

TIMELINE FOR UNIFICATION AND WISEBURN HIGH SCHOOL

Timeline

- 1980s - 2013
- Wiseburn families and community dissatisfied with high school options for Dana 8th grade graduates; many leave the district (Literally hundreds)
- 2001
- Chief Petitioners gather signatures and start K-12 unification process with County Committee
- 2004
- State Board of Education approves Wiseburn Unification election -- "Wiseburn Only"
 - A month later Centinela Valley sues the State for an inadequate CEQA process
- 2004 - 2009
- State spends over \$100,000 to conduct an EIR (5 years)
- 2007 - 2008
- Wiseburn School District -- Don Brann, Matt Wunder and Board explore Charter School options to provide a high school option for the Wiseburn Community while the unification pursuit continues
- July 1, 2008
- Don Brann retires; Tom Johnstone appointed Superintendent
- October 2008
- Wiseburn Board approves the Da vinci Science Charter School - "A highly dependent, independent charter" - "hybrid". Unlike 90%+ of independent charters, we like and support our charters and consider them "ours".
- February 2009
- Wiseburn Board approves the Da Vinci Design Charter to provide a more liberal arts option to DVS
- August 2009
- Da Vinci Science and Da Vinci Design launch their first year; both schools on the old Dana campus
- 2009 - 2010
- Dr. Johnstone makes presentations to Lennox, Lawndale and Hawthorne School Boards to push for a "regional solution" (Unification in all 4 elementary districts)
- May 2010
- State Board of Education posts agenda to approve the Unification EIR and Wiseburn Unification on a "Wide Area Vote"
 - Wiseburn requests that both items be "tabled"
- June 2010
- County Superintendent Dr. Darline Robles retires
 - Danny Villanueva of the County Committee and Ken Shelton, CFO, leave the County -- All institutional memory goes with them. Also, John Hartenstein Wiseburn's Unification Attorney from Orrick dies 7 months later in January 2011

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- July 2010
- First Joint Regional Solution meeting facilitated by the County -- Just the four feeder districts; Lennox expresses that they will not continue unless C.V. is invited to participate. There are four more of these meetings. Other districts decide to continue to "improve" C.V. Wiseburn alone continues push for unification.
- November 2010
- Wiseburn community approves \$87,000,000 with 76% approval to build a "modern" Wiseburn High School. At this point and for 3 more years, charters are still our only option for high school.
- July 6, 2011
- All 5 districts (C.V., Lennox, Hawthorne, Lawndale and Wiseburn) were asked to report to the County Committee. Ultimatum, progress or back to SBE to conclude. Meet with C.V. to try to come up with a Win/Win solution. Meeting with State Senator -- craft a solution that all 5 districts can live with.
- August 26, 2011
- 26 representatives from each district and attorneys meet at C.V. to discuss Wiseburn Reorganization. Come up with a plan that maintains the bonding capacity status quo for C.V. while still allowing Wiseburn to unify. All 5 districts were to go back to their Boards for direction and meet again in October 2011.
- October 5, 2011
- Superintendents of Hawthorne, Lawndale and Lennox request a meeting with Dr. Johnstone to tell him that their districts were not interested in supporting Wiseburn unification dialogue. Next day they met with Jose Fernandez to tell him the same thing.
- October 24, 2011
- Dr. Johnstone meets with Mr. Fernandez to establish C.V. interest in continuing to work with Wiseburn on unification.
- October 28, 2011
- Dr. Johnstone and Tom Cox meet with Dave Walrath and Eugene Clark-Herrera (Orrick) to strategize. Dave Walrath met with C.V. attorney, Janet Mueller and came up with a potential path forward.
- November 17, 2011
- Dr. Johnstone, Tom Cox, Dave Walrath and Eugene Clark-Herrera met with representatives from C.V. and their attorneys and crafted a 3-pronged plan for Wiseburn unification.
 - 1. SBE; 2. Legislation (SB 477, SB 40); 3. Board action - JPA - (Local Public Schools Funding Authority) (SFID) - School Facilities Improvement District to keep 9-12 assessed valuation with C.V. upon WUSD unification.
 - We met 4 times - November 17, December 15, December 21 and once in January 2012
- February 7, 2012
- Two Board meetings attended by all five districts. At C.V. the JPA

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- February 7, 2012 (continued) was approved 4-1. At Wiseburn the vote was 5-0. Hawthorne, Lawndale and Lennox (CV Feeder Districts) showed up and urged both Boards not to approve the JPA. Lawndale also sent a letter to our State Senator expressing their opposition. The three other feeder districts expressed that they now wanted to be part of the dialogue.
- February - May 2012 - Met with all four districts (3 feeders and C.V.) 11 times -- both individually and as a whole group (of five) -- to remove the 3 feeder districts' opposition to the Wiseburn/C.V. JPA. This process included the creation of a second JPA which called for the Election for the Measure CL Parcel Tax. The purpose of Measure CL was to remove any potential negative side effects of Wiseburn unification on the 3 feeder districts and C.V.
- May 2012 - All 5 districts approved the (Local Classrooms Funding Authority) JPA which included a letter to the State Senator stating that the 4 districts agree "not to oppose" (Lawndale language) Wiseburn Unification.
- November 2010 - April 2012 - Concurrent to the Regional Solution discussion, Tom Cox and Dr. Johnstone spent 18 months researching and exploring eleven potential sites for Wiseburn High School. (2 in Continental Village, 4 across Aviation from D.O., the current Dana/DVS site, Big 5 - Del Aire Park, Campus El Segundo, Water Retention Basin east of Plaza El Segundo and 201 Douglas). We had scenarios for a 5-acre site, 8 acres, 10 acres and 14 acres. Real estate is expensive in El Segundo and our residents made it clear that they did not want a high school in the middle of a neighborhood. Note: \$87,000,000 is more than enough to build the high school but not land and high school.
- January 2011 - March 2012 - Concurrent to the Regional Solution and Site Identification, we established the Future Wiseburn High School Committee. We met three times (25 members). We conducted the Community Survey which had 462 respondents. Collected valuable information.
- April 24, 2012 - Began discussions with Continental Development Corporation / MAR Ventures regarding 201 North Douglas High School site.
- June 6, 2012 - Letter to Senator Roderick Wright indicating that all opposition to Wiseburn unification was eliminated with the second JPA (Local Classrooms Funding Authority) and requested that Senator Wright proceed with SB 477 to change legislation related to bonding capacity.
- June 27, 2012 - Tom Johnstone and Ron Hacker from C.V. fly to Sacramento to present the SB 477 Legislation.

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- August 26, 2012 - With support/intervention of Chet Pipkin, Governor Jerry Brown contacts Tom Johnstone to discuss SB 477 bill.
- September 2012 - SB 477 is passed unanimously in both houses of the California Legislature and is signed by Governor Brown with the caveat of clean-up legislation to establish revenue limit funding for new unified school district.
- September 13, 2012 - Wiseburn Board unanimously approved the Purchase and Sale Agreement for 201 North Douglas site (13.7 acres) with a 7-month escrow window to complete CEQA/EIR regulations.
- November 6, 2012 - The 5-district (wide area) community approves the Measure CL Parcel Tax with 70% approval. The approval rating of Wiseburn voters is 59%.
- December 2012 - Senator Roderick Wright introduced SB 40 clean-up legislation to set the Wiseburn Unified School District Revenue Limit.
- January 28, 2013 - Contracted with David Stephens of New Vista Design of Boston, MA to do visioning and design documents for a 21st Century high school program. Also in January 2013, we conducted Architect interviews on January 18th. We interviewed 4 firms and selected Gensler Architects. We also hired our Director of Facilities Planning, Vince Madsen, to coordinate the construction of the high school.
- March 21, 2013 - EIR for 201 North Douglas unanimously approved by the Wiseburn School District Board.
- April 2013 - Both houses of the California Legislature unanimously approve SB 40 and it is signed by Governor Brown. This is the last legislative piece of the unification puzzle.
- April 2, 2013 - Escrow closed on 201 North Douglas property. Purchase completed for \$46,000,000.
- May 9, 2013 - Chief Petitioners Lydia Rodriguez and Linda Cuesta join Board President, Nelson Martinez, and Dr. Johnstone in Sacramento at the SBE meeting. The State Board approves unification EIR and Wiseburn Unification on a 10-0 vote calling for a Wiseburn only (narrow area) vote in November 2013. Wiseburn unification is imminent.
- May 21, 2013 - El Segundo City Council unanimously approved an MOU with Wiseburn School District that prevents litigation of Wiseburn High School EIR in exchange for an aquatic complex at Wiseburn High School that will be co-constructed (WUSD - \$6,000,000, City of El Segundo - \$4,600,000). El Segundo Parks and Recreation will operate and maintain the pool (at its expense) and both high schools and

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- May 21, 2013 (continued) communities will use the facility on equal terms. Same MOU is unanimously approved by the Wiseburn School District Board on May 22, 2013.
- June 6, 2013 - Inaugural graduating class of 271 students from Da Vinci Science and Da Vinci Design. 98% of the students met the U.C. A-G Requirements. 78% are accepted to 4-year universities including most Ivy League schools, MIT, West Point, Stanford, every UC, USC, Pepperdine and LMU.
- November 5, 2013 - After 13 long years, Wiseburn voters approved Wiseburn Unification with an approval margin of 92.77%.
- July 1, 2014 - Wiseburn officially becomes Wiseburn Unified School District.
- August 2014 - The number of 8th grade resident Dana graduates who enrolled and are attending Da Vinci Schools increased to over 80%, an increase of over 45% in 2 years.
- 8 CIF sports were introduced at Da Vinci Schools including Boys and Girls Soccer, Basketball, Volleyball, Track and Cross Country.
- Architectural plans submitted to Department of State Architect (DSA) on June 24, 2014. Construction of Wiseburn High School to begin on July 1, 2015.