Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization
c/o Los Angeles County Office of Education
9300 Imperial Highway, Downey, CA 90242-2890

January 4, 2024

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

FROM: Octavio Castelo, Secretary
County Committee

SUBJECT: Annual Organizational Meeting of the County Committee-
Wednesday, January 10, 2024

The annual organizational meeting of the County Committee will be held at **10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, January 10, 2024. Please note the later starting time, since after the meeting concludes, there will be a luncheon for the County Committee where some additional guests may be in attendance. This meeting will be hybrid, with in-person, as well as the online opportunity to participate.** Connection information will be emailed to you in advance of the meeting.

Attached is the agenda for the meeting of January 10, 2024.

If you have questions, please call Dr. Allison Deegan at (562) 922-6336.

AD/EH:vb
Attachments

Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization
c/o Los Angeles County Office of Education
9300 Imperial Highway, Downey, CA 90242-2890

Agenda No. 1 – Calendar Year 2024

The agenda is accessible through the LACOE website at the following link:
https://www.lacoe.edu/CountyCommittee/Agendas
Procedures for addressing the County Committee can be found on its website. To request a disability-related accommodation under the ADA, please call Ms. Victoria Bernstein at (562) 922-6131 at least 24 hours in advance.

For members of the public, use the following phone number to call into the meeting:
1-669-900-9128
Webinar ID: 861 9810 0117
Passcode: 028856
The public may also view the meeting via the following link:
https://lacoe-edu.zoom.us/j/86198100117?pwd=azZIcHY4b1dqcVBqOVVhem8wVi9CUT09
Password: 028856

PUBLIC COMMENT IN ADVANCE: To provide public comment in advance, you may also submit written comments or documentation by e-mail to: Bernstein_Victoria@lacoe.edu or you may record a voicemail with your comments by calling: (562) 922-6131.
• Any advance public comment or documentation must be submitted no later than 4:00 p.m. the Wednesday before the scheduled meeting (one week before the meeting date).
• Please include your name, phone number, specific agenda item, and meeting date in your correspondence.
• Correspondence received shall become part of the administrative record.

County Committee on School District Organization
Annual Organizational Meeting – Hybrid (In-person, as well as remote online access)
9300 Imperial Highway, Board Room
Downey, CA 90242
January 10, 2024
10:30 A.M.

I Information
D Discussion
A Action

Speaker	Item	Notes
Mr. Quintanilla	**I. CALL TO ORDER** – 10:30 A.M.	*I, D, A*
Mr. Quintanilla	**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**	*I, D, A*

Speaker	Item	Notes
Mr. Quintanilla	**III. ADMINISTER OATHS OF OFFICE** Oaths shall be administered to members Mr. Davis, Mr. Snell, Ms. Solomon, and Mr. Bostrom.	*I, D, A*
Mr. Quintanilla	**IV. ROLL CALL**	
Mr. Quintanilla	**V. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**	*I, D, A*
Mr. Quintanilla	**VI. ORDERING OF THE AGENDA**	*I, D, A*
Mr. Quintanilla	**VII. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** - Enclosure December 6, 2023 and December 13, 2023	*I, D, A*
Mr. Quintanilla Mr. Nunez	**VIII. NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR NEW OFFICERS** The Nominating Committee, comprised of Mr. Nunez (Chair), Mr. Mechur, and Ms. Solomon, will submit its recommendations for chairperson and vice-chairperson for 2024. The County Committee will vote on the Nominating Committee's recommendations. The new officers will assume their duties immediately.	
Chair Mr. Castelo	**IX. COUNTY COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS** The Chair may address Communications.	*I, D, A*
Chair	**X. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON OPEN SESSION ITEMS** Access for members of the public to observe and offer public comment: Connection information was provided to the Public for those who wish to remotely attend the County Committee meeting as a listener or to make public comment. Public comment received by 4:00 p.m. the Wednesday before the meeting (one week before the meeting date) becomes part of the administrative record.	*I, D, A*
Chair Mr. Castelo	**XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS**	*I, D, A*
Chair Mr. Castelo	**XII. CORRESPONDENCE**	*I, D, A*
Chair	**XIII. PUBLIC INTEREST ITEMS / COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**	*I, D, A*
Chair	**XIV. CONSENT CALENDAR**	*I, D, A*

Speaker	Item	Notes
Chair	**XV. PRESENTATIONS**	*I, D, A*
Chair	**XVI. REPORTS / STUDY TOPICS**	*I, D, A*
Chair Mr. Castelo Ms. Solomon Ms. Cervera Dr. Deegan	A. Policies Subcommittee: The Policy Subcommittee Chairperson may provide an update.	*I, D, A*
Chair	**XVII. RECOMMENDATIONS**	*I, D, A*
Chair	**XVIII. HEARINGS**	*I, D, A*
Chair	**XIX. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**	*I, D, A*
Chair Mr. Castelo Ms. Cervera Dr. Deegan	**A. UPDATE ON PETITION TO IMPLEMENT TRUSTEE AREA VOTING IN THE SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (USD)** An update may be provided to the County Committee on the status of the petition.	*I, D, A*
Chair Mr. Castelo Dr. Deegan	**B. UPDATE ON PETITION TO FORM A MALIBU USD FROM TERRITORY WITHIN THE SANTA MONICA-MALIBU USD** An update may be provided to the County Committee on the status of the petition.	*I, D, A*
Chair Mr. Castelo Dr. Deegan Mr. Hass	**C. CALIFORNIA VOTING RIGHTS ACT (CVRA)** An update will be provided to the County Committee on activities locally and statewide related to the CVRA.	*I, D, A*
Chair Mr. Castelo Dr. Deegan Mr. Hass	**D. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE** Enclosure An update will be provided to the County Committee on legislation that may impact the school district organization process.	*I, D, A*

Speaker	Item	Notes
Chair Mr. Castelo Dr. Deegan	**E. UPDATE ON LOS ANGELES USD (LAUSD) REORGANIZATION PROPOSALS** Enclosure An update will be provided to the County Committee on recent activity related to school district organization proposals pertaining to LAUSD.	*I, D, A*
Chair Mr. Castelo Dr. Deegan	**F. UPDATE ON LOS ANGELES COUNTY REORGANIZATION PROPOSALS EXCLUDING THOSE AFFECTING THE LAUSD** Enclosure An update will be provided to the County Committee on recent activity related to school district organization proposals pertaining to districts other than LAUSD.	*I, D, A*
Chair Mr. Castelo Dr. Deegan	**G. COUNTY COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS, MEETING SCHEDULE, ESTABLISHMENT OF MEETING TIMES, FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS, FOLLOW UP** The Chair may provide a reminder about the County Committee's upcoming public hearings and any other matters.	*I, D, A*
Chair	**XX. ADJOURNMENT**	*I, D, A*

Attachment 1

UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION
Hybrid Meeting
December 6, 2023

County Committee Meeting December 6, 2023	The Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization (County Committee) held a hybrid meeting on Wednesday, December 6, 2023.The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by Mr. John Quintanilla

Members Present

In Person
Frank Bostrom
Charles Davis
Martha Deutsch
Ralph Mechur
Dr. Cherise Moore (9:48 a.m.)
John Nunez
John Quintanilla
Barry Snell

Via Zoom
Donald LaPlante
Dr. Cherise Moore (until in-person arrival at 9:48 a.m.)

Staff Present

Octavio Castelo, Secretary
Dr. Allison Deegan, Staff
Eric Hass, Staff
Victoria Bernstein, Staff
Angel Rocha-Cienega, Staff

Item	Description
Call to Order	Mr. John Quintanilla called the County Committee meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.
Pledge of Allegiance	Mr. Frank Bostrom led the flag salute.

<table>
<tr><td>Roll Call</td><td>Roll call was conducted. Attendance is as follows:

<table><tr><td>Mr. Frank Bostrom</td><td>Yes</td><td>Dr. Cherise Moore</td><td>Yes</td></tr><tr><td>Ms. Estefany Castaneda</td><td>Absent</td><td>Mr. John Nunez</td><td>Yes</td></tr><tr><td>Mr. Charles Davis</td><td>Yes</td><td>Mr. Barry Snell</td><td>Yes</td></tr><tr><td>Ms. Martha Deutsch</td><td>Yes</td><td>Ms. Suzan Solomon</td><td>Absent</td></tr><tr><td>Mr. Donald LaPlante</td><td>Yes</td><td>Mr. John Quintanilla</td><td>Yes</td></tr><tr><td>Mr. Ralph Mechur</td><td>Yes</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table></td></tr>
<tr><td>Establishment of Quorum</td><td>Quorum was established.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ordering of the Agenda</td><td>The ordering of the agenda stands. No recommendations to reorder the agenda were received.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Approval of Minutes of October4, 2023, October 25, 2023, November 1, 2023, November 6, 2023, and November 9, 2023.</td><td>It was MOVED by Mr. Bostrom and SECONDED by Mr. Nunez. Votes are as follows:

<table><tr><td>Mr. Frank Bostrom</td><td>Yes</td><td>Dr. Cherise Moore</td><td>Yes</td></tr><tr><td>Ms. Estefany Castaneda</td><td>Absent</td><td>Mr. John Nunez</td><td>Yes</td></tr><tr><td>Mr. Charles Davis</td><td>Yes</td><td>Mr. Barry Snell</td><td>Yes</td></tr><tr><td>Ms. Martha Deutsch</td><td>Yes</td><td>Ms. Suzan Solomon</td><td>Absent</td></tr><tr><td>Mr. Donald LaPlante</td><td>Yes</td><td>Mr. John Quintanilla</td><td>Yes</td></tr><tr><td>Mr. Ralph Mechur</td><td>Yes</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table></td></tr>
<tr><td>Adjourn to Closed Session</td><td>It was MOVED by Mr. Nunez and SECONDED by Mr. Bostrom. Votes are as follows:

<table><tr><td>Mr. Frank Bostrom</td><td>Yes</td><td>Dr. Cherise Moore</td><td>Yes</td></tr><tr><td>Ms. Estefany Castaneda</td><td>Absent</td><td>Mr. John Nunez</td><td>Yes</td></tr><tr><td>Mr. Charles Davis</td><td>Yes</td><td>Mr. Barry Snell</td><td>Yes</td></tr><tr><td>Ms. Martha Deutsch</td><td>Yes</td><td>Ms. Suzan Solomon</td><td>Absent</td></tr><tr><td>Mr. Donald LaPlante</td><td>Yes</td><td>Mr. John Quintanilla</td><td>Yes</td></tr><tr><td>Mr. Ralph Mechur</td><td>Yes</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table></td></tr>
<tr><td>Public Comments on Closed Session Items</td><td>Mr. Kevin Shenkman, resident of Malibu, commented in-person about the lawsuit which the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (USD) has against the County Committee pertaining to the signatory petition filed by two residents about changing SMMUSD’s election system.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Closed Session</td><td>Ms. Cervera, County Counsel, stated the County Committee received advice from counsel and took no reportable action.</td></tr>
<tr><td>County Committee Communications</td><td>Mr. Hass reported on the three communications received regarding the SMMUSD.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Public Comments on Open Session Items</td><td>There are no speakers for open session non-agenized items.</td></tr>
</table>

Announcements	Mr. Castelo reminded everyone of the January 10, 2023 County Committee meeting and luncheon.
Correspondence	None at this time.
Public Interest Items/Committee Member Announcements	None at this time.
Consent Calendar	None at this time.
Presentations	None at this time
Reports/Study Topics	Dr. Deegan reported that the policy subcommittee will be continuing its review of proposed policy changes and may incorporate further changes to the new policy regarding city charter school district trustee area petitions from earlier this year, as well as studying the implementation of the new law signed by the governor about trustee area petitions and redistricting.
Recommendations	None at this time.
Hearings	None at this time.
Informational Items *A. Update on a Petition to Implement Trustee Area Voting in the Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD)*	A. Dr. Deegan provided an update, informing the County Committee that further polling of possible public hearing dates for the petition are pending. -Public Comment: Mr. Kevin Shenkman, speaking on behalf of the two resident Chief Petitioners, addressed the County Committee on this agenda item.

Informational Items *B. Update on a Petition to form a Malibu USD from Territory within the SMMUSD*	B. Dr. Deegan reported that legal representatives of the SMMUSD and governing board members of the SMMUSD who have addressed the County Committee assert that they cannot process both petitions at the same time. Public Comment: Mr. Soldani, legal counsel for the SMMUSD, stated that all parties have met and continue to work through components of the revenue sharing agreement. He stated that should the unification hearing process move forward in January, it will remove the ability to effectively engage constituents and start the special legislation process which will result in a delay to unification implementation. Ms. Wood, legal counsel for the City of Malibu, stated that the city recognizes the district's position that to move forward on the CVRA Hearings in January means that the district could no longer focus on the unification petition. The city is not happy with the idea that unification would have to go on hold for another year and would very much like to see unification continue to proceed with the progress it has been making. Mr. Shenkman stated that the two resident Chief Petitioners believe there is time for the SMMUSD to do their public outreach. Mr. Davis requested clarification on the public hearings that have been had and need to be had. Dr. Deegan addressed differences between the hearings as they pertain to the two different petitions involving the SMMUSD.
Informational Items *C. Petition to Implement Trustee Areas and Trustee Area Voting in the Paramount USD*	C. Mr. Hass indicated the petition from Paramount USD was received on November 15, 2023 and there will be a public hearing at the district on December 13, 2023, at 6:00 PM.
Informational Items *D. California Voting Rights Act*	D. Mr. Hass provided an update regarding the City of Burbank and its process regarding possibly implementing trustee areas and trustee area voting like the Burbank USD has recently done, but the city is now exploring whether cumulative voting would be an option. The California Secretary of State has said that is not a tenable election methodology at this time. Updates about activity in locales outside of Los Angeles County were provided.

Informational Items *E. Legislative Update*	E. Mr. Hass mentioned there are three bills that may be of interest if they proceed.
Informational Items *F. Update on Los Angeles USD (LAUSD) Reorganization Proposals*	F. None at this time
G. Update on Los Angeles County Reorganization Proposals Excluding Those Affecting the LAUSD	G. None at this time
H. County Committee Communications, Meeting, Schedule, Establishment of Meeting Times, Future Agenda Items, Follow Up	H. Mr. Quintanilla gave a reminder of the Public Hearing at Paramount USD on December 13, 2023 and January's County Committee meeting will be at 10:30 AM on January 10th not January 3rd to accommodate the holidays. He asked members to please RSVP.
Adjournment	It was **MOVED** by Dr. Moore and **SECONDED** by Mr. Bostrom. Votes are as follows:

Mr. Frank Bostrom	Yes	Dr. Cherise Moore	Yes
Ms. Estefany Castaneda	Absent	Mr. John Nunez	Yes
Mr. Charles Davis	Yes	Mr. Barry Snell	Yes
Ms. Martha Deutsch	Yes	Ms. Suzan Solomon	Absent
Mr. Donald LaPlante	Yes	Mr. John Quintanilla	Yes
Mr. Ralph Mechur	Yes		

Attachment 1

UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION
Hybrid Meeting
December 13, 2023

County Committee Special Meeting December 13, 2023

The Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization (County Committee) held a hybrid meeting on Wednesday, December 13, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by Mr. John Quintanilla

Members Present

In Person
Frank Bostrom
Charles Davis
Martha Deutsch
Donald LaPlante
Ralph Mechur
John Nunez
John Quintanilla

Staff Present

Octavio Castelo, Secretary
April Mitchell, Staff
Dr. Allison Deegan, Staff
Eric Hass, Staff
Angel Rocha-Cienega, Staff

<table>
<tr><th>Item</th><th>Description</th></tr>
<tr><td>Call to Order</td><td>Mr. Quintanilla called the County Committee meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Pledge of Allegiance</td><td>Mr. Mechur led the flag salute.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Roll Call</td><td>Roll call was conducted. Attendance is as follows:
<table>
<tr><td>Mr. Frank Bostrom</td><td>Yes</td><td>Dr. Cherise Moore</td><td>Absent</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ms. Estefany Castaneda</td><td>Absent</td><td>Mr. John Nunez</td><td>Yes</td></tr>
<tr><td>Mr. Charles Davis</td><td>Yes</td><td>Mr. Barry Snell</td><td>Absent</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ms. Martha Deutsch</td><td>Yes</td><td>Ms. Suzan Solomon</td><td>Absent</td></tr>
<tr><td>Mr. Donald LaPlante</td><td>Yes</td><td>Mr. John Quintanilla</td><td>Yes</td></tr>
<tr><td>Mr. Ralph Mechur</td><td>Yes</td><td></td><td></td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
<tr><td>Establishment of Quorum</td><td>Quorum was established.</td></tr>
</table>

<table>
<tr><td>Public Comments on Open Session Items</td><td>There are no speakers for open session non-agenized items.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Temporarily Adjourn Special Meeting</td><td>It was MOVED by Mr. Bostrom and SECONDED by Mr. Davis. Votes are as follows:
<table>
<tr><td>Mr. Frank Bostrom</td><td>Yes</td><td>Dr. Cherise Moore</td><td>Absent</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ms. Estefany Castaneda</td><td>Absent</td><td>Mr. John Nunez</td><td>Yes</td></tr>
<tr><td>Mr. Charles Davis</td><td>Yes</td><td>Mr. Barry Snell</td><td>Absent</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ms. Martha Deutsch</td><td>Yes</td><td>Ms. Suzan Solomon</td><td>Absent</td></tr>
<tr><td>Mr. Donald LaPlante</td><td>Yes</td><td>Mr. John Quintanilla</td><td>Yes</td></tr>
<tr><td>Mr. Ralph Mechur</td><td>Yes</td><td></td><td></td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
<tr><td>Convening of Public Hearing</td><td>Mr. Quintanilla called the public hearing to order at 6:12 p.m.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Hearing on a Proposal to Establish Trustee Areas and Trustee Area Voting Within the Paramount Unified School District (USD)</td><td>Mr. Hass explained the purpose of the proposal and process, and the role of the County Committee.

Paramount Unified School District gave their presentation.
- No public comments from proponents
- No public comments from opponents</td></tr>
<tr><td>Adjournment of Public Hearing</td><td>It was MOVED by Mr. Bostrom and SECONDED by Mr. Davis. Votes are as follows:
<table>
<tr><td>Mr. Frank Bostrom</td><td>Yes</td><td>Dr. Cherise Moore</td><td>Absent</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ms. Estefany Castaneda</td><td>Absent</td><td>Mr. John Nunez</td><td>Yes</td></tr>
<tr><td>Mr. Charles Davis</td><td>Yes</td><td>Mr. Barry Snell</td><td>Absent</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ms. Martha Deutsch</td><td>Yes</td><td>Ms. Suzan Solomon</td><td>Absent</td></tr>
<tr><td>Mr. Donald LaPlante</td><td>Yes</td><td>Mr. John Quintanilla</td><td>Yes</td></tr>
<tr><td>Mr. Ralph Mechur</td><td>Yes</td><td></td><td></td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
<tr><td>Reconvening of Special Meeting</td><td>Mr. Quintanilla reconvened the special meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Presentation of the Feasibility Study</td><td>Dr. Deegan presented the feasibility study.

Committee Members asked questions and requested clarifications from the district’s representatives and staff.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Approval of Petition to Establish Trustee Areas and Trustee Area Voting Within the Paramount USD</td><td>It was MOVED by Mr. Davis and SECONDED by Ms. Deutsch to approve the petition. Motion carried, votes are:
<table>
<tr><td>Mr. Frank Bostrom</td><td>Yes</td><td>Dr. Cherise Moore</td><td>Absent</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ms. Estefany Castaneda</td><td>Absent</td><td>Mr. John Nunez</td><td>Yes</td></tr>
<tr><td>Mr. Charles Davis</td><td>Yes</td><td>Mr. Barry Snell</td><td>Absent</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ms. Martha Deutsch</td><td>Yes</td><td>Ms. Suzan Solomon</td><td>Absent</td></tr>
<tr><td>Mr. Donald LaPlante</td><td>Yes</td><td>Mr. John Quintanilla</td><td>Yes</td></tr>
<tr><td>Mr. Ralph Mechur</td><td>Yes</td><td></td><td></td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
</table>

<table>
<tr><td>Approval of Scenario 4 Map</td><td>It was MOVED by Mr. Davis and SECONDED by Mr. Nunez to approve the map. Motion carried, votes are:
<table>
<tr><td>Mr. Frank Bostrom</td><td>Yes</td><td>Dr. Cherise Moore</td><td>Absent</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ms. Estefany Castaneda</td><td>Absent</td><td>Mr. John Nunez</td><td>Yes</td></tr>
<tr><td>Mr. Charles Davis</td><td>Yes</td><td>Mr. Barry Snell</td><td>Absent</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ms. Martha Deutsch</td><td>Yes</td><td>Ms. Suzan Solomon</td><td>Absent</td></tr>
<tr><td>Mr. Donald LaPlante</td><td>Yes</td><td>Mr. John Quintanilla</td><td>Yes</td></tr>
<tr><td>Mr. Ralph Mechur</td><td>Yes</td><td></td><td></td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
<tr><td>Approval of District's Request to Eliminate Voter Approval Requirement Under Ed Code 5020</td><td>It was MOVED by Mr. Nunez and SECONDED by Mr. Mechur. Votes are as follows:
<table>
<tr><td>Mr. Frank Bostrom</td><td>Yes</td><td>Dr. Cherise Moore</td><td>Absent</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ms. Estefany Castaneda</td><td>Absent</td><td>Mr. John Nunez</td><td>Yes</td></tr>
<tr><td>Mr. Charles Davis</td><td>Yes</td><td>Mr. Barry Snell</td><td>Absent</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ms. Martha Deutsch</td><td>Yes</td><td>Ms. Suzan Solomon</td><td>Absent</td></tr>
<tr><td>Mr. Donald LaPlante</td><td>Yes</td><td>Mr. John Quintanilla</td><td>Yes</td></tr>
<tr><td>Mr. Ralph Mechur</td><td>Yes</td><td></td><td></td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
<tr><td>Adjournment</td><td>It was MOVED by Mr. Bostrom and SECONDED by Mr. Davis. Votes are as follows:
<table>
<tr><td>Mr. Frank Bostrom</td><td>No</td><td>Dr. Cherise Moore</td><td>Absent</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ms. Estefany Castaneda</td><td>Absent</td><td>Mr. John Nunez</td><td>Yes</td></tr>
<tr><td>Mr. Charles Davis</td><td>Yes</td><td>Mr. Barry Snell</td><td>Absent</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ms. Martha Deutsch</td><td>Yes</td><td>Ms. Suzan Solomon</td><td>Absent</td></tr>
<tr><td>Mr. Donald LaPlante</td><td>Yes</td><td>Mr. John Quintanilla</td><td>Yes</td></tr>
<tr><td>Mr. Ralph Mechur</td><td>Yes</td><td></td><td></td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
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Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization
c/o Los Angeles County Office of Education
9300 Imperial Highway, Downey, CA 90242-2890

Enclosure

Summary of Los Angeles Unified School District Reorganization Proposals

January 2024

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 24, 2023.

PETITION TO TRANSFER TERRITORY FROM THE LOS ANGELES USD (LAUSD) TO THE PALOS VERDES PENINSULA USD (PVPUSD)

On July 10, 2019, Chadmar/Colfin Rolling Hills, LLC., submitted an owner petition to transfer five parcels of uninhabited territory from LAUSD to PVPUSD. At the September 4, 2019, regularly scheduled County Committee meeting, the petition was to be introduced to the County Committee. However, Chadmar's new counsel, David Soldani, addressed the County Committee and requested that the petition be withdrawn at that time. At the County Committee's regular meeting on March 3, 2021, Mr. Soldani provided the update that only four parcels may need to be transferred, and that the revised petition would likely be resubmitted within the next few months.

Status: Petition temporarily withdrawn, to be resubmitted
Status Date: March 3, 2021

RECENT INQUIRIES REGARDING REORGANIZATION (within the last two years)

Formation Proposals/Last Activity Date

- Inner City USD / September 2021

Transfer of Territory Proposals/Last Activity Date

- Inglewood USD to LAUSD / April 2023
- LAUSD to Palos Verdes Peninsula USD / March 2021

This document was prepared by staff to the County Committee.

Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization
c/o Los Angeles County Office of Education
9300 Imperial Highway, Downey, CA 90242-2890

Enclosure

Summary of Los Angeles County School District Reorganization Proposals (Excluding those pertaining to Los Angeles Unified School District)

January 2024

The following is a summary of school district reorganization proposals [excluding the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)] that are at various stages in the school district reorganization process as of December 24, 2023.

PETITION TO IMPLEMENT TRUSTEE AREAS AND TRUSTEE AREA VOTING IN THE SANTA MONICA-MALIBU USD

On January 6, 2022, Chief Petitioners who are residents in the Santa Monica-Malibu USD submitted a petition to implement trustee areas and trustee area voting within the district. The petition with the requisite number of signatures, and a map, was introduced to the County Committee on February 2, 2022, and a public hearing will follow. However, following the introduction of this petition, legal action was taken against the County Committee, delaying the review of the petition. Representatives for the SMMUSD and the petitioners negotiated for several months but did not reach any agreement. Most recently, representatives of both the trustee area petition and the petition to form a Malibu USD stated that the petitions should be resolved together. These representatives met recently (in November of 2023) to discuss, among other issues, using special legislation to achieve the aims of both petitions. However, he representative of the petitioners, attorney Kevin Shenkman, recently communicated his doubts about achieving any proposed special legislation in 2024. In a November 29, 2023 letter from attorney Larsen (for the SMMUSD trustee area petition submitted by residents of Malibu) stated that the district could not pursue the work needed to achieve unification during January and February of 2024 if it also had to attend to the trustee area petition during those months, and, again linking the two petitions, requested that the trustee area petition not be taken up until March of 2024. At the December 6, 2023 meeting, Kevin Shenkman, attorney for the trustee area petitioners, stated emphatically that this petition is not linked to the petition to form a Malibu USD. He also stated that the claims by the SMMUSD that they are not available are not operative and he wants to proceed with an examination of this petition.

Status: Public hearings are in the process of being scheduled

Status Date: December 24, 2023

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 again at the March 6, 2019 meeting. On May 10, 2019, staff met with the district to ascertain the status of its ongoing study and analyses. The parties to the petition returned to the committee on September 4, 2019, October 2, 2019, November 6, 2019, January 8, 2020, and March 4, 2020 to provide updates on their studies.

On August 5, 2020, the school district's attorney apprised the committee that the impacts of the COVID-19 public health crisis on the school district- and on the city- had put a pause on their negotiations. On October 7, 2020, counsel for the City of Malibu said the pursuit of a legislative solution on the splitting of the parcel tax had stalled, and that on October 12, 2020, the City of Malibu would be considering hiring a third consultant to provide a new fiscal review on the petition. On October 29, 2020, the city manager sent the city council's request that the petition be reactivated and that the County Committee's process move forward.

At the County Committee's regularly scheduled meeting on December 2, 2020, the initial preliminary public hearing was scheduled for Saturday, April 17, 2021, pending public health concerns about the viability at that time of having an in-person public hearing. On March 3, 2021, the County Committee voted to conduct a virtual preliminary public hearing on April 17, 2021. That event was held and attended by more than 300 people. The County Committee heard testimony from the City of Malibu, the Santa Monica-Malibu USD, and both proponents and opponents of the petition. The County Committee concluded the preliminary public hearing on September 18, 2021, after which it approved moving the petition into the regular County Committee petition review process.

The County Committee held a virtual public hearing on November 10, 2021. At the County Committee's regular meeting on February 2, 2022, the City of Malibu requested that the County Committee delay further review of the petition in consideration of pending negotiations with the SMMUSD in March. At the County Committee's regular meeting on March 2, 2022, the City of Malibu apprised the County Committee that there are two meetings scheduled between the parties in March, and that a status update would be provided before the County Committee's regular meeting in April. On April 19, 2022, representatives of the City of Malibu notified staff that they are still negotiating with the SMMUSD and would like to delay hearing the petition. On February 1, 2023, staff received what the parties called a "Term Sheet" jointly from representatives of the City of Malibu, and from the SMMUSD. At County Committee regular meetings throughout 2023, representatives for the City of Malibu and the SMMUSD (attorneys Christine Wood and David Soldani) have appeared online or in-person consistently to offer commentary. Attorney Dale Larsen, representing the SMMUSD on the trustee area petition, also appears and relates it to the petition to form a Malibu USD. Attorney Wood disputed the report of comments she made at one of the recent meetings so we are reviewing all of the recent County Committee recordings from 2023 to document (in brief) when the representatives spoke and to allude generally to commentary they offered. Below is a recounting of meetings we have reviewed thus far:

March 1, 2023, LACCSDO Meeting:
At the 55:45 mark, Soldani requested that the CC delay review of petitioners' SB 442 CVRA petition until after the unification is settled. It is unclear from the recording whether Wood attended or not, but she did not comment.

April 5, 2023, LACCSDO Meeting:
At the 1:33:45 mark, Soldani stated that the parties are continuing to negotiate and are making progress. At the 1:34:49 mark, Wood spoke and "agrees with Dr. Deegan's updates", and agreed with everything Soldani had just said in his update.

May 3, 2023, LACCSDO Meeting:
At about the 24:00 mark, Dr. Deegan debriefed the phone consultation staff had conducted with Ms. Wood and Mr. Soldani, including the recommendation to revoke the current petition, since the parties' current activities and negotiations no longer comport with the former city council's 2015 original petition.
At the 26:15 mark, Wood said she concurred with Dr. Deegan's update.
At the 26:40 mark, Wood said "we have been coming to your meetings for several months now with updates on our joint negotiations", and she recapped that they had mediation sessions on 03-12-22, 04-02-22, 07-09-22, and the next one would occur on 08-08-23.
At the 29:30 mark, Wood conveyed that both sides are on the same page with their mutually shared goals.

June 7, 2023, LACCSDO Meeting:

At the 44:00 mark, Soldani read aloud a prepared statement by SMMUSD Governing Board Member Laurie Lieberman.
At the 46:47 mark, Soldani had concluded reading Lieberman's statement; he then requested that the CC lay out detailed expectations for the CVRA petition's public hearings, especially under the new procedures which the CC has never done before, and which some of the members appear to need more clarity about.
At the 52:15 mark, Dale Larson, representing the SMMUSD district in the trustee area matter, said the CVRA petition should be paused until the unification petition is resolved.
At the 1:17:50 mark, Soldani reiterated that 08-08-23 will be the next mediation between the parties.

July (Meeting Cancelled)

August (Meeting Cancelled)

September 6, 2023, LACCSDO Meeting:
At the 1:04:45 mark, Wood said the parties received an independent analysis which created a formula to monetize the Term Sheet the parties had created, and that both parties have agreed to the formula.
At the 1:06:50 mark, Soldani said he agreed to everything Wood had just conveyed to the County Committee, and that the next mediation on 10-17-23 has the goal of trying to agree to timelines and whether the City of Malibu is willing to withdraw its original petition and whether the SMMUSD would then file its own petition.

October 4, 2023 LACCSDO Meeting:
At the 1:34:35 mark, Wood said she had no updates beyond what Dr. Deegan had shared during the staff update. She said she was attending the meeting in case the CC had questions.
At the 1:35:45 mark, Wood said the parties had reached terms on a Per Pupil Funding Formula, and that they were in the process of negotiating contingency agreements for that, as well as various contingencies associated with Operational Agreements. She said that on 10-17-23, the parties would meet to try to come to further terms on many contingencies to be addressed.
At the 1:37:40 mark, Wood acknowledged that they haven't broached CEQA considerations yet, among many other issues.
At the 1:38:05 mark, Soldani said he had one "modification" to offer on Wood's updates, which is that of the three agreements (in the Term Sheet), the fiscal aspect is the most complicated, and that they believe they have come to agreement on that. The SMMUSD is hoping that the next mediation will result in the parties agreeing that the City of Malibu's petition should be withdrawn.

Nov. 1, 2023, LACCSDO Meeting:
At the 13:55 mark, Dr. Deegan gave the staff update.

At the 21:40 mark, attorney Dale Larsen (representing the SMMUSD in the trustee area petition) said the unification petition parties have made great progress, so the CVRA petition should be delayed to allow district to undertake significant public outreach about the unification petition.
At the 40:27 mark, Wood stated that the parties made substantive progress on a revenue sharing agreement, and that a JPA agreement shouldn't be difficult for the sides to achieve. They are hoping that in February 2024, the parties will ratify the agreements, but that the SMMUSD needs to do significant public outreach in January 2024 about the proposed revenue sharing agreement.
[This entry is incomplete and will be added to for the next agenda packet.]

December 6, 2023 LACCSDO Meeting:
At the 1:08 mark, Dr. Deegan gave the staff update.

At the 1:10:00 mark, Ms. Wood, representing the City of Malibu in person, was called on and deferred to Mr. Soldani, representing the SMMUSD, who appeared online.

At the 1:11:30 mark, Mr. Soldani stated that the relevant parties did meet and continue to work through components of the revenue sharing agreement. He also stated that the parties to the unification petition owe the County Committee an updated timeline, reporting that the parties continue to make progress by degrees in their negotiations. Mr. Soldani clarified that the SMMUSD never threatened to withdraw from the unification process because of the work required on the trustee area petition but stated that to hold the public hearings for the trustee area petition in January 2024 would delay the unification in the special legislation process by a year. He continued that it does not make sense to review a trustee area petition on the cusp of a unification petition, which would necessarily address trustee areas.

At the 1:14:35 mark, Ms. Wood, representing the City of Malibu, stated that she would defer to Mr. Soldani and everything he said. She said the City would not be happy if the process to get special legislation started for the unification was delayed by a year, stating that the City want to move forward with the petition.

In summary, representatives for both the SMMUSD and the City of Malibu (Soldani and Wood) consistently requested that the County Committee consider both the petition to add trustee areas and trustee are voting (submitted by two residents) and the petition to create a Malibu USD (submitted by the City of Malibu) as linked items given the involvement of the SMMUSD in both petitions and the challenging timelines for hearings, financial details that remain unresolved, ongoing mediation, and the prospects of special legislation. The timeline for hearing this petition remains unclear. In a November 29, 2023 letter from attorney Larsen (for the SMMUSD trustee area petition submitted by two residents) he stated that the district could not pursue the work needed to achieve unification during January and February of 2024 if it also had to attend to the trustee area petition, and, again linking the two petitions, requested that the trustee area petition not be taken up until March of 2024. At the December 6, 2023

meeting, Kevin Shenkman, attorney for the trustee area petitioners, stated emphatically that this petition is not linked with the petition to create a Malibu USD. When a full review of the petition is agendized, staff will present a feasibility study.

Status: Parties negotiating while feasibility study continues.
Status Date: December 24, 2023

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 the 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. The County Committee continued to review the petition.

In February 2019, Dr. Kelly King, Interim Superintendent of the Glendale USD, requested a delay in the final review of the petition so that she could become familiar with the relevant issues following her recent appointment. Also in February 2019, the chief petitioners requested that the final review of the petition not take place at the April 3, 2019 meeting, because that date would fall during spring break and may impact participation by the public. In April 2019,

the chief petitioners requested the June meeting date be changed due to coinciding with the school year ending, which could prevent some parents from attending the meeting.

At the October 2, 2019 regularly scheduled meeting, the County Committee voted to accept the CEQA findings, and conducted a final vote to approve the petition, but did not approve the election area, pending the review of different election area scenarios. At the November 6, 2019, regularly scheduled meeting, the County Committee further discussed election area factors and requested additional election area maps to be reviewed at the January 8, 2020 meeting.

Before the County Committee could finalize the election area at the January meeting, however, Glendale USD appealed the petition's approval to the State Board of Education (SBE), and commenced litigation about the sufficiency of the CEQA process, which halted the County Committee's process. At its May 6, 2020, regular meeting, the County Committee passed a resolution to convey the petition's administrative record to the SBE. The CEQA litigation is ongoing in Los Angeles.

In September of 2022, CDE/SBE notified County Committee staff that they are reviewing this appeal and preparing for SBE review. In the latter half of December 2023, the CDE issued notification that the appeal is being scheduled for January 18-19, 2024.

Status: Appeal to be heard by the SBE in January 2024 / litigation ongoing.
Status Date: December 24, 2023

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. Prior to the submission of any signed petitions related to this request, the City of Malibu submitted its own petition to form a Malibu USD, which was discussed earlier in this update document.

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 continued to negotiate with the Santa Monica-Malibu USD.A joint committee was appointed by both the district and the City of Malibu, which

released a study addressing the implications of this petition. It is not clear if negotiations with this petitioner group are ongoing.

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

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 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 was not yet 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

- Castaic Union SD to Saugus Union SD / November 2023
- Inglewood USD to LAUSD / April 2023
- Azusa USD to Glendora USD/October 2016

Trustee Areas and/or Governing Board Size/Last Activity Date

- El Monte City SD / August 2022
- Monrovia USD / March 2022

- San Marino USD / April 2022
- Walnut Valley USD / May 2016

This document was prepared by staff to the County Committee.

Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization
c/o Los Angeles County Office of Education
9300 Imperial Highway, Downey, CA 90242-2890

Enclosure

LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION (COUNTY COMMITTEE) LEGISLATIVE REVIEW – JANUARY 2024

BILL NUMBER/AUTHOR:	INTRODUCTION DATE:	LAST ACTIVITY/DATE:
Assembly Bill 453 / Cervantes	02/06/23	05/10/23: Referred to Senate committees.

DESCRIPTION OF BILL

This bill would require that when any public hearing concerning the change to district-based elections is consolidated with a meeting that includes other substantive agenda items, to begin the public hearing at a fixed time regardless of its order on the agenda, and notice of the hearing must be given to the public.

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

School districts going through the process of implementing Trustee Areas (TA) and Trustee Area Voting (TAV) would need to ensure they comply with the bill by providing notice of the hearing with its specific commencement time. If the hearing is combined with a meeting, the agendized items will need to have their time allotments coordinated so that the hearing can occur at its scheduled time.

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:	INTRODUCTION DATE:	LAST ACTIVITY/DATE:
Assembly Bill 1004 / Ta	02/15/23	05/18/23: In Assembly Appropriations Committee, held under submission.

DESCRIPTION OF BILL

Would establish a process for a voter whose recall petition signature is rejected to submit a statement to verify the signature. If the elections official determines the signature on the petition possesses multiple, significant, and obvious differing characteristics when compared to all signatures in the voter's registration record, the bill would require the elections official to mail a notice to the voter, on or before the next business day or as soon as practicable, of the opportunity to verify the voter's signature. The bill would require the notice and signature verification statement to contain specified text, and would require the voter to return the statement no later than 30 days from the date of the notice.

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

School districts with an active recall petition could have some signatories engage with the County Registrar of Voters to accept their signature in the event it is rejected. If that occurred, the petition's signature verifications timeline would automatically be extended at least an additional 30-40 days.

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:	INTRODUCTION DATE:	LAST ACTIVITY/DATE:
Senate Bill 248 / Newman	01/26/23	09/01/23: Assembly Committee on Appropriations held first hearing.

DESCRIPTION OF BILL

This bill would require after April 1, 2024, a candidate for elective office to file with the Secretary of State, no later than the final filing date of a declaration of candidacy, a form to disclose the candidate's prior education and work history, and history of military service, if any.

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

This could possibly reduce the number of prospective candidates running for school board elections.

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. Octavio Castelo, Secretary to the County Committee at (562) 922-6131.

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December 19, 2023

By Email to: KRogers@olsonremcho.com

Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization
c/o Los Angeles County Office of Education
9300 Imperial Highway
Downey, California 90242-2890

Re: Petition to Implement Trustee Area Voting in Santa Monica-Malibu USD

Dear Committee Members:

We write to you on behalf of the Board of Education of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) in response to the letter dated December 11, 2023, from the County Committee's counsel Kristen Mah Rogers regarding the initial public hearing dates for review of the Petition to Implement Trustee Area Voting in SMMUSD (the "TAV Petition"). In her letter, Ms. Rogers advised counsel for the TAV Petitioners and SMMUSD that the first hearings on the TAV Petition would occur on January 31, 2024, and February 10, 2024, and that — in light of the passage of Assembly Bill (AB) 764 — the Committee had decided to "reverse the order" of the two sets of hearings from that set forth in the Committee's original Policy for Public Hearings Involving City Charter School Districts, with these initial hearings now to "consider only the map provided in the SMMUSD TAV Petition and its conformity with statutory requirements."

SMMUSD has no objection to the County Committee's decision to have those initial hearings focus exclusively on the TAV Petition map's conformity with statutory requirements. As the District will be detailing at greater length in its formal pre-hearing submission to the Committee, the trustee areas proposed in the TAV Petition are plainly unlawful under AB 764: That bill added subdivision (e) to Education Code section 5019, effective January 1, 2024, to require that "[t]rustee areas shall comply with the requirements and criteria of Section 21130 of the Elections Code." Section 21130, subdivision (c)(1), in turn, mandates that "[t]o the maximum extent practicable, election districts shall be geographically contiguous." The TAV Petition map, however, unlawfully creates *two* trustee areas that are *not* contiguous, thereby violating the statutory requirements. Given the manifest illegality of the trustee areas proposed by the TAV Petition map — necessitating that the Petition be denied on this basis alone — we agree that it makes sense for the County Committee to address and rule upon the TAV Petition map's legality as a threshold issue, before the parties and the Committee have to expend additional time and resources on any other issues raised by the TAV Petition.

We write to you now, however, to seek assurance from the County Committee that these initial hearings will indeed consider *only* the issue of whether the TAV Petition map conforms with statutory requirements, and to remove any ambiguity resulting from the December 11, 2023, letter's reference to "reversing" the order of the two sets of hearings contemplated in the Committee's original Policy for Public Hearings Involving City Charter School Districts. Under that Policy, the issue of *whether* there should be trustee-area elections *at all* was bifurcated from the issue of *what* the trustee-area districts should be, with the initial set of hearings quite logically addressing the former question and the second set of hearings addressing the latter issue only if necessary to do so. Were the County Committee to decide — based upon the evidence and arguments presented at the first set of hearings — that the existing at-large method of electing SMMUSD Board members resulted in racially polarized voting and vote dilution such that converting to trustee areas would further the purposes of the California Voting Rights Act, the second set of hearings would address the boundaries of the proposed trustee areas themselves. As the Policy itself reflects, consideration of that issue would include not only whether the trustee areas proposed in the TAV Petition were strictly *lawful* (i.e., in conformity with the statutory requirements), but whether they were *appropriate* and *desirable* (e.g., whether they adequately preserve communities of interest and the geographic integrity of local neighborhoods). Addressing these broader issues involves far more preparation, time, effort, and involvement from the District and its staff, from members of the public, and from the Committee itself than simply determining whether the trustee areas proposed in the TAV Petition map are non-contiguous and hence unlawful for that reason alone.

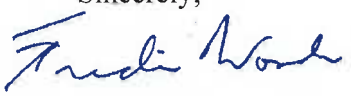
Just as it makes no sense for the parties, the public, and the County Committee to expend time and resources to present and consider evidence regarding racially polarized voting and vote dilution if the TAV Petition map is determined to be unlawful for violating the statutory requirements, it likewise makes no sense for the parties, the public, and the Committee to expend time and resources to present and consider evidence regarding the appropriateness of the TAV Petition's trustee areas if the map is determined at the outset to be unlawful. But given the December 11, 2023, letter's reference to "reversing" the order of the two sets of hearings on the TAV Petition, the District is uncertain whether it and the public must prepare and present all of their evidence regarding the inappropriateness of the TAV Petition map's trustee areas at the initial January 31 and February 10 hearings, lest they be denied the opportunity to present that evidence at a subsequent hearing.

We therefore request that the County Committee at its upcoming January 3, 2024, meeting clarify that the initial January 31, 2024, and February 10, 2024, hearings will consider ***only*** whether the map provided in the TAV Petition conforms to the statutory requirements, and that the parties and the public will have an opportunity at a later hearing to present evidence and arguments regarding the *appropriateness* of the TAV Petition's map should the Committee determine that the TAV Petition map is not *on its face* unlawful and that trustee-area voting should be established for the SMMUSD Board in order to prevent vote dilution and to further the purposes of the California Voting Rights Act. In other words, we request that the County Committee clarify that the initial hearings scheduled for January 31, 2024, and February 10, 2024, are not intended to entirely *replace* the second set of hearings called for under the existing Policy for Public Hearings

Involving City Charter School Districts, but merely to carve out the issue of the TAV Petition map's legality and to advance consideration of that issue to the outset of the hearing process by focusing *exclusively* on that discrete legal issue in these initial hearings. We firmly believe that doing so will benefit the parties, the public, and the County Committee itself by saving everyone from needlessly expending time and resources preparing for and addressing other issues that may never need to be considered should the Committee agree that the TAV Petition's map is unlawful. Limiting the scope of these initial hearings to the legal issue of the map's conformity with AB 764's requirements will also allow the District to continue its efforts to reach an expeditious resolution of the long-pending Malibu "unification" process.

We thank you again for your consideration of the District's views and concerns, and we look forward to discussing them with you at the Committee's meeting on January 3, 2024.

Sincerely,



Fredric D. Woocher

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CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

TONY THURMOND
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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December 14, 2023

California State Board of Education

NOTICE

(California *Education Code* Section 35752)

Appeal of an Action of the Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization to Approve a Petition to Transfer Territory from the Glendale Unified School District to the La Cañada Unified School District.

An appeal of a proposal to transfer territory from the Glendale Unified School District to the La Cañada Unified School District is before the California State Board of Education (SBE). This proposal is set for hearing by the SBE at the January 2024 SBE meeting.

The January 2024 SBE meeting is scheduled for **January 18-19, 2024**, and will be conducted in the California Department of Education (CDE) building located at **1430 N Street, Sacramento**.

Please Note: The meeting will be held in-person at the CDE building at the address noted above. Public comment may be provided via email prior to the meeting, or by phone or in-person during the meeting.

At least 10 days prior to the January 2024 meeting, the SBE will post the full agenda for the meeting on its agenda web page at:

https://www.cde.ca.gov/be/ag/ag/index.asp.

This posting (which typically will happen the second Friday before the meeting date) will include (1) a link to the complete agenda item, including the CDE analyses and recommendations regarding the proposal; (2) the day of the meeting at which the item is scheduled for consideration; and (3) information regarding the options to provide public comment electronically prior to the meeting, and in-person or by phone during the meeting.

Please contact the SBE office at sbe@sbe.ca.gov for information regarding the SBE agenda or meeting procedures.

Update on Petition to Form a Malibu USD From Territory Within Santa Monica-Malibu USD

Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization

January 10, 2024

Today's Update Includes

- Overview of Overlapping Processes & Timelines
- Term Sheet Elements & Guiding Principals
- Term Sheet Timeline Update
- Mediation Process
- Potential Legislative Process
- Next Steps

Overview of Overlapping Processes & Timelines

Term Sheet Mediation Process

- Revenue Sharing (Tentative) Agreement (Completed Nov 2023)
- Operational Transfer (Tentative) Agreement Mediation Session January 30, 2024
- Joint Powers Authority (Tentative) Agreement Mediation Session March 2024

Community Outreach Process

- Outreach & Input Sessions (Pending)
- Santa Monica
- Malibu
- Parents, Staff

Ratification Process of Tentative Agreements

- Santa Monica Malibu Board of Trustees (Following Community Outreach Sessions)
- Malibu City Council

Legislative Process

- Parcel Tax
- Distribution of Assets, Debts, Liabilities
- Other unification implementation issues

Petition Process

- Current City of Malibu Territory Transfer Petition
- New petition or alternative legal means to divide current district into two independent entities

TERM SHEET FOR THE FORMATION OF MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT & SANTA MONICA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT FROM THE TERRITORY OF THE SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (APPROVED BY PARTIES DECEMBER 2022)

1) Identifies terms and process for formation of successor educational entities
2) Stress testing of proposed financial terms and trigger adjustments to revenue sharing formulas required for the formation of successor educational entities to ensure such terms do not create an undue risk of insolvency for the proposed successor educational entities – *COMPLETED*
3) Preparation and execution of a "Tax Revenue Sharing Agreement" between the City of Malibu and the Santa-Monica-Malibu Unified School District for the benefit of the successor educational entities to memorialize the allocation of existing and projected Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District revenues between the successor educational entities – *COMPLETED, RATIFICATION PENDING*
4) Preparation and execution of a "Operational Transfer Agreement" between the City of Malibu and the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District for the benefit of the successor educational entities to memorialize the allocation of staffing, operational processes and resources between the successor educational entities – *MEDIATION SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 30, 2024*
5) Preparation and execution of a "Joint Powers Agreement" (JPA) between the City of Malibu and the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District for the benefit of successor educational entities to create an entity which shall address legal impediments to the proposed division of territory and serve as a shared body to facilitate execution of governing agreements as well as address historical liability mitigation concerns and pursue special legislation as required to facilitate the planned division of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District – *MEDIATION TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 2024*

Term Sheet Guiding Principals

1) formation of an independent Malibu Unified School District is in the best interest of all students;

2) each successor educational entity to be allocated a sufficient share of funding to provide similar level of service at each school site as prior to separation.

JANUARY 10, 2024 UPDATE
TERM SHEET COMPLETED TIMELINE ELEMENTS

☑	Review and finalization of Termsheet for the Formation of Malibu USD & Santa Monica USD
☑	Malibu City Council approves Termsheet for the Formation of Malibu USD & Santa Monica USD
☑	Provision of Joint Press Release announcing agreement on pathway for formation of successor educational entities
☑	Santa Monica-Malibu USD Board of Education approves Termsheet for the Formation of Malibu USD & Santa Monica USD
☑	Santa Monica-Malibu USD stress testing of proposed Tax Revenue Sharing Agreement terms and adjustment triggers *>both entities stress tested proposed Tax Revenue Sharing Agreement throughout 18-month development process*

Updated Aspirational Term Sheet Timeline

Tax Revenue Sharing Agreement	Proposed Tax Revenue Sharing Agreement Completed December 2023
Operational Transfer Agreement	Mediation Session January 30, 2024
Joint Powers Agreement	Mediation Session March 2024

Updated Aspirational Term Sheet Timeline

Community Stakeholder Engagement Sessions	February/March 2024
Special Legislation Discussions	Once Parties Ratify Tax Revenue Sharing Agreement
Santa Monica-Malibu USD / City of Malibu Considers Petition	TBD
Submission of Petition to County Committee	TBD

Updated Aspirational Term Sheet Timeline

Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization	Considers Approval Oct 2024
Deadline for Ballot Measure	June 2025
Voter Consideration of New Successor Entities	November 2025
Formation of Successor Entities	July 2026

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) and the City of Malibu (City) Have Been in Mediation Since February 2022

Mediator

Terena Mares

- Expertise in school district reorganization, school district funding/budgeting, basic aid districts, school district organizational structures

Mediation Process Covers All Agreements Contemplated in Term Sheet

Tax Revenue Sharing Agreement	Operational Transfer Agreement	Joint Powers Agreement
• To memorialize the allocation of existing and projected SMMUSD revenues between the successor educational entities	• To memorialize the allocation of staffing, operational processes, and resources between the successor educational entities	• To create an entity to address legal impediments, facilitate execution of agreements, and address historical liability mitigation concerns

The Development Process for Tax Revenue Sharing Agreement

Mediated Working Group Sessions	• Weekly Sessions
Formal Mediation Sessions	• Finalized Proposed Agreement Nov 2023

Recap of nine (9) formal mediation sessions dedicated to revenue sharing agreement


March 2022


April 2022


July 2022


Completion of Term Sheet


March 2023


April 2023


August 2023


Oct 2023


Nov 2023


Nov 2023

Generally Agreed Upon Terms for Remaining Agreements

Operational Transfer Agreement

- Allocation of assets, liabilities, and non-operational revenues
- Operational support, sharing, or other requirements to facilitate the formation of the successor school districts.

Joint Powers Agreement

- Successor Insurances
- Review and support Revenue Sharing Agreement elements
- Division of assets and liabilities

Potential Special Legislation Topics

Preservation of Parcel Tax

Distribution of Assets, Debts, Liabilities

Other unification implementation issues

Targeted for 2025 legislative session

Immediate Next Steps

Olson | Remcho

December 11, 2023

VIA EMAIL

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Re: Public Hearing Dates for Review of SMMUSD TAV Petition

Dear Counsel:

Thank you for your October 30 and November 29 letters and November 21 email correspondence regarding the hearings on the petition to establish trustee area voting within the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District ("SMMUSD TAV Petition"). We are writing to inform you of the dates for two public hearings during which the County Committee will review the petition.

To this point, the County Committee has accommodated the parties' requests to delay the SMMUSD TAV Hearings out of deference. But the SMMUSD TAV Petition has been pending since January 2022, and it has been nearly a year since the Superior Court instructed the parties to move forward with the hearings as required by Section 5019 of the Education Code. The Committee is also mindful that deadlines for the November 2024 SMMUSD elections are approaching and that its decision on the SMMUSD TAV petition may impact those elections.

For that reason, the Committee now sets the following dates for the first hearings on the TAV Petition:

- Wednesday, January 31, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., and
- Saturday, February 10, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.

You may recall that the County Committee requested at least one Saturday hearing date, and that each of the required hearings be conducted in two sessions, one in Malibu and then one in Santa Monica, to accommodate the large number of participants expected. The locations of the hearings will be determined in the next several days and all parties will be notified.

The hearings on these dates will consider only the map provided in the SMMUSD TAV Petition and its conformity with statutory requirements. Although the Committee's original policy contemplated that the first hearings would focus on evidence of racially polarized voting, vote

dilution, and furthering the purposes of the California Voting Rights Act, and that the second hearings would focus on the proposed map, the Committee has decided to reverse that order in light of passage of Assembly Bill 764.

Per the Committee's policy, pre-hearing submissions are due at 4:00 p.m. fifteen (15) days before the first hearing. To facilitate the Committee's review, please tailor your submissions to the subject matter of these hearings.

The Committee looks forward to receiving any materials and to your participation in the Committee's hearings on the TAV Petition.

Sincerely,

Kristen Mah Rogers

KMR:NL
(00501448-2)

Olson | Remcho

January 3, 2024

VIA EMAIL

Fredric D. Woocher
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Los Angeles, CA 90024
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Re: First Public Hearings for Review of SMMUSD TAV Petition

Dear Mr. Woocher:

Thank you for your December 19, 2023 correspondence regarding the first hearings on the petition to establish trustee area voting within the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District ("SMMUSD TAV Petition"). As we noted in our December 11, 2023 correspondence, those hearings will be held on the following dates:

- Wednesday, January 31, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., and
- Saturday, February 10, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.

The purpose of this letter is to respond to your request for clarity on the subject of these hearings. As we stated previously, during these two hearings the Committee will focus only on whether the map provided in the SMMUSD TAV Petition conforms to statutory requirements given the recent passage of Assembly Bill 764. These hearings will not focus on matters outside that scope, such as whether there is evidence of racially polarized voting and vote dilution, and whether the SMMUSD TAV Petition furthers the purposes of the California Voting Rights Act ("CVRA") or whether the SMMUSD TAV Petition map is an appropriate remedy for vote dilution.

Following these hearings, the Committee may elect to proceed with further hearings as provided in its Policy for Public Hearings Involving City Charter School Districts to consider whether the SMMUSD TAV Petition will further the purposes of the CVRA and whether the proposed map is an appropriate remedy for any vote dilution that has been established. If so, interested parties and the public will be provided additional time to prepare further submissions. But given the recent statutory changes under Assembly Bill 764, the Committee

has determined that these initial hearings should focus only on the legality of the proposed SMMUSD TAV Petition map.

Sincerely,

Kristen Mah Rogers

KMR:NL
(00502472-3)

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