

San Mateo County Committee on School District Organization (CCSDO)
Public Hearing
Las Lomas Elementary School District
Monday, November 29, 2021

APPROVED MINUTES

Date: November 29, 2021

Place: Held Remotely via Zoom

County Committee on School District Organization Members Present:

Virginia Bamford, Lynne Esselstein, Samuel Leinbach, Bill Lock, Dennis McBride, Hilary Paulson, Rosie Tejada

County Committee on School District Organization Members Absent:

Greg Dannis, Maria Hilton, Lillian Markind, Melchoir Thompson

Staff Present:

Niambi Clay, Secretary
Timothy Fox, Deputy County Counsel

Co-Petitioners Present:

Leigh Amaro
Ben Depoorter
Royal Farros
Andrea Kohler

District Representatives Present:

Dr. Beth Polito, Superintendent, Las Lomas Elementary School District
Mei Chan, Chief Business Officer, Las Lomas Elementary School District

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Paulson called the public hearing to order at 6:04 p.m.

2. Description of Petition

Secretary Clay shared that a petition to transfer territory was received by the County Superintendent on October 7, 2021, to transfer territory from the Redwood City School District to the Las Lomas Elementary School District. The petition involves 22 parcels on Greenways Drive and 3 parcels on Alameda de las Pulgas, for a total of 25 parcels. She outlined the timeline

of the petition, explained the steps which had been taken, and described the materials which had been shared with the CCSDO, as well as the information and data being gathered to share.

3. Overview of Petition Process and Public Hearing

Secretary Clay informed the second public hearing for the Redwood City School District would be held the following week on Monday, December 6, at 5:30 p.m., prior to the regular CCSDO monthly meeting. She provided a timeline for the petition, indicating the last day to make a decision is February 4, 2022.

4. Presentation by Petitioners

Ben Depoorter, Royal Farros, and Andrea Kohler, co-petitioners, provided background and detailed information on the territory transfer petition.

5. Presentation by School District

Superintendent Polito stated the Las Lomas Elementary School District opposes the territory transfer petition. She, along with Chief Business Officer Chan, shared the reasoning behind the district's position.

6. Public Comment

George Mallinckrodt, community member, discussed traffic and safety concerns, speed limits, and safe routes to school.

Co-petitioner Farros discussed students taking the bus to school and gerrymandering in the territory transfer petition area.

Superintendent Polito discussed adjustments to highway speed limits.

Leigh Amaro, co-petitioner, discussed the Las Lomas Elementary School District opposing the petitioner due to student safety concerns.

Committee Member McBride asked Secretary Clay for additional information to help in making a decision for the territory transfer.

7. Next Steps

Chairperson Paulson reminded there would be another public hearing with the Redwood City School District the following week.

Secretary Clay explained the 2022 regular meeting dates would be confirmed at the regular December meeting.

Chairperson Paulson indicated although it was unlikely, the CCSDO would have the opportunity to make a decision at its next regular meeting. Deputy County Counsel Fox reminded that would need to be specifically agendaized. Chairperson Paulson stated there would likely be a decision at the January CCSDO meeting.

8. Adjournment of Public Hearing

Chairperson Paulson adjourned the public hearing at 6:53 p.m.