprising of Mr. Frank Bostrom (Chair), Ms. Susan Andriacchi, and Dr. Cherise Moore, will submit its recommendations for chairperson and vice-chairperson for 2019. The County Committee will vote on the nominating committee’s recommendations. The new officers will assume their duties immediately.

IV. RESULTS OF THE ANNUAL COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION OF MEMBERS CONDUCTED IN FALL, 2018 – Secretary Keith Crafton

The secretary will provide the results of the annual election of members to the County Committee which was held on October 22, 2018.
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 member for the First Supervisorial District, and to the newly-elected member of the Fourth Supervisorial District.

VII. COUNTY COMMITTEE VACANCY – Secretary Crafton

Ms. Nicole Kluft, representing the Third Supervisorial District, resigned from the County Committee on October 30, 2018, citing scheduling challenges. On November 7, 2018, staff sent a bulletin to districts seeking nominations to fill the remaining two years of her term. We did not receive any nominations, however, Senator Ben Allen has recommended a candidate and staff will confirm his eligibility and present his nomination at a future meeting.

VIII. PRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC – Secretary 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).

IX. COMMUNICATIONS – Mr. Crafton

The Secretary will review any pertinent informational correspondence or newspaper articles.

X. PETITION TO TRANSFER TERRITORY FROM THE GLENDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (USD) TO THE LA CANADA USD – Mr. Crafton

The complete update is: The Secretary and staff have received additional documents and correspondence from various parties related to the petition to transfer territory from the Glendale USD to the La Canada USD. The Secretary is giving these items to the County Committee as additional information to consider during their further review.
XI. UPDATE ON PETITION TO FORM A MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (USD) FROM TERRITORY WITHIN THE SANTA MONICA-MALIBU USD - Mr. Crafton

The complete update is: The City of Malibu has petitioned to form a Malibu USD out of territory currently within the Santa Monica-Malibu USD. Following the introduction of the petition in November, 2017, the city submitted additional material to the petition rationale, including a trustee area map, a description of the fiscal impact of the unification, and letters requesting that the scheduling of the County Committee’s preliminary public hearing be postponed until after further discussions occur related to the petition. In September 2018, the County Committee received their requested update from the parties on their negotiations, and will receive a further update at a future meeting.

XII. UPDATE ON REVIEW OF COUNTY COMMITTEE POLICIES – County Committee Chair

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

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

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

XIV. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – Mr. Crafton

There are no bills to report.

XV. UPDATE ON LOS ANGELES USD REORGANIZATION PROPOSALS – Mr. Crafton

The Secretary will provide an update on school district reorganization proposals affecting the Los Angeles USD. ("Summary of Los Angeles USD Reorganization Proposals"). (Enclosure 2)
XVI. UPDATE ON LOS ANGELES COUNTY REORGANIZATION PROPOSALS, EXCLUDING THOSE AFFECTING THE LOS ANGELES USD – Mr. 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]”). (Enclosure 3)

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

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT
The Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization (County Committee) met on Wednesday, October 3, 2018, at the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) in Downey. The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m., by Chairperson AJ Willmer.

**Members Present**

Susan Andriacchi  
Frank Bostrom  
Maria Calix  
Ted Edmiston  
Owen Griffith  
John Nunez  
Frank Ogaz  
Suzan Solomon  
AJ Willmer

**Members Absent**

Nicole Kluft  
Cherise Moore

**Staff Present**

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

Chairperson Mr. AJ Willmer called the meeting to order.

Chairperson Willmer 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 September 5, 2018 be approved. Motion carried. Votes are:

- Ms. Susan Andriacchi: Yes  
- Mr. Frank Bostrom: Yes  
- Ms. Maria Calix: Yes  
- Dr. Ted Edmiston: Yes  
- Dr. Owen Griffith: Yes  
- Mr. John Nunez: Yes  
- Mr. Frank Ogaz: Yes  
- Ms. Suzan Solomon: Yes  
- Mr. AJ Willmer: Yes

Presentations from the public will occur during the CFQA hearing and on the petition to transfer territory from the Glendale Unified School District (USD) to the La Canada Unified School District (USD).
Secretary Crafton directed the Committee to their folders for recent articles relating to matters currently before the committee and other related school district organization issues. There are also two additional communications related to the Glendale/La Canada USD transfer of territory that came in this week. An additional copy of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for members to review during the upcoming CEQA public hearing and lastly a flyer related to the upcoming LACSTA meeting, which will be discussed in the next item.

Secretary Crafton informed the Committee that the LACSTA event will be held on October 22, 2018, and that the RSVP’s should be coordinated with Anna Heredia. The bulletin for this has been sent out with instructions on how to vote: the voting representative may vote by mail, electronically or cast their vote at the LACSTA event.

Mr. Kevin Ferrier, Consultant with Terry A. Hayes and Associates made a presentation on the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration. He explained the process and the legal requirements.

Members of the public including the petitioners and the impacted districts addressed the Committee.

Secretary Crafton stated that now that the CEQA review and public hearing have concluded, the Committee will continue to review the materials it has received. At a later County Committee meeting, to be determined by the Chair, the petition will be review. At that time, the Committee will review the nine conditions, review the CEQA report and adopt it, and then take a final vote on whether to approve or deny the petition.

Secretary Crafton further stated that if the Committee denies the petition, the process ends pending any appeal to the State Board of Education, and if the Committee approves the petition, they will adopt a voting area for the petition and an election will be scheduled, again pending any appeal to the State Board of Education.

Secretary Crafton pointed out that despite inaccurate reports in the press and by individuals, the Committee has not yet voted on this petition. At its May 3, 2017 meeting, a number of preliminary votes were taken, all of which were non-binding. The request to let the petition move forward and to have a CEQA report conducted is in no way an approval of the petition. After the Committee reviews the petition at an upcoming meeting, the Committee may also request additional information it may need to make a final decision. The official or binding vote will be taken at a meeting in the future.

Members of the public, including the petitioners and the impacted districts addressed the Committee.
Secretary Crafton stated that parties continue their negotiations in the hopes of coming to an agreement. It is expected that we will hear from the parties in the next several months. We will keep the Committee apprised if any new information is provided before that time.

Mr. Frank Bostrom stated that the review is ongoing.

Secretary Crafton indicated that we continue to receive information on districts, both local and statewide, related to the CVRA. He directed the Committee to the folders where two articles about legal action around CVRA related to the City of Santa Monica. He reminded the Committee that Santa Monica-Malibu USD is a city charter school district, so any changes to the governance in the school district is dependent on the outcome of a trial to put trustee areas into the City.

Secretary Crafton stated that there are no items at this time.

Secretary Crafton stated there are no items at this time.

Secretary Crafton stated that other than the districts which have already been discussed, there are no other updates.

Mr. Frank Bostrom suggested that we have a workshop session to include a demographer presentation which would help the Committee understand the maps and the process they use. He also suggested a refresher workshop of the petition process and lastly Mr. Ogaz suggested that discussion occur with regards to our Superintendent taking over the LACSTA meeting in the future.
Mr. Frank Bostrom made a motion to adjourn, seconded by *Adjournment* Ms. Susan Solomon. Meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Votes are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Vote</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Vote</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Susan Andriacchi</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Mr. John Nuinez</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Frank Bostrom</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Mr. Frank Ogaz</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Maria Calix</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Ms. Suzan Solomon</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Ted Edmiston</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Mr. AJ Willmer</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Owen Griffith</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION  
Regular Meeting  
November 7, 2018

The Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization (County Committee) met on Wednesday, November 7, 2018, at the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) in Downey. The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m., by Chairperson AJ Willmer

Members Present

Susan Andriacchi  
Frank Boström  
Maria Calix  
Ted Edmiston  
Owen Griffith  
Cherise Moore  
John Nunez  
Frank Ogaz  
AJ Willmer

Members Absent

Susan Solomon

Staff Present

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

Chairperson Mr. AJ Willmer called the meeting to order.  

Call to Order

Chairperson Willmer led the flag salute.  

Flag Salute

A member of the public, including the petitioner and the impacted district addressed the Committee.  

Presentations from the Public

Dr. Doug Johnson from National Demographics gave the Committee a presentation on the process of analyzing a district’s demographics and of drawing trustee area lines as well as the software used to draw the maps.  

Study Session

The Committee discussed the LACSTA event and brainstormed on how to better plan and ensure a greater interest and outcome for this event.  

The Committee discussed the process of voting on the petitions.
Secretary Crafton reminded the Committee of the need for the Nominating Committee Members to be chosen.

Chairperson Willmer called for volunteers. The Nominating Committee is as follows: Dr. Cherise Moore, Mr. Frank Bostrom and Ms. Susan Andriacchi.

Mr. Frank Bostrom made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Adjournment Ms. Maria Calix. Meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Votes are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ms. Susan Andriacchi</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>Dr. Owen Griffith</th>
<th>Yes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Frank Bostrom</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Mr. John Nunez</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Maria Calix</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Mr. Frank Ogaz</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Ted Edmiston</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Mr. AJ Willmer</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Enclosure 2

Summary of Los Angeles Unified School District Reorganization Proposals

January 2019

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 21, 2018.

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)

January 2019

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 21, 2018.

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

On September 1, 2017, LACOE received a petition in the form of a 2015 resolution from the City of Malibu to form a separate Malibu USD from territory within the boundaries of the existing Santa Monica-Malibu USD. The petition was introduced at the November 1, 2017 regular County Committee meeting, and at least one public hearing will be scheduled. After this local agency petition was introduced, however, the City of Malibu sent a letter requesting that the County Committee postpone the scheduling of its preliminary hearing to allow the stakeholders more time to discuss further options and details regarding the petition. On February 28, 2018, however, the City of Malibu apprised the committee of their interest in pursuing the preliminary public hearing. Then, in April 2018, the City resolved to further investigate options before asking the County Committee to proceed. At its May 2, 2018 regular meeting, the County Committee voted to delay scheduling the preliminary public hearing until after getting an update on negotiations at its regularly scheduled meeting on September 5, 2018. On September 5, 2018, representatives from the City of Malibu and the Santa Monica-Malibu USD apprised the County Committee of their negotiations and shall return with a further update in early 2019.

Status: Preliminary public hearing to be scheduled, pending negotiations
Status Date: September 18, 2018
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.

In Fall 2017, staff concluded the Request For Proposal (RFP) process, evaluated vendors, and selected an environmental consultant, for whom a contract was agreed upon. The environmental analysis concluded with the report’s comment period spanning August 30 – September 18, 2018. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Public Hearing convened on October 3, 2018, at the County Committee’s regular scheduled meeting, with a final decision on the petition to occur at a future regularly scheduled meeting.

*Status: County Committee conducting further review of petition and materials
Status Date: December 21, 2018

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: Future ballot measure preparations suspended until appeal process concludes
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
- *Saugus Union SD and Sulphur Springs Union SD/December 2018

Formation Proposals/Last Activity Date

- Malibu USD (Santa Monica-Malibu USD)/April 2018

Trustee Areas and Governing Board Size/Last Activity Date

- El Monte City SD / August 2017
- El Monte Union HSD / March 2016
- Torrance USD / July 2018
- Walnut USD / May 2016
- Whittier Union HSD / September 2018

* = indicates activity since last meeting

This document was prepared by staff to the County Committee.
Received from a Chief Petitioner by-hand at 11-07-18 County Committee meeting.

A member of the public also hand-delivered a large number of documents which will be compressed into a separate email.
Petitioners Comments – GUSD/LCUSUSD Transfer  
Nov. 7, 2018 County Committee Meeting - Public Comment Period 

CEQA Initial Study/MND  
by Nick Karapetian  
Co-Chief Petitioner for the GUSD/LCUSUSD transfer petition under your consideration.

I'd like to briefly comment on specific elements of the CEQA review that warrant further clarification. During the October 3rd meeting, this committee was presented the findings of the Initial Study prepared for the proposed transfer by TAHA at the request of Staff. As reported by TAHA, only 1 AREA (out of the 19 evaluated) presented a possible significant environmental impact arising from the transfer and that had to do with whether LCUSD has sufficient classroom “capacity” to accommodate the transferring students. For that one finding, TAHA recommended a Mitigated Negative Declaration that portable classrooms be installed on two LCUSD campuses.

I’d like to highlight a few fundamental points that are critical for the Committee to appreciate regarding this lone mitigation measure:

1. It should be noted that the “capacity” of the LCUSD schools, as used in the Initial Study is a self-imposed cap driven by the target student-teacher ratios established by LCUSD (which are substantially lower than State Targets). “Capacity” in this case, is not a physical space constraint.

2. More importantly, the use of portable classrooms is a tool for managing enrollment swings that is used by virtually every school district. The regularity and minimal impacts of this practice is illuminated by the fact that a Categorical Exemption addressing “Minor Additions to Schools” was adopted by the State in its CEQA Guidelines.

3. From the CEQA Guidelines regarding Categorical Exemptions, and I quote: “the Public Resources Code requires these Guidelines to include a list of classes of projects which have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment and which shall, therefore, be exempt from the provisions of CEQA” and “they are declared to be categorically exempt from the requirement for the preparation of environmental documents”.

4. This was reinforced by TAHA in their presentation to this Committee at the Oct 3 meeting.

Petitioners believe that TAHA adequately performed a level of analysis appropriate to an Initial Study. TAHA also correctly recognized that the shifting student population was largely contained to the same physical area and environment as they are today and yielded no significant additional impacts which could not be mitigated. This was also the determination made by LACOE, as Lead Agency for the Initial Study, and was endorsed by the Secretary of this Committee.

Therefore, Petitioners believe that the Initial Study was sufficiently comprehensive and no further environmental review is warranted and request the Committee to adopt the findings of the IS/MND as stated.
Financial Impacts
by Scott Tracy
Former La Canada school board member

This Petition was intended to be relatively uncomplicated and straightforward:

- By all metrics, the Territory represents less than 2% of GUSD, less than 1% in some cases

- Unlike the Wiseburn & Santa Monica Malibu petitions, no property and no school facilities are involved

- Only about 150 Sagebrush students remain available to transfer [less than six-tenths of one percent of Glendale’s total enrollment] while 215 are now attending La Canada schools, thanks to the permissive agreement between the two districts — all taking place without disruption to students, families and schools

- Your predecessors on this Committee in the 1970s and again in the 1990s found all conditions having been met, as did the CDE in the 1990s on appeal

- This Committee granted preliminary approval of the Petition in May 2017

- A CEQA Initial Study followed and its finding was a Mitigated Negative Declaration with a single Mitigation Recommendation, and a Committee vote is forthcoming on that finding

So, here we are and the paperwork overload continues. Here, for example is the most recent Opposition Brief submitted by Glendale dated September 6, 2018.

I have here the one document they did NOT include—dated just seven days later. This 256-page public document was filed by Glendale in connection with its $50+ million bond issuance. I will hand it over to Dr. Deegan and ask that copies be made for each of you.

This document is important because it includes disclosures made by Glendale to its bond counsel, rating agency, auditors and future bondholders, disclosures that are in direct conflict with information provided to you in Glendale’s Opposition Brief and elsewhere.

Furthermore, Glendale has made assertions to this Committee regarding financial impacts that they’ve characterized as “significant” and yet they are NOT included in the Official Statement for its bond sale. These differences serve to undermine the legitimacy of Glendale’s assertions being made to you.

Petitioners don’t expect Committee members to digest this entire document to identify the sections of interest. Petitioners will provide those references in their formal response to Glendale’s Opposition Brief, which will be submitted in the next few weeks. I expect this 256-page document to be included along with that response.

End of public comments
Additional Information Which Was Unable To Be Presented In The Limited Time Allotted For Public Comments. Being Provided For The Committee’s Consideration

**LCUSD’s stated ability to accommodate the transferring students**

1. LCUSD has stated before this Committee on a number of occasions that it is confident it can accommodate the transferring students with minimal impact on its financial or educational programs. Its confidence is rooted in the various methods at its disposal to moderate its enrollment, including accepting fewer out-of-district permit students following a transfer. **LCUSD enrolls hundreds of permit students annually**; last year LCUSD accepted 181 non-resident students including 50 Territory students — with no significant impact on housing costs and full compliance with its class size reduction LCAP goals.

2. As a reminder, **LCUSD has already enrolled over 50% of the Sagebrush “Territory” kids (200+ students) since we began this petition process**. And based on exhibits GUSD gave this Committee, there are only approx. 150 Territory students currently attending GUSD. Moreover, the earliest a transfer can happen is July 2020.

3. Given that the “capacity” of LCUSD schools is fungible, by definition, if LCUSD were to admit additional students then increasing the number of classrooms and teachers would increase the “capacity” at LCUSD schools while maintaining the LCAP class-size goals.

**Additional comments regarding the IS/MND**

1. GUSD engaged Dudek to review the TAHA IS/MND and provide their opinions. The comments from Dudek’s review focused primarily on two main areas; one being the environmental impacts from installing portable classrooms, should they be needed; and the other was criteria having to do with the shifting student population in general and the potential effects of that on the environment. On the latter they assert that the Initial Study did not go far enough in providing greater analysis of the various study areas as would be the case with a more expansive MND or full-blown EIR.

2. **The installation of portable classrooms is a Categorically Exempt project per CEQA.** That exemption effectively deems that school expansions, including portable classrooms, within established guidelines require NO further review under CEQA as should be the case here.

3. Petitioners believe that TAHA adequately performed a level of analysis appropriate to an Initial Study, whose specific purpose is to determine if significant environmental impacts are likely to occur and if so, recommend further investigation.

**To summarize petitioner’s comments**

1. A relatively minor shift in student population from one school district to another, in close proximity is not likely to add significant environmental impacts.

2. The one Mitigation Measure to install portable classrooms falls within the definition of a Categorical Exemption per CEQA Guidelines.

3. Had LCUSD elected to install similar classrooms on the affected campuses, they could have done so with little/no CEQA review by filing a Notice of Exemption.

4. As none of the exceptions to a Categorical Exemption apply in this case the Categorical Exemption to install temporary classrooms applies and the mitigation measure will not cause one or more significant environmental effects.
Glendale USD to La Canada USD Territory Transfer Petition

Emails received from Resident(s) since 10-03-18
Thank you for your comment. It will be forwarded to County Committee and Keith Crafton. Best, Allison

Allison Deegan, Ed.D.  
(562) 922-6336  
deegan_allison@lacoe.edu

Regionalized Business Services Coordinator  
Division of Business Advisory Services  
Los Angeles County Office of Education  
9300 Imperial Highway  
Downey, CA 90242

From: Joan Anderson <joshandjacksmom@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, December 12, 2018 10:02 AM  
To: Deegan_Allison <Deegan_Allison@lacoe.edu>  
Subject: LCUSD home value nearly DOUBLE of comparable Sagebrush GUSD house in 2001 and today!

Hi Allison,

Third email today to forward  
to all of the members of the County Committee  
Thank you!

Joan Anderson  
LCUSD Resident/Parent

Here is another clear illustration for the County Committee  
showing Financial Gain is, and always has been the motive of Sagebrush (GUSD) Residents to start a petition to become part of LCUSD.  
Let’s also consider the fact that according to the findings of the independent survey-study paid for by LCUSD, the City of LaCanada, and GUSD:  
the chief petitioners had No current or future school age children, 80% of signatures were found to be from retirement age residents with No current or future school age children, and the rest were Sagebrush parents whose children are already in LCUSD on permits! (as we all heard speak at both forums and lacoe meetings).

The Sagebrush house shown below was on the market when we were looking to buy with LCUSD school district in mind, in Spring 2001. It was 1/2 the price of the similar size & condition house that we ended up buying within the LCUSD. It still is 1/2 the estimated value
4603 Ocean View Blvd
La Canada Flintridge, CA 91011
3 beds · 2 baths · 1,290 sqft

❤ FOR SALE
$699,000
Zestimate*: $844,341
View Zestimate details
Est. Mortgage: $2,908/month

Sold for 1/2 as much as our house when we bought ours 18 years ago within La Canada Unified School District
Rare fixer in the prestigious City Limits of La Canada Flintridge, north of Foothill with so much potential. Very private parcel with a grand gated entrance and subtle views of the Downtown LA skyline from the outside deck. Opportunity to restore or develop and build-out this home into something magnificent. Check with the City about adding a 2nd story or additional square footage, and 2nd Unit Opportunities (including Garage Conversions) through the CA ADU State Law. Standard Sale.

Now Every lot in LC has potential to become 2 on a lot! potentially doubling the number of homes with students!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10/19/2018</td>
<td>Listed for sale</td>
<td>$699,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/22/2008</td>
<td>Sold</td>
<td>$505,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/21/2006</td>
<td>Sold</td>
<td>$535,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/1/2005</td>
<td>Sold</td>
<td>$800,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/15/2003</td>
<td>Sold</td>
<td>$690,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/3/2003</td>
<td>Sold</td>
<td>$655,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/28/2002</td>
<td>Sold</td>
<td>$495,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/4/2001</td>
<td>Sold</td>
<td>$369,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/16/2001</td>
<td>Sold</td>
<td>$256,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1/2 as much as our similar 3b 2b within LCUSD. Same week we bought our house $490,500.00

4603 Ocean View Blvd, Sagebrush

Report issue with price history.
354 Knight Way, La Canada Flintridge, CA is a single family home that contains 1,583 sq ft and was built in 1961. It contains 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. This home last sold for $490,500 in April 2001.

The Zestimate for this house is $1,343,733, which has increased by $7,863 in the last 30 days. The Rent Zestimate for this home is $4,034/mo, which has increased by $222/mo in the last 30 days.

Facts and Features

Double the estimated value of similar sagebrush house
Hi Allison,

Here is another email for Mr Crafton, Mr Wilmer, and all committee members.
If you could please forward:

Beverly Hills has more than one zip code;
people who live in “Beverly Hills PO” do not attend BHUSD Schools.
And it’s no secret.
Just like everyone has always known that Sagebrush is not LC Schools!

Note the median sale price in the two different BH zip codes: $3.2 Million vs $1.8 Million.
My research the past 6 years show Sagebrush homes sell for 25-33% less than LCUSD homes.

LCUSD / “real” La Cañada zip code is 91011.
I think Sagebrush area needs their own zip code; LCF Post Office zip code is 91012.
Sagebrush can have that zip code with all the people who rent post office boxes in La Cañada.

That’s just how I feel.
Joan

Felix Pena,..., Agent, Beverly Hills, CA
Fri Jul 20, 2012
You need to live in Beverly Hills proper 90210, 90211 or 90212, but you also need to be careful because Beverly Hills Post Office does not qualify. You can call me and I will tell you if a certain address qualifies your child to attend BH HS. Felix Pena, Hilton & Hyland, 310-278-3311 ext 431, or 818-807-6041 cell.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Joan Anderson <joshandjacksmom@yahoo.com>
Date: December 7, 2018 at 1:17:33 PM PST
To: Joan <JoshAndJacksMom@Yahoo.com>
Subject: Beverly Hills listed twice- 2 zip codes BHUSD vs Not- just like Sagebrush LC; they can use the LCF Post Office Zip Code 91012, (LCUSD) Real La Cañada is 91011.
LCF Ranks High for Pricey Real Estate

By Wes Woods II
The Outlook

La Cañada Flintridge once again has joined the ranks of the most expensive areas in the U.S., as measured by the median price for residential property sales in 2018.

The 91011 ZIP code placed 57th in an end-of-year ranking of the nation’s priciest locales, according to a PropertyShark analysis.

The median home sale price of $1,770,000 in ZIP code 91011 was enough to land it seven spots ahead of its No. 64 ranking in 2017.

The area in LCF increased its statewide ranking to 46th this year after placing 48th the previous year.

“It is nice to be in the elite class of expensive cities like N.Y., S.F., Cape Cod, Silicon Valley and more,” said Pat Anderson, president and CEO of the La Cañada Flintridge Chamber of Commerce, in an email. “However, with that comes more responsibility for all of us — business and residents alike — to do our part to maintain La Cañada Flintridge as a desirable place to work, play and raise a family.

While LCF ranked number 57 out of the 117 ZIP codes listed nationally, you and I know we are, in reality, number 1 and that is why we collectively have to be more responsible in the nation, for the second year in a row, is in San Mateo County’s Atherton, which had a median home sale price of $6,700,000.

Because of ties, PropertyShark.com

See ZIP CODE, page 16

“Real” Beverly Hills vs “BH PO” d codes- $Agebrush needs their own 91012 vs LCF post office?.native
Hi Allison,

Could you please forward this to Mr Crafton and other committee members?

Thank you,

Joan Anderson

Dear Mr Crafton, and all,

I am one of the few (if not the only) homeowners within LCUSD that has spoken against the territory transfer. Most of my neighbors think this Sagebrush issue is going to “get shut down like it always does”. I however have been very concerned and stressed about this most recent petition and it’s progress the past 5+ years.

I don’t know if any members of LA County Committee on Redistricting, LACOE, or GUSD have seen this latest “plan” written by LCUSD. (PDF below)

Does this mean right now, all of Sagebrush is LCUSD?

Are they allowed to do this without County Committee approval or GUSD? Even if they will “release” Sagebrush students who wish to attend GUSD?

And somehow the city of LCF (MY tax dollars, or another Bond, or another parcel tax) claims they will come up with the money to create facilities and pay staff for an unknown number of Sagebrush students?

LCUSD board and city of LCF, have acknowledged for the past 23 years that I am aware of,
there is no land and no money to build additional school facilities, nor to pay for faculty or staff.

From the pdf below:

#1

“WHEREAS, the Governing Board will collaborate with the City of La Cañada Flintridge and the Subject Area citizens to develop a financial mitigation strategy that will relieve the impacts to the LCUSD as a result of the Territory Transfer related to student housing, facilities, and personnel as required to avoid any material disruptions to the District”

#2

“WHEREAS, the Governing Board commits to honoring any request by a resident of the “Sagebrush” Territory to release their student in order that he or she may continue to attend their school within the Glendale Unified School District if the Territory Transfer is effected. This commitment to release via the interdistrict permit process will also be extended to siblings of Sagebrush residents attending Glendale Unified School District schools once they reach school-age, if requested by the parent or guardian”.

Thought you all should be aware of this, I don’t imagine LCUSD gave you the heads up.

My guess is LCUSD has also failed to share with County Committee and most certainly not with CEQA study contractor, their “Master Plan”: Updating all four school sites *for current students living within LCUSD.*

The plan is to place portables during demolition and construction. There will literally be no room for additional portables to house Sagebrush students.

The new Bond money, and any remaining Parcel tax monies were earmarked to cover this Master Plan. They are already over budget; “master plan” *does not include new facilities to accommodate the thousands of potential Sagestudents from the over one thousand parcels* (including multi family housing such as 30 unit apartment buildings, town houses, condos, duplexes, etc.

Sincerely,

Joan Anderson
354 Knight Way
La Canada, CA 91011
Resolutions received from City of La Canada and La Canada USD since 10-03-18
Thank you, the material will be distributed to the County Committee. Please contact me if you have any questions. Best, Allison

Allison Deegan, Ed.D.
(562) 922-6336
deegan_allison@lacoe.edu

Regionalized Business Services Coordinator
Division of Business Advisory Services
Los Angeles County Office of Education
9300 Imperial Highway
Downey, CA 90242

From: Kim Bergner <kbergner@lcusd.net>
Sent: Thursday, December 6, 2018 10:52 AM
To: Deegan_Allison <Deegan_Allison@lacoe.edu>
Subject: LCUSD Adopted Resolution

Ms. Deegan,

On November 27, 2018, the Governing Board of La Canada Unified School District adopted Resolution 5-18-19 Regarding the Community’s Request Calling For The "Territory Transfer" of Certain Specified Areas of the City into the La Canada Unified School District Boundaries. Attached is a copy of the signed resolution.

Sincerely,

Kim Bergner
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
La Canada Unified School District
(818) 952-8381
LA CAÑADA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD
OF LA CAÑADA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGARDING THE COMMUNITY’S REQUEST CALLING FOR THE
“TERRITORY TRANSFER” OF CERTAIN SPECIFIED AREAS OF THE CITY
INTO THE LA CAÑADA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES
RESOLUTION 5-18-19

WHEREAS, the La Cañada Unified School District (LCUSD) was incorporated as a K-12 school district in 1961 serving the general public educational needs of the unincorporated communities of La Cañada and Flintridge; and

WHEREAS, the City of La Cañada Flintridge (the City) was incorporated as a general law city on November 30, 1976; and

WHEREAS, the City’s incorporation brought together two unincorporated communities of Los Angeles County, La Cañada and Flintridge, and united them into one community and municipality; and

WHEREAS, at the time of the City’s incorporation, the jurisdictional boundaries of the City encompassed a small section of the La Cañada community that was served by the Glendale Unified School District (GUSD), generally, that area west of Rosebank Drive to the City’s western border at Pickens Canyon (the “Subject Area”), which is the only area of the City that does not attend LCUSD schools; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board affirms that its foremost duty and responsibility is to provide the safest and most effective learning environment possible for the children of LCUSD; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board recognizes that since the time of the City’s incorporation there has been an ongoing call to truly unite the City and achieve alignment between the educational jurisdiction and the municipal jurisdiction of the community so as to strengthen the safety and education of the community’s children; and

WHEREAS, the District was asked by the community to support the “Territory Transfer” of the Subject Area from GUSD’s jurisdiction in order to bring about improved children’s safety and strengthen the potential for children’s educational outcomes through simplifying jurisdictional coordination and aligning and reinforcing family and community interactions with children’s education; and

WHEREAS, research supports that community cohesiveness strengthens social capital and has been found to produce positive results for student achievement and helps children to excel in school;

WHEREAS, strengthening ties between families and within a community, allowing people greater involvement and engagement with each other in civic activities which are aligned with school activities, have a direct and positive effect on student academic achievement;

WHEREAS public and school safety will materially improve when LCUSD, City and local law enforcement, emergency, and operational planning is simplified, unified and streamlined;

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the La Cañada Unified School District recognizes the magnitude and intensity of the community’s desire to unite the City and strengthen school safety and school-community alignment, as evidenced by the number of “Territory Transfer” petitions submitted since the formation of LCUSD in 1961, and supports the community’s current petition for the reasons stated below;

WHEREAS, the Governing Board will collaborate with the City of La Cañada Flintridge and the Subject Area citizens to develop a financial mitigation strategy that will relieve the impacts to the LCUSD as a result of the Territory Transfer related to student housing, facilities, and personnel as required to avoid any material disruptions to the District;
WHEREAS, the Governing Board commits to honoring any request by a resident of the “Sagebrush” Territory to release their student in order that he or she may continue to attend their school within the Glendale Unified School District if the Territory Transfer is effected. This commitment to release via the interdistrict permit process will also be extended to siblings of Sagebrush residents attending Glendale Unified School District schools once they reach school-age, if requested by the parent or guardian.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, the Governing Board of the La Cañada Unified School District hereby gives its unanimous support for the community’s petition, and the community’s request to explore a feasibility plan which is consistent with the duties of the District to its students, parents and community members to effectuate the “Territory Transfer” of the Subject Area into the boundaries of the LCUSD in order to:

1. facilitate, enhance, and strengthen the engagement and alignment of the residents’ educational activities of the Subject Area with City activities, events, organizations, and civic life;

2. strengthen ties between families and within the community - where all citizens can increase involvement and engagement with each other and in civic activities and have these activities aligned

3. between the community and its schools, thereby creating and strengthening “social capital” which

4. research demonstrates directly and positively supports improved student academic achievement;

5. improve and enhance the cohesiveness between residents and their children residing in the Subject Area with those residing in the greater City community given that the education, vocational and extracurricular opportunities will be identically available to the whole of the City’s community;

6. improve self-governance given that the jurisdiction of LCUSD and the City will be better aligned and the school safety and educational needs of the Subject Area can be better identified and addressed;

7. improve school and public safety as LCUSD, City and local law enforcement, emergency, and operational planning will be simplified, unified and streamlined;

8. and allow the City to simplify the equitable expenditure of resources throughout the community, particularly with respect to matters supporting public education, as Subject Area residents and their children, along with the broader City community will share identically and equally as beneficiaries of City resources and expenditures.

IN WITNESS THEREETO, we, the Governing Board of the La Cañada Unified School District, do hereby adopt this resolution this 27th day of November, 2018.

[Signatures]

Governing Board Members

Kaitzer Pugh, President

Brent Kiszyk, Vice President

Le Radabaugh, Clerk

Ellen Matici, Member

Dan Jeffries, Member
November 20, 2018

Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization
Los Angeles County Office of Education
9300 Imperial Highway
Downey, CA 90242
ATTN: Keith D. Crafton, Secretary to the County Committee

Dear Honorable Members of the County Committee:

On behalf of the City Council of the City of La Cañada Flintridge, I am writing to reiterate the City's support and wholehearted endorsement of UniteLCF's application for Territory Transfer of that western portion of the city of La Cañada Flintridge (hereafter “Subject Area”), currently within the Glendale Unified School District’s (GUSD) jurisdiction, to the territorial Jurisdiction of the La Cañada Unified School District (LCUSD).

On November 18, 2013, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 13-26 (see attached) indicating its support of the Territory Transfer of the Subject Area to LCUSD. Exactly five years later, the City Council continues to strongly support this Transfer for all of the reasons previously stated in the City’s adopted Resolution. The City’s interests remain, primarily, of ensuring a cohesive community; one that affords all residents of the Subject Area the same opportunities and benefits of citizenship, including identity, engagement, participation in civic affairs and civic life, self-governance and appropriate representation, the melding of commonalities of interest, social unity and the affording of the same academic, athletic, extracurricular and participatory opportunities for our Subject Area youth that all other youth of our community get to experience and enjoy.

For more than 25 years, the City and LCUSD have enjoyed a unique and mutually beneficial formal relationship through our Joint Use Agreement. This Agreement has been the catalyst for opportunities to share resources, knowledge and expertise on issues of mutual concern and/or benefit to each other and the community and to forge positive relationships between the City and LCUSD that have afforded greater attention on matters of public safety, transportation, the well-being of youth (health and welfare), diversity and acceptance, and expanded participation and knowledge of the world we live in (through our Sister Cities program). From this Joint Use Agreement, our youth and their families have had many wonderful opportunities accessible to them that might not have been available otherwise. Our Subject Area students do not get to partake of these benefits. Our Subject Area students are not afforded the same opportunities to form bonds and relationships with other similarly-aged children from within their own community. Parents do not get to interact with other parents across the community that might be faced with, or challenged by, issues common to the youth of our community. The City and LCUSD already have in place a formalized partnership by which there are programs and opportunities that can benefit all community school-aged children...just not the jurisdiction to do so, currently.
Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization
November 20, 2018
Page 2

We are aware of the arguments by those opposed to the Territory Transfer. We are surprised and somewhat dismayed by the lengths that opponents will go in their attempts to quash what is, in actuality, in the best interests of our children and community while causing no significant harm to our neighbors to the west of the Subject Area. The assertion that recent (state mandated) “changes to the City’s zoning code [regarding accessory dwelling units] will create a surge in student enrollment” ignores the fact that all municipalities were mandated to make this same change or that accessory dwelling units, given their limited size, are not customarily used for the housing of students and their families, rather, the elderly, adult singles, or temporary/transition housing. It also ignores that LCUSD has determined that there is not a student accommodation crisis. We hope that the County Committee will look beyond these types of red-herrings and focus on the factual benefits that will be derived by the requested Transfer.

The City Council is absolute and proud to reaffirm its support for the Territory Transfer. The City Council continues to work closely with the LCUSD Governing Board to partner in areas where we can assist in the transition, if approved. We are committed to working with LCUSD, the Subject Area residents, and the entire community to ensure that the implementation of the Territory Transfer is a success.

I encourage your favorable consideration of the residents’ petition for a Territory Transfer.

Respectfully,

Teresa M. Walker
Mayor

Cc: City Council
    UniteLCF Committee
    La Cañada Unified School District Governing Board
    Wendy Sinnette, Superintendent, LCUSD
    Allison Deegan, LACOE Business Advisory Services
CITY OF LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE

RESOLUTION NO. 13-26


WHEREAS, the City of La Cañada Flintridge was incorporated as a general law city on November 30, 1976; and,

WHEREAS, the City’s incorporation brought together two unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County, La Cañada and Flintridge, and merged them into one community and one municipality; and,

WHEREAS, the La Cañada Unified School District (LCUSD) was incorporated as a K-12 school district in 1961 serving the general public educational needs of the La Cañada and Flintridge areas; and,

WHEREAS, at the time of the City’s incorporation, the jurisdictional boundaries of the City encompassed certain specified areas of the La Cañada Flintridge community that were served by the Glendale Unified School District (GUSD), generally, that area west of Rosebank Drive to the City’s western border at Pickens Canyon (the “Subject Area”); and,

WHEREAS, since the City’s incorporation, there has been an ongoing call to achieve cohesiveness between the educational jurisdictional boundaries and the municipal jurisdictional boundaries of the community; and,

WHEREAS, the City was asked by the community to support the “Territory Transfer” of the Subject Area from GUSD’s jurisdiction to LCUSD’s jurisdiction in order to bring about a desired unity within the community; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of La Cañada Flintridge has long supported territory transfer of the Subject Area into LCUSD’s jurisdiction for the reasons stated below.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of La Cañada Flintridge hereby gives its overwhelming support to the community’s request calling for the “Territory Transfer” of the Subject Area into LCUSD’s jurisdiction for the following reasons:

1. Territory Transfer will result in enhanced community identity toward La Cañada Flintridge among those residents and their children residing in the Subject Area;
2. Territory Transfer will result in greater physical, social and psychological association with the La Cañada Flintridge community and the educational needs of those residents and their children residing in the Subject Area.
3. Territory Transfer will result in increased involvement by residents of the Subject Area with La Cañada Flintridge activities, events, organizations, and civic life;

4. Territory Transfer will result in improved and enhanced cohesiveness between residents and their children residing in the Subject Area with those residing in the greater La Cañada Flintridge community given that the educational, vocational and extracurricular opportunities will be equitably afforded to the entire community;

5. Territory Transfer will provide for improved self-governance given that the jurisdictional boundaries of the City and the School District will be aligned and the needs of the Subject Area can be better identified and addressed given the proximity of LCUSD to the Subject Area and the commonalities of interest related to general community issues;

6. Territory Transfer will result in improved public safety as City, School District and local law enforcement emergency and operational planning will be unified and better coordinated;

7. Territory Transfer will result in the elimination of differences that may exist between the educational opportunities and curricula currently being afforded by two separate school district entities and will allow students of the Subject Area to equitably compete with their community colleagues for the same opportunities and programs under the same criteria and measures; and,

8. Territory Transfer will allow the City to expend resources equitably throughout the community, particularly with respect to matters supporting public education, as Subject Area residents and their children will also share as beneficiaries of the support provided.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of La Cañada Flintridge hereby petitions and otherwise requests that the Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization commence the process for Territory Transfer of the Subject Area into the La Cañada Unified School District jurisdictional boundaries and to act favorably in so doing.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 18th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2013

Laura Olhasso, Mayor

ATTEST:

Yvette Hall, City Clerk
State of California
County of Los Angeles
City of La Cañada Flintridge

I, Yvette Hall, City Clerk of the City of La Cañada Flintridge, California, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 13-26 was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of La Cañada Flintridge at a Regular Meeting held on the 18th day of November, 2013, by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Spence, Voss, Davitt and Ollassio.
NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: None.
ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: Curtis.
ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEMBERS: None.

Dated: November 19, 2013

[Signature]
Yvette Hall, City Clerk