FEASIBILITY STUDY
FOR A REQUEST TO TRANSFER TERRITORY
FROM
SCOTTS VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
TO
LOMA PRIETA JOINT UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT AND
LOS GATOS-SARATOGA JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

July 2016

Santa Clara County Office of Education

Prepared for the
Santa Clara County Committee on School District Organization

by

The Office of the Superintendent
Santa Clara County Office of Education

Jon R. Gundry, Superintendent
Transfer of Territory from
Scotts Valley Unified School District to
Loma Prieta Joint Union School District and
Los Gatos-Saratoga Joint Union High School District

Santa Clara County Committee on School District Organization
Feasibility Report

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background

A request to transfer territory from Scotts Valley Unified School District (SVUSD) to Loma Prieta Joint Union School District (LPJUSD) and Los Gatos-Saratoga Joint Union High School District (LGSJUHSD) has been presented to the Santa Clara County Committee on School District Organization (County Committee). See Appendix A for a copy of the resolutions from the requesting/affected school districts.

The territory proposed for transfer includes territory located on Deerfield Road in the Santa Cruz Mountains. A map of the territory proposed for transfer and a list of the Assessor Parcel Numbers (APNs) with street addresses can be found in Appendix B.

Each of the three affected school districts - SVUSD, LPJUSD, and LGSJUHSD - have requested the transfer in order to re-establish the historical boundary lines of the community on Deerfield Road.

Timeline

The request to transfer territory was submitted to the Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Schools on March 15, 2016; the request was validated March 30, 2016. The validated request was subsequently transmitted to the affected districts, the Santa Cruz County Committee, and the State Board of Education on March 30, 2016. A copy of the validation letter to the State Board of Education is in Appendix C.

The public hearings, mandated by Education Code section 35705, were held on April 12, 2016 in SVUSD and on May 12, 2016 at the district offices of LPJUSD. Appendix D contains a copy of the notice of the public hearings, description of petition, and minutes from both public hearings.
Feasibility Study Process

The purpose of this study is to analyze the feasibility of the proposed territory transfer from SVUSD to LPJUSD/LGSJUHSD under the ten criteria used by the State Board of Education in approving proposed territory transfers and to present the data and information on which the analysis is based. The Feasibility Report expresses no view on whether the petition should be granted. This decision remains within the discretion of the County Committee, as discussed herein.

The ten criteria under which the territory transfer is analyzed are contained in Education Code Section 35753. They include the following:

1. The reorganized districts will be adequate in terms of number of pupils enrolled.
2. The districts are each organized on the basis of a substantial community identity.
3. The proposal will result in an equitable division of property and facilities of the original district or districts.
4. The reorganization of the districts will preserve each affected district’s ability to educate students in an integrated environment and will not promote racial or ethnic discrimination or segregation.
5. Any increase in costs to the state as a result of the proposed reorganization will be insignificant and otherwise incidental to the reorganization.
6. The proposed reorganization will continue to promote sound education performance and will not significantly disrupt the educational programs in the districts affected by the proposed reorganization.
7. Any increase in school facilities costs as a result of the proposed reorganization will be insignificant and otherwise incidental to the reorganization.
8. The proposed reorganization is primarily designed for purposes other than to significantly increase property values.
9. The proposed reorganization will continue to promote sound fiscal management and not cause a substantial negative effect on the fiscal status of the proposed district or any existing district affected by the proposed reorganization.
10. Any other criteria as the board (i.e. State Board or Education) may, by regulation, prescribe.
1.0 CRITERION 1

California Education Code Section 35753 (a) (1) – The reorganized districts will be adequate in terms of number of pupils enrolled.

This topic is governed by Title 5, California Code of Regulations, Section 18753 (a), which states that an elementary school district should have a projected enrollment of 901 students, and a high school district should have a projected enrollment of 301 students on the date the boundary change becomes effective for all purposes. Current student enrollments (taken from the 2015-2016 California Basic Educational Data System (CBEDS) report) for each of the affected school districts are depicted in Table 1.

Table 1 – 2015-2016 CBEDS Enrollments of Affected School Districts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School District</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SVUSD</td>
<td>2,545</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LPJUSD</td>
<td>491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGSJUHSD</td>
<td>3,311</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are currently no school age students residing in the area proposed for transfer. In the fall of 2016 there will be one kindergarten student who will attend school in the LPJUSD on an interdistrict transfer per the LPJUSD superintendent. The transfer of territory, if approved, would not now or in the future significantly impact the enrollment of the affected school districts.

The study team recommends that Criterion 1 is met.
2.0 CRITERION 2

California Education Code Section 35753 (a) (2) - The districts are each organized on the basis of a substantial community identity.

The California Code of Regulations (CCR) § 18753 (a) (2) suggests using the following criteria to determine whether a district is organized on the basis of substantial community identity:

(a) Isolation;
(b) Geography;
(c) Distance between social centers;
(d) Distance between school centers;
(e) Topography;
(f) Weather; and
(g) Community, school, and social ties, and other circumstances peculiar to the area.

No single factor is likely to determine that community identity exists. The County Committee probably will need to examine several attributes of the population and the makeup of the territory in question to make a judgment on this condition. Some indicators that the Committee might study include types of housing, parks and recreation facilities and programs, sports activities, transportation patterns, geopolitical factors, and shopping patterns.

a. Similarity of architecture, size, and style of homes can create a sense of community identity. A homogeneous housing development would likely generate a sense of community among the residents.

b. The usage patterns of parks and school facilities for recreation programs and sports activities for youth can indicate a community identity.

c. Traffic patterns and public transportation systems and routes may have an impact on community identity.

d. Geopolitical factors such as topography and city council, county supervisor, and special district electoral districts might also create a sense of community among the citizens of an area. Post office names and zip code areas also could contribute.

e. Neighborhood and regional shopping patterns are often well defined and play a part in the way people see themselves.

f. There is no legal necessity that school district boundaries match city boundaries.

A. Isolation
The area proposed for transfer is located on Deerfield Road which ends in a cul de sac. Deerfield Road residents and residents on surrounding streets do not have direct access to SVUSD schools and must use Summit Road within LPJUSD/LGSJUHSD for any travel routes.

B. Geography
The geography of the affected school districts is homogeneous throughout and is therefore not a factor.

C. Distance from Social Centers
The area proposed for transfer is approximately 1.5 miles from several social centers located within LPJUSD; most notably the school center/community center and the Summit Store which serves as a main social center/shopping center for the Loma Prieta community.

Social Centers in SVUSD are approximately 13 miles away with a drive time of at least 20 minutes.

D. Distance from School Centers
Residents in the area proposed for transfer must travel on Summit Road when travelling to schools in any of the affected districts. Table 2 shows the approximate travel distance and time to schools in each of the affected districts. Travel time does not take into consideration commute traffic.

Table 2 – Distance and Time to School Centers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Schools</th>
<th>Distance (Miles)</th>
<th>Time (Minutes)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary Schools</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loma Prieta (LPJUSD)</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vine Hill (SVUSD)</td>
<td>10.3</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Schools</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.T. English (LPJUSD)</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotts Valley MS (SVUSD)</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Schools</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Gatos (LGSJUHSD)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotts Valley (SVUSD)</td>
<td>10.5</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

E. Topography
The affected districts each share a similar topography.
F. Weather
Weather is the same throughout and is therefore not a factor.

G. Community, School, and Social Ties and other Circumstances
The territory proposed for transfer is within the Loma Prieta community and is close to the school site and other community centers used by residents within LPJUSD. Additionally, students within the area proposed for transfer have historically attended school in LPJUSD/LGSJUHSD but not SVUSD. The residents and affected districts, up until recently, believed that all of the properties on Deerfield Road were in the LPJUSD/LGSJUHSD.

The study team recommends that Criterion 2 is met.

3.0 CRITERION 3

California Education Code Section 35753 (a) (3) - The proposal will result in an equitable division of property and facilities of the original district or districts.

Property, Funds, and Obligations
There is no real property located in the territory proposed for transfer – therefore, no such property will be divided. Additionally the area is uninhabited and there would be no reasonable basis for division of other property funds and obligations of affected districts.

Bonded Indebtedness
Pursuant to Education Code Section 35575, if the transfer were to be approved, the territory would drop any liability for outstanding bonded indebtedness in SVUSD and would assume its share of liability for outstanding bonded indebtedness in LPJUSD/LGSJUHSD.

Parcel Tax Revenue
Both LPJUSD and LGSJUHSD have parcel taxes; LPJUSD has a $164 per parcel tax approved in November 2013 for seven years. LGSJUHSD voters approved a $49 per parcel tax through 2025.

Property Tax Revenue
The exchange of property tax revenue as a result of reorganization is determined pursuant to Section 99 of the Revenue and Taxation Code. Subdivision (b) requires the county assessor to notify the county auditor within 30 days of receiving notification of the change of the assessed valuations of the territory to be reorganized. The county auditor then estimates the amount of property tax generated from the territory and notifies the governing boards of the affected school districts. Subdivision (i) of Section 99 of the Revenue and Taxation Code states that the governing boards of the districts
must negotiate a property tax exchange within 60 days of receiving notification from the county auditor or the County Board of Education will determine the exchange.

In most cases, all of the tax revenue from the territory being reorganized would be transferred to the district receiving the territory. However, it is clear from Section 99 of the Revenue and Taxation Code that the tax revenues transferred are subject to negotiation.

The study team finds that Criterion 3 is met.

4.0 CRITERION 4

California Education Code Section 35753 (a)(4) – The reorganization of the districts will preserve each affected district’s ability to educate students in an integrated environment and will not promote racial or ethnic discrimination or segregation.

School districts have a constitutional obligation to prevent racial and ethnic segregation and to alleviate the harmful effects of segregation. As such, any school district reorganization should not isolate minority students and deprive all students of an integrated educational experience.

The area proposed for transfer currently has no public school students; there is one kindergarten student expected to begin school in fall 2016. If the transfer of territory is approved the number of students that could potentially live in the area would be small and the impact would not be significant enough to disrupt the racial/ethnic balance of the affected school districts.

The study team recommends that Criterion 4 is met.
5.0 CRITERION 5

California Education Code Section 35753 (a)(5) – Any increase in costs to the state as a result of the proposed reorganization will be insignificant and otherwise incidental to the reorganization.

The State Board of Education has not adopted a regulation to implement this criterion. However, the School District Organization Handbook, 2006 edition, published by the State Department of Education, suggests that the following factors be considered in analyzing whether the proposal will increase state costs:

a. Whether implementation of the proposal would change one or more of the affected districts’ basic aid status.
b. Additional state costs for school facilities.
c. Other state special or categorical aid programs and any increased state costs if students transferring would qualify in the gaining district and not in the losing district.
d. The additional costs to the state if costs per student for special or categorical programs are higher in the gaining district.
e. The effect on the districts’ home-to-school and special education transportation costs and state reimbursements.
f. Increased costs resulting from additional schools becoming eligible for “necessary small school” funding pursuant to Sections 42280 through 42289.”

Revenue Limit

With the introduction of the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) legislation the revenue limit funding formula was eliminated. Under the new system of funding, districts receive a uniform amount per grade level. The amount of money districts receive per grade level will be different when the number of high-needs students is taken into consideration. High-needs students include students who are low-income, English learners, and foster youth students. Based on the number of these high-needs students, the districts will receive an additional 20 percent of the base grant; this is the supplemental grant. The concentration grant is added on when the district has 55 percent or more of high-needs students enrolled in the district.

Currently there are no students in the area proposed for transfer; there is projected to be one kindergarten student for the fall 2016 year. The potential number of students who could reside within the area proposed for transfer would not increase the number of students to the point where there would be a significant increase in costs to the state.

LPJUSD/LGSJUHSD are basic aid districts therefore the transfer of property into the districts will not have a negative impact.
Factors (a) through (f) have also been considered and due to the property requested for transfer having no current students and the potential number of students being small, the study team finds that there will be no significant impact on the affected districts.

The study team recommends that Criterion 5 is met.

6.0 CRITERION 6

California Education Code Section 35753 (a)(6) - The proposed reorganization will continue to promote sound education performance and will not significantly disrupt the educational programs in the districts affected by the proposed reorganization.

The potential number of students who could live within the area to be transferred would not significantly impact the educational programs or the ability of the districts to promote sound education performance in the affected schools.

The study team recommends that Criterion 6 is met.

7.0 CRITERION 7

California Education Code Section 35753 (a)(7) – Any increase in school facilities costs as a result of the proposed reorganization will be insignificant and otherwise incidental to the reorganization.

No regulations have been adopted under this criterion; however, according to the CDE's School District Organization Handbook, the discussion should provide a concise analysis of the availability of school facilities to house the pupils in the portion of the district being reorganized.

The potential number of students who could live within the area to be transferred would not significantly impact the school facilities in the LPJUSD/LGSJUHSD.

The study team recommends that Criterion 7 is met.
8.0 CRITERION 8

California Education Code Section 35753 (a)(8) - The proposed reorganization is primarily designed for purposes other than to significantly increase property values.

The purpose of Criterion 8 is to ascertain whether the primary reason for proposing the transfer of territory is for financial advantage to the owners.

Based on the request that originated by the three affected school districts, there is no indication that this request is primarily designed to increase property values.

The study team recommends that Criterion 8 is met.

9.0 CRITERION 9

California Education Code Section 35753 (a)(9) - The proposed reorganization will continue to promote sound fiscal management and not cause substantial negative effect on the fiscal status of the proposed district or any existing districts affected by the proposed reorganization.

There are no regulations on this subject. The CDE’s School District Organization Handbook provides the following:

The county committee should review and consider any potential revenue gains or losses resulting from community development, agency agreements or other pass-through agreements, loss of incremental taxes, Mello-Roos Community Facility District funds, parcel taxes, certificates of participation, basic aid, tax overrides, mitigation agreements with developers, and any other categorical or specialized funds (e.g. Public Law 874 funds and Timber Reserves).

(CDE’s School District Organization Handbook, 90.)

Average Daily Attendance
The area currently has no students and the number of potential students would be small, therefore there would be little or no impact on ADA.

Basic Aid Status
SVUSD is not a basic aid district. LPJUSD/LGSJUHSD are basic aid districts and the additional assessed value of the property to be transferred, if approved, would not cause a negative impact on their basic aid status.
Parcel Tax
Both LPJUSD and LGSJUHSD have parcel taxes; LPJUSD has a $164 per parcel tax approved in November 2013 for seven years. LGSJUHSD voters approved a $49 per parcel tax through 2025. Residents of the area proposed for transfer would assume the parcel taxes if the transfer is approved.

Assessed Valuation
The territory proposed for transfer has an assessed valuation of approximately $4.3 million which represents less than .01% of the overall assessed valuation of the SVUSD.

The study team recommends that Criterion 9 is met.

10.0 CRITERION 10
Any other criteria as the board (i.e. State Board or Education) may, by regulation, prescribe.

No other criteria were considered.

CONCLUSIONS
The nine criteria discussed in Sections 1.0 through 9.0 represent minimum criteria (Hamilton v. State Board of Education, [1981] 117 Cal.App.3d 132; Cal.Rptr. 748) that the County Committee is required to examine prior to approving/disapproving a request to transfer territory from one school district to another. The study team has analyzed the nine criteria and found that each has been met. However, if the County Committee determines that all nine conditions are substantially met, it has the discretion, but not the obligation, to approve the proposal. If all nine criteria are found to be met by the County Committee, they may choose to approve the proposed transfer if a compelling reason exists for the transfer or, conversely, may choose not to approve the transfer if a compelling reason exists not to approve it.
SCOTTS VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
RESOLUTION No. #16-010
TERRITORY TRANSFER OF DEERFIELD ROAD PARCELS

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Education Code Section 35700(d), an action to reorganize one or more school districts is initiated upon the filing, with the County Superintendent of Schools, of a petition by a majority of the members of the Governing Boards of each of the districts affected by the reorganization.

WHEREAS, provisions for the reallocation of property tax revenue jurisdictional changes occur in taxing agencies are set forth in Taxation and Revenue Code Section 99(h).

THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Governing Board of the Scotts Valley Unified School District that this resolution represents the Scotts Valley Unified School District portion of a petition to the Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Schools to transfer territory with the boundaries as described by the attached maps from Scotts Valley Unified School District to the Loma Prieta Joint Union Elementary and Los Gatos-Saratoga Joint Union High School Districts. These boundaries encompass parcels on Deerfield Road:

096-302-05 096-302-08
096-302-09 096-302-22
096-302-31 096-302-37
096-302-38 096-302-41
096-302-42 096-302-43

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon the aforementioned transfer becoming effective for all purposes, the aforementioned territory shall be assigned to the tax rate areas associated with Loma Prieta Joint Union Elementary School District and Los Gatos-Saratoga Joint Union High School District, and the school district portions of property tax revenues generated from the aforementioned territory shall be transferred to Loma Prieta Joint Union Elementary School District and Los Gatos-Saratoga Joint Union High School District.
ADOPTED by the following vote:

AYES, and in favor of, Members:

NOES, Members:

ABSTAIN, Members:

Scotts Valley Unified SCHOOL DISTRICT

[Signature]

President of the Board of Trustees

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct transcript of a resolution duly adopted by the Governing Board named therein at a duly constituted meeting of the said Governing Board, held on 10/13/15, as it appears upon the minutes of the said meeting.

Signed: [Signature]

President of the Governing Board
LOMA PRIETA JOINT UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
RESOLUTION No. #16-XII
TERRITORY TRANSFER OF DEERFIELD ROAD PARCELS

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Education Code Section 35700(d), an action to reorganize one or more school districts is initiated upon the filing, with the County Superintendent of Schools, of a petition by a majority of the members of the Governing Boards of each of the districts affected by the reorganization.

WHEREAS, provisions for the reallocation of property tax revenue jurisdictional changes occur in taxing agencies are set forth in Taxation and Revenue Code Section 99(h).

THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Governing Board of the Loma Prieta School District that this resolution represents the Loma Prieta School District portion of a petition to the Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Schools to transfer territory with the boundaries as described by the attached maps from Scotts Valley Unified School District to the Loma Prieta Joint Union Elementary and Los Gatos-Saratoga Joint Union High School Districts. These boundaries encompass parcels on Deerfield Road:

096-302-05 096-302-08
096-302-09 096-302-22
096-302-31 096-302-37
096-302-38 096-302-41
096-302-42 096-302-43

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon the aforementioned transfer becoming effective for all purposes, the aforementioned territory shall be assigned to the tax rate areas associated with Loma Prieta Joint Union Elementary School District and Los Gatos-Saratoga Joint Union High School District, and the school district portions of property tax revenues generated from the aforementioned territory shall be transferred to Loma Prieta Joint Union Elementary School District and Los Gatos-Saratoga Joint Union High School District.

ADOPTED by the following vote:

AYES, and in favor of, Members: Hickok, Arnold, Bourque, Lacey, Lapp

NOES, Members: 0
ABSTAIN, Members: Ø

Loma Prieta SCHOOL DISTRICT

President of the Board of Trustees

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct transcript of a resolution duly adopted by the Governing Board named therein at a duly constituted meeting of the said Governing Board, held on 10/14/15, as it appears upon the minutes of the said meeting.

Signed: 

President of the Governing Board
LOS GATOS SARATOGA JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
RESOLUTION No. #15-21
DEERFIELD ROAD PARCELS

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Education Code Section 35700(d), an action to reorganize one or more school districts is initiated upon the filing, with the County Superintendent of Schools, of a petition by a majority of the members of the Governing Boards of each of the districts affected by the reorganization.

WHEREAS, provisions for the appropriate restoration of property tax revenue jurisdictional changes occur in taxing agencies are set forth in Taxation and Revenue Code Section 99(h).

THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Governing Board of the Los Gatos Saratoga Joint Union High School District ("District") that this resolution represents the "District's" portion of a petition to the Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Schools to restore territory as described by the boundaries indicated on the attached maps from Scotts Valley Unified School District to the Loma Prieta Joint Union Elementary and Los Gatos-Saratoga Joint Union High School Districts. These boundaries encompass parcels on Deerfield Road:

096-302-05 096-302-08
096-302-09 096-302-22
096-302-31 096-302-37
096-302-38 096-302-41
096-302-42 096-302-43

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon the aforementioned restoration becoming effective for all purposes, the aforementioned territory shall be assigned to the tax rate areas associated with Loma Prieta Joint Union Elementary School District and Los Gatos-Saratoga Joint Union High School District, and the school district portions of property tax revenues generated from the aforementioned territory shall be restored to Loma Prieta Joint Union Elementary School District and Los Gatos-Saratoga Joint Union High School District.

ADOPTED by the following vote:

AYES: Trustees Chang, Mano, Ramezane, Rossi, Tseng
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:
Los Gatos-Saratoga Union High SCHOOL DISTRICT

Clerk of the Board of Trustees

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct transcript of a resolution duly adopted by the Governing Board named therein at a duly constituted meeting of the said Governing Board, held on February 23, 2016, as it appears upon the minutes of the said meeting.

Signed: [Signature]
President of the Governing Board
Deerfield Road Annexation to the Loma Prieta Joint Union Elementary School District

All that certain real property, situated in the Soquel Augmentation Rancho and being a portion of Sections 22 and 27 Township 9 South, Range 1 West, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian, in the county of Santa Cruz, state of California, described as follows:

Beginning at a station on the southerly sideline of Deerfield Road, 50 foot wide, at the most westerly corner of Assessor's parcel 096-302-38 and then the following courses:

1. S 35°41'30" W 334.27 feet
2. N 54°26'51" W 308.37 feet
3. N 114°04'45" W 481.70 feet
4. S 39°09'48" E 216.91 feet
5. S 75°32'52" E 378.24 feet
6. N 14°27’05” E 39.78 feet
7. N 71°39'45” E 81.08 feet
8. N 41°24’05” E 249.02 feet
9. N 9°38’38” W 244.78 feet
10. N 9°49’37” W 50.56 feet
11. N 44°59’59” W 145.57 feet
12. N 36°04’53” E 41.94 feet
13. S 36°54’10’’ E 302.64 feet
14. Then southeasterly on a non-tangent curve to the left through an angle of 11°04’13” with a radius of 222.57 feet, chord direction of S 45°33’21” W and a distance of 42.94 feet to a tangent.
15. S 40°01’23” W 53.30 feet
16. To a tangent curve to the left through an angle of 54°05’44” and a radius of 189.44 feet. Then
17. S 11°01’18” W 59.37 feet
18. To a tangent curve to the left through an angle of 3°11’21” and a radius of 126.81 feet
19. S 69°52’01” W 458.74 feet
20. S 53°50’31” W 108.17 feet
21. S 39°19’50” W 249.92 feet
22. S 42°59’26” W 50.05 feet

To the point of beginning and containing 11.94 Acres more or less.
March 30, 2016

Karen Stapf Walters
Executive Director, State Board of Education
California State Board of Education
1430 N Street, Suite #5111
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Walters:

The Santa Cruz County Office of Education has validated a request to transfer 5 parcels from the Scotts Valley Unified School District to the Loma Prieta Joint Union Elementary School District and Los Gatos Saratoga Joint Union High School District. A copy of the request, verification of signatures, and a map of the property proposed for transfer are enclosed. I am providing the State Board of Education notice of this valid request pursuant to Education Code Section 35704.

Please contact Cindy Holmes at (831) 466-5901 if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

Michael C. Watkins
County Superintendent of Schools

MW/cmh
Enclosure

cc: Penny Weaver, Superintendent, Scotts Valley Unified School District
    Corey Kidwell, Superintendent/Principal, Loma Prieta Joint Union Elementary School District
    Bob Mistele, Superintendent, Los Gatos – Saratoga Joint Union High School District
    Peter Foggiaito, Director, School Fiscal Services Division, California Department of Education
    County Committee Members
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

ON:

A PROPOSED TRANSFER OF TERRITORY
FROM
SCOTTS VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
TO
LOMA PRIETA JOINT UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
LOS GATOS-SARATOGA JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Santa Cruz County Committee on School District Organization will conduct a public hearing to obtain public response to a request to transfer five (5) parcels from Scotts Valley Unified School District to Loma Prieta Joint Union Elementary School District and Los Gatos/Saratoga Joint Union High School District.

Public Hearing will be held at the following location and time:

Tuesday, April 12, 2016    2:00 p.m.

Scotts Valley City Council Chambers
1 Civic Center Dr.
Scotts Valley, CA  95066

For more information regarding the process and public hearing, please contact Cindy Holmes at (831) 466-5901.
NOTICE OF CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT PUBLIC HEARINGS

ON:

A PROPOSED TRANSFER OF TERRITORY FROM SCOTTS VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT TO LOMA PRIETA JOINT UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT LOS GATOS SARATOGA JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Public Resources Code Section 21000 requires that public agencies review and document the environmental implications of their activities and actions. Under Public Resources Code Section 21065 school district reorganization is considered a project and therefore is subject to review.

The Santa Cruz County Committee on School District Organization will conduct a public hearing to obtain public response to a request to transfer five (5) parcels from the Scotts Valley Unified School District to the Loma Prieta Joint Union Elementary School District and Los Gatos-Saratoga Joint Union High School District.

Public hearing will be held at the following location and time:

Tuesday, April 12, 2016  2:00 p.m.
Scotts Valley City Council Chambers
1 Civic Center Dr.
Scotts Valley, CA  95066

For more information regarding the above issues, contact Cindy Holmes at (831) 466-5901
Santa Cruz County Committee on
School District Organization
Scotts Valley City Council Chambers
1 Civic Center Dr.
Scotts Valley, CA 95066

Public Hearing Unapproved Minutes
April 12, 2016
2:00 p.m.

1.0 Introduction by Committee Chairperson
Sandra Nichols, Committee Chair and Committee Member Jack Dilles, Corey Kidwell, Superintendent, Loma Prieta Joint Union Elementary School District, were present.

2.0 Explanation of Guidelines by Chairperson
Chairperson Nichols explained guidelines.

3.0 Presentation of Proposal by Staff
Cindy Holmes, Administrative Aide to the Superintendent, provided an overview of the petition, noting that the 11 parcels previously in Santa Clara County, were moved to Santa Cruz County as a result of a tax line adjustment. All affected districts involved, Scotts Valley Unified School District, Loma Prieta Joint Union Elementary District, and Los Gatos/Saratoga Joint High School Districts have passed resolutions in support of restoring these parcels to Santa Clara County.

4.0 CEQA Comments
There were no comments.

5.0 Statements by Affected School Districts
Corey Kidwell, Superintendent, Loma Prieta Joint Union Elementary School District expressed her appreciation to the committee for moving this process forward, as the revenue generated from these parcels being in district makes a difference.

6.0 Statements from the Public
There were no comments from the public.

7.0 Adjournment
Chairperson Nichols adjourned the meeting.
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

ON:

A PROPOSED TRANSFER OF TERRITORY
FROM
SCOTTS VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
TO
LOMA PRIETA JOINT UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT AND
LOS GATOS-SARATOGA JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Santa Clara County Committee on School District Organization will conduct a public hearing to obtain public response to a request to transfer 10 parcels from Scotts Valley Unified School District to Loma Prieta Joint Union School District and Los Gatos-Saratoga Joint Union High School District.

The public hearing will be held at the following location and time:

Thursday, May 12, 2016    5:00 p.m.
Loma Prieta Joint Union School District – multipurpose room (elementary school)
23800 Summit Road
Los Gatos  95033

For more information regarding the process and public hearings, contact Suzanne Carrig at (408) 453-6869.
DESCRIPTION OF PETITION
TO TRANSFER TERRITORY FROM
SCOTTS VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
TO
LOMA PRIETA JOINT UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT AND
LOS GATOS-SARATOGA JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Education Code Section 35705.5 requires that the County Committee on School District Organization make available to the public and to the governing boards affected by the petition a description of the petition, including:

1. The rights of the employees in the affected districts to continued employment.
2. The revenue limit per unit of average daily attendance for each affected district and the effect of the petition, if approved, on such revenue limit.
3. Whether the districts involved will be governed, in part, by provisions of a city charter and, if so, in what way.
4. Whether the governing boards of any proposed new district will have five or seven members.
5. A description of the territory or districts in which the election, if any, will be held.
6. Where the proposal is to create two or more districts, whether the proposal will be voted on as a single proposition.
7. Whether the governing board of any new district will have trustee areas and, if so, whether the trustees will be elected by only the voters of that trustee area or by voters of the entire district.
8. A description of how the property, obligations, and bonded indebtedness of existing districts will be divided.
9. A description of when the first governing board of any new district will be elected and how terms of office for each new trustee will be determined.

Description of Petition

The proposal requests a transfer of ten parcels from the Scotts Valley Unified School District to the Loma Prieta Joint Union School District and the Los Gatos-Saratoga Joint Union High School District. A map of the territory proposed for transfer with the Assessor Parcel Numbers (APNs) is attached.

The transfer request was initiated by and supported by Scotts Valley Unified School District, Loma Prieta Joint Union School District, and Los Gatos-Saratoga Joint Union High School District.

1. The rights of the employees in the affected districts to continued employment:

Not applicable to the current proposal. The rights of the employees to continued employment will not be affected by the proposed territory transfer.
2. *The revenue limit per unit of average daily attendance for each affected district and the effect of the petition, if approved, on such revenue limit.*

The territory proposed for transfer consists of 10 parcels and there are no public school students in the area according to the latest information received by the Santa Clara County Office of Education. As of July 1, 2013, “revenue limits” no longer exist as a means of computing school district revenue. To the extent that students reside in the area in the future, funding calculations will be determined by legislative requirements set forth in Assembly Bill 97 (Chapter 47, Statutes of 2013), effect July 1, 2013 (Local Control Funding Formula).

3. *Whether the districts involved will be governed, in part, by provisions of a city charter and, if so, in what way.*

Not applicable to the current petition.

4. *Whether the governing boards of any proposed new district will have five or seven members.*

Not applicable to the current petition.

5. *A description of the territory or districts in which the election, if any, will be held.*

If an election is required, the election area will be the area proposed for transfer. This specification is subject to change pending information obtained in the public hearings [EdC § 35705], completion of the feasibility report [EdC § 35710], and approval of the petition [EdC § 35706].

Pursuant to the provisions of California Education Code section 35710.1, notwithstanding any other provision of law, an election may not be called to vote on a petition to transfer territory if the election area for that petition, as determined pursuant to Section 35732, is uninhabited territory as described in Section 35517.

6. *Where the proposal is to create two or more districts, whether the proposal will be voted on as a single proposition.*

Not applicable to the current petition; the petition does not propose the creation of any new district(s).

7. *Whether the governing board of any new district will have trustee areas and, if so, whether the trustees will be elected by only the voters of that trustee area or by voters of the entire district.*

Not applicable to the current petition.
8. **A description of how the property, obligations, and bonded indebtedness of existing districts will be divided.**

The area proposed for transfer contains no public school property or buildings. The plans and recommendations of the County Committee on School District Organization would stipulate the division of any other property, funds or obligations (except bonded indebtedness) affected by the proposed transfer. The County Committee may use any equitable means to divide the property, funds and obligations, including assessed valuation, average daily attendance (ADA), or value and location of property. [EdC §§ 35560, 35736]

If the territory is transferred, it will drop any liability for outstanding bonded indebtedness of the district of which it was formerly a part and assume its proportionate share of the outstanding bonded indebtedness of the district of which it becomes a part. [EdC § 35575]

Provisions for the exchange of property tax revenue are set forth in Revenue and Taxation Code Section 99 (i).

9. **A description of when the first governing board of any new district will be elected and how terms of office for each new trustee will be determined.**

Not applicable to the current petition; this petition does not propose the creation of any new district(s).
Santa Clara County
Committee on School District Organization
Public Hearing #2
May 12, 2016
5:00 p.m.
Proposed Transfer of Territory from
Scotts Valley Unified School District
to
Loma Prieta Joint Union School District and Los Gatos-Saratoga Union High School District

Location: Loma Prieta Joint Union School District – Community Room
23800 Summit Road, Los Gatos

Committee Members Present:
Albert Beltran, Jr.
Bob Benevento
Kathleen Sullivan
Buu Thai

County Office Staff Present:
Suzanne Carrig

Committee Chair Albert Beltran opened the public hearing at 5:00 and introduced the members in attendance. Suzanne Carrig, staff to the Committee, briefly reviewed the reorganization request.

Corey Kidwell, Superintendent/Principal, Loma Prieta Joint Union School District:
Ms. Kidwell made the following comments:

- Request for reorganization from the districts is unusual but doing it on behalf of the Deerfield Road residents.
- Would like to thank the other districts for expediting the process.
- History of the area; kids always attended Loma Prieta and Los Gatos schools. Residents’ taxes always came to our district.
- We are a basic aid district. There is a fiscal impact of having these parcels removed from our district; $22,000 which is the cost of a transitional kindergarten aide.
- There are limited benefits for Scotts Valley since they are not a basic aid district. They have been getting the parcel tax dollars. That is how we found out about the boundary discrepancy.
- Four years ago when our district had a parcel tax measure, the residents of Deerfield Road worked on the parcel tax campaign but when they received their new tax bill it showed Scotts Valley as their school district.
• We have worked with the County Supervisor and COE’s to fix this situation. The affected districts have come together for the residents. This is a rare request but we recognize that these families are part of our community. We would like to restore the boundary lines to the way they always were before the mapping error.

• Our district does not accept interdistrict transfers but we will accept the incoming kindergarten student this fall.

Registered Speakers

Pat and Jon Bridgeman, Deerfield Road Residents:
• Have lived on Deerfield Road for 42 years.
• Daughter attended Loma Prieta, C.T. English, and Los Gatos High School.
• Worked as an aide in the district.
• Can’t take the bus to Scotts Valey.

The public hearing ended at 5:16 p.m.