The public hearing began at 4:00 p.m. and was held at the Campbell Union High School District office.

The following County Committee members were present:
Albert Beltran, Jr.
Frank Biehl
Javier Gonzalez
Mandy Lowell
Jo Lucey
Teresa O’Neill
Michele van Zuiden
Eleanor Yick

SCCOE staff present:
Suzanne Carrig

Committee Chair Frank Biehl reviewed the public hearing guidelines and speaking order. Suzanne Carrig reviewed the transfer request and the description of petition.

Petitioners

Mike O’Halloran, Chief Petitioner
(handout from the hearing is attached)
Mr. O’Halloran made the following comments in addition to the handout:
• Not about the schools, this is about the kids and about being a part of the Santa Clara community
• Committee heard this same case in 2009
• Criterion 2- heart of our request, want to be part of the community.
• Neighborhood is a part of Santa Clara
• Travel distance and travel routes - impacts school travel but also after school activities
• Parks and rec programs, coordinated closely with SCUSD and SCUSD is right across the street
• Shopping patterns same as SCUSD residents
• Physical barriers-community has changed, area used to be county property. Also physical changes such as Stevens Creek, Winchester and Highway 280. All of these factors isolates residents from Campbell
• Pattern of traffic and commute – residents work in the opposite direction of the Campbell districts which adds to the commute
• Lots of programs in Santa Clara that support the SCUSD

Michelle Purviance, Resident:
• President of the South of Forest Neighborhood Association
• Mother of one year old twins
• Fee the 9 criteria are met – specifically addressed 7, 5, and 9 and feels that these are met because they feel the financial impact should be neutral
• Criterion 7 is met as SCUSD is seeing residential growth within boundaries without taking into account the area; district has plans to accommodate new growth; area represents tiny portion of this growth
• Criterion 5 – basic aid status of CUSD is tenuous with or without the transfer; CUSD goes in and out of basic aid status and there is no guarantee that the district will remain basic aid even if there area is not transferred
• Criterion 9 is met because students in the area currently make up 0.2% of population of CUHSD and 0.8% of CUSD
• 2009 assessed valuation less than2% of CUSD and 1% of CUHSD
• Resident’s share of parcel tax for CUHSD is very small and the parcel tax expires end of FY 2014/15 – the potential loss is negligible
• New developments, some 100% commercial, will bring new revenue to both Campbell districts – San Jose Urban Villages on Stevens Cree, Santana Row/Valley Faire, Winchester Blvd., Southwest Expressway, and Bascom Ave; Campbell – Creekside Way Office Building
• Both Campbell districts will receive new revenue through Proposition 30 monies and Governor Brown’s school funding proposal
• CUSD will receive ASA dollars for students who choose to stay in the district if it is revenue limit
• Area made a significant contribution to general obligation bonds when neighborhood schools were sold and leased. Both Campbell districts will receive revenue for capital improvements from new developments – increased property taxes and developer fees
• There will be cost savings for both Campbell districts
Pat Gaffney, Superintendent, CUHSD
- Privileged to serve the students from Santa Clara
- CUHSD serves six municipalities
- Petitioners have suggested that this based on access to city activities, safety, and community identity - I was a homeowner in the area, familiar with the community as superintendent and parent and am familiar with the community identity piece
- The loss to CUHSD is $800,000 annually – substantial loss to the district.
- One individual made statement at the last hearing that CUSD/CUHSD superintendent are acting like the old confederacy – take issue with that
- Looking into parks and rec issues involving school and city activities plus scholarship issues – looking into validity of some claims made by petitioners
- Asks that the committee take action based on criteria in Ed. Code
- Programs will be negatively impacted if transfer approved
- Redevelopment issue SCUSD has approximately the same number of students as CUSD/CUHSD combined and they are slated to receive $28 million in funds – $3.6 million to be received by CUSD/CUHSD
- Students from Campbell can apply for interdistrict transfer agreements to SCUSD
- Unaware of any injuries students sustained while traveling to and from school in this area

Matthew Dean, CUHSD Board President
- Participation in youth programs is based on address and it doesn’t follow city boundaries
- When you buy your house, you go to school where your house is
- Why do interdistrict transfers follow socio economically advantaged groups?
- If it’s about the kids why are commercial properties included in this transfer
- Checked scholarships websites stated that you just have to be a resident of Santa Clara
- Mr. O’Halloran has stated he is a board member is on the parks and recreation board so clearly people can get involved in their community if they want to even if in another school district.

Jennifer Baldwin, Principal, Del Mar High School
- More of a Santa Claran than a Don – worked in Santa Clara for 14 years
- Opposed this transfer in 2009 even though from Santa Clara – oppose this one as well
- Student population of Santa Clara High is hovering between 1,800 and 1,900, Del Mar at 1150 – not an issue of capacity but Santa Clara schools are bursting at the seams
- Need to question whether having a 55% Latino population at Del Mar has something to do with this transfer – you need to ask that question
- Students from the area are high achievers Most have 3.0 GPAs and above and 50% have 3.5 GPA – high performers
- Property values are higher compared to other homes in the Del Mar attendance area
- Del Mar has important programs such as AVID that we are afraid might get cut if the transfer is approved due to $800,000 loss
• Don’t want to put either school down but want to put out there that Del Mar is a great school – listed all the programs and accomplishments.

**Eric Andrew, Superintendent, CUSD**

• Takes issue with the disparaging remarks from first hearing about confederacy
• What’s best for kids, haven’t heard that anyone is unhappy about the school, haven’t heard from the kids. If the kids aren’t complaining what’s the interest in transferring?
• CUSD encompasses more than one city – very few districts are isolated to just one city
• Board has subcommittees so we can meet with the different cities where we have students. We try to reach out with the communities

**Jim Crawford, CBO, CUSD**

• Regarding the issue of basic aid - CUSD did go out of basic aid a couple of years ago due to recession – assessed valuations declined bumped the district out of basic aid
• 1.7 million impact – overall loss
• 1% hit on straight revenue
• Basic aid supplemental, additional funding about 1.2 million
• CUSD still on the edge of basic aid because assessed valuation still a little low
• Struggling financially over the past few years and the transfer would add to that

**Christine Koltermann, SCUSD Board President**

• Board supports the petition, 6 in favor one abstained. All those in favor live in Santa Clara.
• Staff was in opposition, but board rejected their opposition because they want to right a wrong. This area should have been annexed into SCUSD when property was annexed into Santa Clara
• District is basic aid based on the value of commercial property
• 2009 report showed that there was no financial impact on SCUSD
• Property taxes should cover SCUSD costs
• Bonds and parcel tax would be assumed by the transfer area
• Elementary children bussed to Bowers school if transfer approved because the closest elementary is currently full. Area residents aware of this, SCUSD has been transparent.
• New residential properties are being built and the district is negotiating with the state regarding the Agnews property
• Plans to add new k-8 and new high school
• The addition of students from the transfer area is small compared to overall growth
• District has leased sites that can be reclaimed in the future if needed
• Have a place for these students and welcome them
• Redevelopment agency money is a complete unknown, can’t count on that, issue tied up in the courts
Ann Lino, Resident
- Attended SCUSD schools
- Sense of community in the neighborhood
- Board member of neighborhood association
- Sense of community extends beyond area and into Santa Clara
- No continuity between school friends and out of school activities, as parents we see the issue
- Small number of students involved, small request that will have a positive impact on the students

Brian Wyman, Resident
- Kids are a year old, walk them to child care everyday
- Walked to Lynhaven and it is a dangerous walk, some areas do not have sidewalks.
  Walk to Westwood is easier and safer

Nicole Perviance, Resident
- Westwood was listed as the neighborhood school
- Zoned for a school that is not in our neighborhood, don't even know where it is, do not frequent that area
- Issue is about the sense of community
- It's not that children can't participate in Santa Clara activities, it's that they won't because they will want to stay with their friends
- Dangerous commute
- Status quo not acceptable

Marcela Miranda, Resident
- 2 small children
- Educator in another district
- There has been talk about revisiting school boundary issues but nothing has happened, so most changes are incremental and piecemeal
- Change and impact is very small
- Will fully benefit from Santa Clara and SCUSD if transfer approved
- Program such as AVID, my child would not benefit from that program
- My kids are American first, but we are Mexican, Chinese, Australian - comments from Del Mar principal were insulting
- Want the kids to be safe, want them to stay in the neighborhood

Joanne Anderson, Resident
- No kids
- Retired teacher and principal
- Transfer request is not about which is the best district, it’s based on what's best for the kids
- Reviewed the code of ethics of CC (CC bylaws) - think of students first
• Need to look at what's happening now and that there have been changes
• Best interest of kids, especially regarding safety

Peter Yoon
• Santa Clara resident but in Cupertino district
• Want to do things as a community – if students go to Campbell schools then there is less of a connection to Santa Clara
• Feel safer attending SCUSD schools - travel to Campbell is an issue

Carolyn Schuck
• Reporter for Santa Clara Weekly,
• Resident of Santa Clara
• Can participate in Santa Clara activities – specific example where district boundaries do impact what kids do with their friends – Santa Clara has many resources, they have a youth activity center, skate park - son went to Prospect High School, but could not go to the Santa Clara skate park with his friends from school because you have to be a resident to use the park
• Principal of Delmar suggested that Santa Clarans are bigoted, but according to state API reports SCUSD is 36% Hispanic, CUSD is 46%, and CUHSD is 31% Hispanic. SCUSD is 40% English learner, CUSD is 44%, and CUHSD is 20% EL – hardly grounds for thinking we are bigots.
• Questioned why the mayor of Campbell was in attendance if city and school districts are not the aligned.

Tim Towers, Community Member
• Resident of Santa Clara for 25-27 years
• Has owned property on Mark Twain Court since 1957
• Consideration based on financial matters between the districts on the part of this committee should be neutral
• This issue will have to go to an election if approved - let the citizens in the area be the decision makers – the committee is just a gate to the residents who should be deciding where the kids go to school

Jozef Antolin, Resident
• For homeowners this is a social question, emotional question, and financial question
• For the district it is a financial question only
• Committee should consider that three pronged concern of the neighborhood residents
• Finances should be figured out by the district,
Chris Quenelle
- Lived in area for six years, daughter is almost five
- Support transfer
- Campbell districts have stated they are not single city districts, but that is not the issue, the issue is that the Campbell districts are not Santa Clara district, hardly any portion of the city of Santa Clara is in Campbell districts – this leads to a sense of being an outsider
- Use Santa Clara parks, libraries, mostly stick to the north of Stevens Creek that’s where the traffic patterns lead to, that’s our neighborhood
- Campbell schools that we are assigned to is several neighborhoods away
- When I was biking to school I knew all the neighborhoods and routes, I don’t see that here
- Commute to Campbell schools is not enjoyable there’s an issue of travel safety
- Extra challenge to have friends so far outside the neighborhood

Richard Harrison
- Resident of the area, lived in neighborhood for 47 years
- Kids went to Parkway and then Parkway closed, kids then went to Cypress, then on to Lynhaven. In the process it just worked better to send the kids to a private school
- This transfer is not just for the south of Forest neighborhood, it takes in the borderline of San Jose and Santa Clara.
- The street across from us is in San Jose then another street went to Santa Clara
- Kids in the area all went to different schools, never got the consistency of a neighborhood that we wanted, would have been so much easier to have everyone in SCUSD
- It appears that city boundaries don’t make a lot of sense and neither do district boundaries

David Stealey
*Made a statement on behalf of his wife Barbara*
- Teacher for 12 years and principal for public schools for 20 years
- Engaging parents of kids from schools where she worked
- When schools are close and convenient more likely parents will be involved in their child’s education
- When parents are involved, students see that parents value education
- Parents are a tremendous resource and help to teachers
- When parents have first-hand knowledge of the school they are more supportive of the school
- School employees and boards responsibility is to make sure each child has the best educational experience possible, only possible when the entire school community is involved
- Involvement in a school is difficult when there are physical barriers such as highways, freeways, and travel through unknown neighborhoods
• He added that this is all about the money, the priority for the children and their parents doesn't matter

Tracy Johnson, Resident
• Teaches at Cupertino HS
• Drive 2.8 miles to Cupertino – believe it’s the same driving distance to Santa Clara High School
• Involved in the South of Forest Neighborhood Association, one of its founding members
• Interested in the development issues of the area
• Discussed some of the new development issues - new development in Stevens Creek corridor
• New development means more cars, more difficult travel conditions
• Need to take a closer look, maybe adding more schools

Kathleen Watanabe - Statement attached – provided via email

Questions
Mandy Lowell, County Committee Member
If the issue went to an election, what would the election area be?

Suzanne Carrig, Staff
Stated that the election area will be the area proposed for transfer.

Eleanor Yick, County Committee Member
 Asked about an adjacent area, was the area asked to be part of the current transfer request if so how aggressively addressed, if not asked, why not?

Area is in SJUSD, area fall within San Jose and is not part of Santa Clara.

Michele van Zuiden, County Committee Member
Asked about the small triangular territory that is west of the area proposed for transfer – what is the makeup of that area, are there homes or commercial property.

County Committee Member Teresa O’Neill stated there are a couple of single family homes, some apartment, and some commercial property. She also stated that the area is in the city of Santa Clara.

Frank Biehl, County Committee Chair
Asked staff to review the next steps of the process.
Javier Gonzalez, County Committee Member
Asked representatives of CUHSD if the $3.6 million redevelopment fees were one time fees or ongoing. The district replied that some of the money is ongoing and some is one time; also the figure includes both CUSD and CUHSD. **Member Gonzalez** asked for a timeline of the election and effectiveness of the transfer if approved.

There was some discussion about creating a custom financial agreement between the affected districts so students in the area could attend SCUSD. There was also a discussion about interdistrict transfer agreements which representatives of CUHSD stated were permissible. SCUSD board president stated that the district does not accept interdistrict transfers because they are a basic aid school district.

**Member Gonzalez**
Asked to look into the motive of the comments made by the Del Mar principal. He asked for any materials that would substantiate such comments be provided to staff; if there is no information he stated that caution should be made regarding such comments.

Hearing closed at 5:32 p.m.