MARIN COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

Special Meeting

Marin County Office of Education
1111 Las Gallinas Avenue, Marin/Foundation Rooms
San Rafael, CA 94903

Monday, January 30, 2023
6:00 pm

The special meeting of the Marin County Committee on School District Organization (CCSDO) will be held on **Monday, January 30, 2023 beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the Marin County Office of Education (1111 Las Gallinas Avenue, San Rafael, CA 94903) in the Marin/Foundation Rooms.**

A G E N D A

1. Call to Order — Ms. Butler
2. Attendance / Introductions — Ms. Butler
   - 2a. Committee Members by Roll Call — Ms. Mares

   Committee Member Stephanie O'Brien will be participating in the meeting via videoconference from the following address: 721 Cliff Drive, Santa Barbara, CA 93109

ACTION ITEMS

3. Consider Approval and Adoption of Agenda — Ms. Butler
4. Consider Approval of Minutes, CCSDO Meeting of December 15, 2022 — Ms. Butler
5. Consider Approval of Update to CCSDO Bylaws — Ms. Mares
6. Consideration of Chief Petitioners Request to Withdraw the East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition — Mr. Henry

DISCUSSION ITEMS

7. Next Steps Related to Request to Withdraw the East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition — Ms. Mares
8. Adjournment — Ms. Butler

Agenda Item # 4

Consider Approval of Minutes,
CCSDO Meeting of December 15, 2022

MARIN COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

Special Meeting
December 15, 2022 | 6:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

The meeting of the Marin County Committee on School District Organization (CCSDO) was held on Thursday, December 15, 2022 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Reed Union School District, Del Mar Middle School Gymnasium (105 Avenida Miraflores, Tiburon, CA 94920).

AGENDA ITEM 1: Call to Order

Chairperson Debbie Butler called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

AGENDA ITEM 2: Attendance/Introductions

Secretary Designee Terena Mares conducted Roll Call of Committee Members. Members present/absent:

Committee Member	Present (Y)/Absent (A)
Debbie Butler	Y
Karen Crockett	Y
Amos Klausner	A
Derek Knell	Y
Robin Moses	Y
Stephanie O'Brien	Y
Kathy Ohm	Y
Elizabeth Robbins	Y
Richard Sloan	A
Stuart Tanenberg	Y
Raoul Wertz	Y

A roll call vote indicated that a quorum was present.

AGENDA ITEM 3: Consider Approval and Adoption of Agenda

Chairperson Butler called for a motion to approve the December 15, 2022 Agenda.

M/s/c Wertz and Moses; to approve the December 15, 2022 Agenda.

Motion carried:	Aye: 9	No:	Abstain:	Absent: 2

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AGENDA ITEM 4: Consider Approval of Minutes, CCSDO Meeting of December 14, 2022

Chairperson Butler called for a motion to approve the December 14, 2022 Minutes of the Special Meeting.

M/s/c Tanenberg and Crockett; to approve the December 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes as submitted.

Motion carried:	Aye: 9	No:	Abstain:	Absent: 2

AGENDA ITEM 5: Open Public Hearing

Chairperson Butler opened the public hearing at 6:06 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 5a: Explanation of the Petition & Presentation of Facts

Secretary Designee Terena Mares introduced the East Corte Madera territory transfer petition and outlined the petition facts.

AGENDA ITEM 5b: Guidelines for Public Hearing

Chairperson Butler outlined the guidelines for the public hearing.

AGENDA ITEM 5c: Chief Petitioners

Chief Petitioners Craig Blok, Heather Choate, and Paul Burton addressed the County Committee, including a statement that they were withdrawing the petition.

AGENDA ITEM 5d: Reed Union School District

Dr. Kimberly McGrath, Superintendent from the Reed Union School District and Roman Muñoz, Legal Counsel for the districts addressed the County Committee.

AGENDA ITEM 5e: Larkspur Corte Madera School District

Dr. Brett Geithman, Superintendent from the Larkspur Corte Madera School District, addressed the County Committee.

AGENDA ITEM 5f: Petition Proponents

0 proponents of the petition addressed the County Committee.

AGENDA ITEM 5g: Petition Opponents

22 opponents of the petition addressed the County Committee.

AGENDA ITEM 5h. Others

1 additional speaker addressed the County Committee.

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AGENDA ITEM 5i: Next Steps

In light of the statement from the chief petitioners withdrawing the petition, counsel recommended that the County Committee schedule a special meeting in January to consider withdrawal of the petition. Counsel also advised the County Committee to seek responses from interested parties to determine support or opposition to the petition withdrawal request prior to the special meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 6: Close Public Hearing

Chairperson Butler closed the public hearing at 7:26 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 7: Public Comments on Closed Session

0 members of the public addressed the County Committee.

AGENDA ITEM 8: Closed Session

The County Committee met in closed session regarding Anticipated Litigation (Govt. Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)), (one case) East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition.

AGENDA ITEM 9: Reconvene in Open Session

The County Committee met in closed session regarding Anticipated Litigation (Govt. Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)), (one case) East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition.

No action was taken.

AGENDA ITEM 10: Adjournment

Chairperson Butler called for a motion to adjourn the December 15, 2022 Meeting.

M/s/c Robbins and Ohm; to approve the adjournment of the December 15, 2022 Meeting.

Motion carried:	Aye: 9	No:	Abstain:	Absent: 2

Chairperson Butler adjourned the meeting at 7:52 pm.

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Agenda Item # 5

Consider Approval of Update to CCSDO Bylaws

MARIN COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

BYLAWS

1.0 ROLE OF THE COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

1.1 Purpose, Powers, Duties E.C. 35700 et seq.

The Marin County Committee on School District Organization, hereinafter referred to as the County Committee, shall conduct hearings on petitions to reorganize school districts and shall either approve, disapprove or make recommendations to the State Board of Education as appropriate regarding such petitions; and the County Committee shall formulate plans and recommendations for the organization or reorganization of school districts (school districts refer to elementary, secondary, and unified school districts, as well as community college districts) in the County or any portion thereof including, if appropriate, a portion of one or more adjacent counties.

The County Committee has the power to establish or abolish school district trustee areas, rearrange their boundaries, increase to seven or decrease to five the number of trustees on a school district board, and adopt one of the alternative methods of electing governing board members. E.C. 1002 et. seq., and E.C. 5019 et. seq.

Upon being so requested by the County Board of Education, the County Committee, by a two- thirds vote of the members, may either change the boundaries of any or all of the trustee areas of the county, or propose to increase or decrease the number of members of the County Board of Education, or both.

The County Committee, created by the California State Legislature in 1949, exists under the authority of the California Constitution and acts of the Legislature of the State of California and the regulations of the California State Board of Education.

Reference: Ed. Code 35700 et. seq., Ed. Code 35720 et. seq. , Ed. Code 1002 et. seq., Ed. Code 5019 et. seq.

2.0 ORGANIZATION

2.1 Membership--Terms of Office

The County Committee consists of eleven members--two from each of the five supervisorial districts in the County and one member at large. County Committee members are elected by representative governing board members from each community college and school district in the county.

Candidates are nominated pursuant to the nomination procedures. These procedures are available at the Marin County Office of Education. Candidates for the County Committee may be nominated by any citizen of Marin County. The candidate is required to file a letter of candidacy and a biographical data sheet with the County Superintendent of Schools.

Candidates/members are encouraged to attend the annual meeting of the Marin County School Boards' Association.

Nominations from the floor may also be made during the annual meeting of the trustee representatives. All nominees must have given prior approval to their nomination.

All school district superintendents and board presidents will be notified of the County Committee election process at least two months prior to the annual election. This notification will include information on nominating candidates for the County Committee election.

All County Committee candidates must be registered voters and residents of the supervisorial district they are seeking to represent (candidates for the at-large seat must be registered voters and residents of the County). No county superintendent of schools, employee of the office of a county superintendent of schools, employee of a school district, or employee of a community college district shall be a member of the county committee. Any member of the governing board of a school district or community college district in the same or any other county who is otherwise eligible may simultaneously serve as a member of the County Committee.

Reference: Ed. Code 4002 - 4012, Ed. Code 35023, Ed. Code 72403

2.1.1 Term of Membership

The term of office on the County Committee shall be for four years.

One of the two terms in each of supervisorial districts one, three, and five will expire every odd numbered year.

One of the two terms in each of supervisorial districts two and four will expire every even numbered year.

The term of the "at-large" position expires in 2002 and every four years thereafter.

2.1.2 Vacancies in Membership

A vacancy occurs upon any of the following events:

- The expiration of the term of office of a member of the County Committee. This vacancy shall be filled by the majority vote of the representatives of the governing boards of each of the school districts of Marin County at the annual election of the County Committee.

- The resignation of any County Committee member. Should a County Committee member choose to resign, the resignation will be in writing and submitted to the Secretary of the County Committee or his/her designee. The vacancy becomes an established fact upon the date indicated in the written resignation or upon receipt of the written resignation if no date is indicated. The Secretary or designee shall send written notification of said resignation to all County Committee members within 10 days of receiving the written resignation.

- Excessive absences by a County Committee member. If a member has three (3) consecutive unexplained absences, the member will be considered resigned. A vacancy shall be established upon the conclusion of the County Committee meeting during which this third consecutive unexplained absence occurs. After two (2) unexplained absences, the chair will send a letter to the member advising said member of the Bylaws and asking for a commitment or a resignation.

Vacancies created by the early resignation of a County Committee member, excessive absences, or for any reason other than expiration of term, shall be filled by the remaining members of the County Committee or, if they fail to fill such vacancies with qualified members within 70 days, by the County Superintendent of Schools. The County Superintendent of Schools may solicit County Committee recommendations regarding the filling of vacancies. Persons appointed to fill such vacancies shall hold office for the completion of the unexpired term.

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Reference: Ed. Code 4006

2.2 County Committee Budget and Compensation

The County Committee has a budget for County Committee activities. This budget is maintained by and is part of the Marin County Office of Education budget. The County Committee budget will be brought before the Committee at the time of budget adoption. The members of the County Committee shall serve without compensation. However, they shall receive reimbursement for any actual and necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. The expenses shall be allowed by the County Board of Education, and be paid out of the County School Service Fund.

Reference: Ed. Code 4010, 4298

2.2.1 Travel Reimbursement

- Compensation and Expense Claims. Actual and necessary travel expenses incurred as a result of official County Committee activity shall be allowed.

- Recording and reimbursement of travel expenses. All travel expenses including mileage and meal allowances will be recorded and reimbursed in accordance with the policy of the Marin County Superintendent of Schools.

- Reimbursement Calendar. Claims may be submitted at any time.

2.2.2 Rate of Travel Reimbursement

- Use of privately owned automobiles. Mileage is allowed at the current County Superintendent rate of reimbursement.

- Allowance for meals. Allowance for meals shall be reimbursed at the current County Superintendent rate for breakfast, lunch or dinner meetings.

2.2.3 Liability Insurance

Liability coverage shall be provided by the County Superintendent of Schools to protect against personal liability of the members of the County Committee while acting in the authorized purview of office as required by law.

The Marin County Superintendent of Schools agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Marin County Committee on School District Organization, its officers, agents and employees, volunteers, individually and collectively, from and against all costs, losses, claims, demands, suits, actions, payments and judgments, including legal and attorney fees, arising while acting in the authorized purview of office as required by law and agrees to provide an endorsement naming the Marin County Committee on School District Organization as an additional named insured.

2.3 Officers and Auxiliary Personnel

At the organizational meeting following the annual meeting of the representatives of the governing boards of the school districts in Marin County, the County Committee shall organize by electing one member Chairperson, and one member Vice Chairperson. Officers shall hold office until replaced and may not serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office unless voted on by a two-thirds vote of the County Committee.

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2.3.1 Vacancies in Office

If the office of Chairperson is vacated for any reason, the Vice Chairperson shall become Chairperson for the remainder of the term, and the office of Vice Chairperson shall be vacated.

If the office of Vice Chairperson is vacated for any reason, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the majority of the County Committee, and the appointee shall hold office for the remainder of the year.

If the offices of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson are vacated at the same time for any reason, the vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the majority of the County Committee for the remainder of the year.

2.3.2 Secretary to the County Committee

The County Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee shall serve as secretary to the County Committee.

2.3.3 Attorney

The County Superintendent shall provide legal counsel for the County Committee.

2.4 Temporary Special Committees

The Chairperson may appoint such temporary and special committees as deemed necessary or advisable and the Chairperson shall be, ex officio, a member of each committee. The duties of the special committee shall be outlined at the time of appointment, and the committee shall be considered dissolved when its final report has been made. Temporary special committees may be convened for the purpose of holding public hearings.

3.0 MEETINGS

The County Superintendent of Schools shall call for an organizational meeting each year within 30 days after the annual election of the County Committee. Regular meetings or special meetings of the County Committee may be called by the Chairperson or by a quorum of the County Committee. All meetings are subject to the provisions of the Brown Act. Regular meetings will be scheduled quarterly. If there are no agenda items, the meetings may be canceled.

Reference: Government Code 54950 et. seq., Ed. Code 4012 - 4014

3.1 Construction of Agenda

The County Superintendent, or his/her designee as Secretary to the County Committee, shall prepare an agenda for each regular meeting. Any County Committee member may call the Superintendent or his/her designee before the agenda has been mailed or posted and request an item be placed on the agenda.

Members of the public may write a letter to the County Superintendent or his/her designee requesting that an item be considered by the County Committee.

3.1.1 Posting of Agenda

At least 72 hours prior to the time of the regular meeting, the items to be included on the agenda will be posted in a place readily available to the public. For non-regular meetings, items to be placed on the

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agenda will be posted in a place readily available to the public at least 24 hours in advance. Agendas will also be posted on the Marin County Office of Education web-site.

3.1.2 Dissemination of Agenda

All school districts shall receive the agenda; agenda shall be sent to Marin County School Boards' Association to inform that body of the impending measure.

3.1.3 Action on Agenda

No action shall be taken on items not on the posted agenda, except in an emergency. (Brown Act 54956.5)

Reference: Ed. Code 35145

3.2 Quorum

The quorum shall be 6 members. A majority of the current membership of the County Committee shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of filling vacancies.

Reference: Ed. Code 4014

3.3 Action of Petition/Motion Carried

If a quorum is duly assembled, action to study, to change, to approve/disapprove or to recommend a change in school district organization, to approve each of the state criteria or action on pending or threatened litigation shall require six affirmative votes.

The County Committee shall determine that all/each of the state criteria of Education Code Section 35753 are substantially met before a petition can be granted.

The County Committee cannot approve a petition if one or more of the state criteria of Education Code Section 35753 have not been met.

Within 120 days of the commencement of the first public hearing on the petition, the County Committee shall recommend approval or disapproval of a petition.

At any time during the 120 day period the Committee is legally able to reconsider any previous decision provided that no party has detrimentally relied on the earlier decision. It is generally recognized that a motion to reconsider should be made by a member who voted with the prevailing side on the matter in question.

Action to change the boundaries of the trustee areas of the County Board of Education or to increase or decrease the number of members of the County Board of Education shall require eight (8) affirmative votes of the County Committee.

Action on other matters shall require an affirmative vote of a majority of members present.

3.4 Meeting Conduct

Meetings of the County Committee shall be conducted by the Chairperson in a manner consistent with the adopted Bylaws of the County Committee and the Standing Rules of the County Committee.

All County Committee meetings shall commence at the stated time and shall be guided by an agenda which

will have been prepared and delivered in advance to all County Committee members and other designated persons.

The agenda item allowing members of the public an opportunity to address the County Committee shall be moved to the beginning of the meeting whenever there is limited public input. Extended public presentation shall be deferred to the end of the agenda. Such deferment shall be at the discretion of the Chairperson.

The conduct of meetings shall, to the fullest possible extent, enable members of the County Committee (a) to consider problems to be solved, through open public discussion of the subject issue, weigh evidence related thereto, and make decisions intended to solve the problems, and (b) to receive, consider and take any needed action with respect to the organization of school districts.

3.5 Parliamentary Procedure

Unless otherwise provided for by these Bylaws, "Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised" shall serve as a guide in the parliamentary procedure.

3.6 Minutes

The County Superintendent, or his/her designee as Acting Secretary to the County Committee, shall keep minutes of all meetings and hearings of the County Committee.

The official minutes of each County Committee meeting shall be maintained at the Office of the County Superintendent. Text of motions or resolutions and the vote shall be recorded. Individual votes will be recorded only if the action taken was not unanimous.

The County Committee minutes shall be maintained as outlined below:

- The date, place, and type of each meeting or public hearing.
- Members present and members absent by name.
- Time called to order.
- Date (if known) and place of next meeting.
- Time of adjournment of the meeting.
- Approval or amended approval of the minutes of preceding meetings.
- Information as to each subject of the County Committee's deliberation and points raised during discussion.
- A record of all important correspondence.
- A written record of all motions; recording author and member seconding the motion.
- The roll call record of the vote on a motion if not unanimous.

- A record of the County Superintendent's reports to the County Committee.

- A record of all consultant's reports to the County Committee.

Copies of the minutes shall be distributed or mailed to the County Committee members at least ten (10) days prior to the next scheduled County Committee meeting.

3.7 Amendment of Bylaws and Standing Rules

Bylaws may be amended by six affirmative votes upon thirty (30) days notice of the proposed amendment. Standing Rules may be amended by a majority of members present without advance notice.

The current Bylaws and Standing Rules of the County Committee shall be maintained at the Office of the County Superintendent of Schools.

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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

1. Code of Ethics

   The County Committee member should honor the high responsibility which committee membership demands by:

   - Thinking always in terms of "students first".
   - Refusing to "play politics" in either the traditional partisan or in any petty sense.
   - Representing at all times the entire Marin educational community.
   - Accepting the responsibility of becoming well informed concerning the duties of County Committee members, and the laws regarding the organization of school districts.
   - Recognizing responsibility as a county official to seek the improvement of education throughout the county.
   - Attempting to appraise fairly both the present and future educational needs of the community.
   - Insisting that all school district organization transactions are on an open, ethical, and aboveboard basis.
   - Refusing to use the position of County Committee member in any way, whatsoever, for personal gain or for personal prestige.
   - Winning the community's confidence that all is being done in the best interest of school children.
   - Attending all meetings of the County Committee.

COMMITTEE STANDING RULES

Except for where the abstention is compelled by a financial conflict of interest, an abstention shall count with the prevailing side. In a tie vote the no vote prevails since the matter cannot pass without a majority vote.

Unlike the State Board of Education the County Committee does not have the right to find "exceptional circumstances" as a basis of approving a petition in the absence of a finding that "all of the conditions are substantially met."

A County Committee member can vote against a single criteria and subsequently vote for the petition during that action item, providing that the member states his/her reconsideration of the previous single vote. Until a matter becomes final as a matter of law a member is always free to reconsider a previous vote.

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Agenda Item # 6

Consideration of Chief Petitioners Request to Withdraw the East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition

East Corte Madera Territory Transfer
Presentation of Facts

Number of Parcels in Territory	463
Number of Registered Voters in Territory	909
Number of Signatures Needed for a Valid Petition	228
Number of Signatures on Petition	281
Number of Valid Signatures on Petition	247
Number of Petitioners who Requested to Remove their Name from the Petition	58

Feedback Form Regarding Request to Withdraw East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition:

• Submissions in Support of Petition Withdrawal Request	0
• Submissions in Opposition to Petition Withdrawal Request	0

Number of Individual Emails/Comments Received Regarding Petition since 12/15/22 Public Hearing:

• In Support of Petition	1
• In Opposition to Petition	7

Timeline of Events since December 15, 2022 Public Hearing:

• Chief Petitioners Request to Withdraw East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition (in writing)	1/5/2023
• Opportunity, via Feedback Form, to Respond to Petition Withdrawal Request from those who Signed the East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition is Posted to the County Committee Website	1/6/2023
• Reed Union School District Approves and Adopts Resolution No. 08-2022/2023 Supporting Withdraw of the East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition	1/10/202
• Press Release Regarding Chief Petitioners Request to Withdraw Territory Transfer Petition and Opportunity for Petition Signers to Respond	1/13/2023
• Larkspur Corte Madera School District Approves and Adopts Resolution No. 2022/23-7 Supporting Withdraw of the East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition	1/18/2023

Chief Petitioners Request to Withdraw East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition

From: [redacted]
To:
Cc:
Subject: Re: Follow Up to 12/15 Territory Transfer Public Hearing
Date: Thursday, January 5, 2023 12:24:53 PM

Good morning all,

Happy New Year and hope you had an enjoyable holiday!

Apologize for the delayed action and response on this email.

On the behalf of the Chief Petitioners of the East Corte Madera Territory Petition, I am confirming our desire and request to withdraw the East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition.

Please let us know of any other action needed and also next steps of this process.

Thank you,

Heather Armstrong Choate

On Friday, December 16, 2022 at 04:33:42 PM PST, Terena Mares <tmares@marinschools.org> wrote:

Hello Craig, Paul, and Heather,

This is to follow up on your request to withdraw the East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition during last night's public hearing. The County Committee is preparing to hold a special meeting in January to act on the request to withdraw the petition. We are in the process of scheduling a meeting for the County Committee in mid to late January and will notify you once it is scheduled.

This is to request that you submit your request in writing to the County Committee. A written request may consist of a single sentence that states your request to withdraw the East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition, or alternatively you may reply to this email to confirm your request.

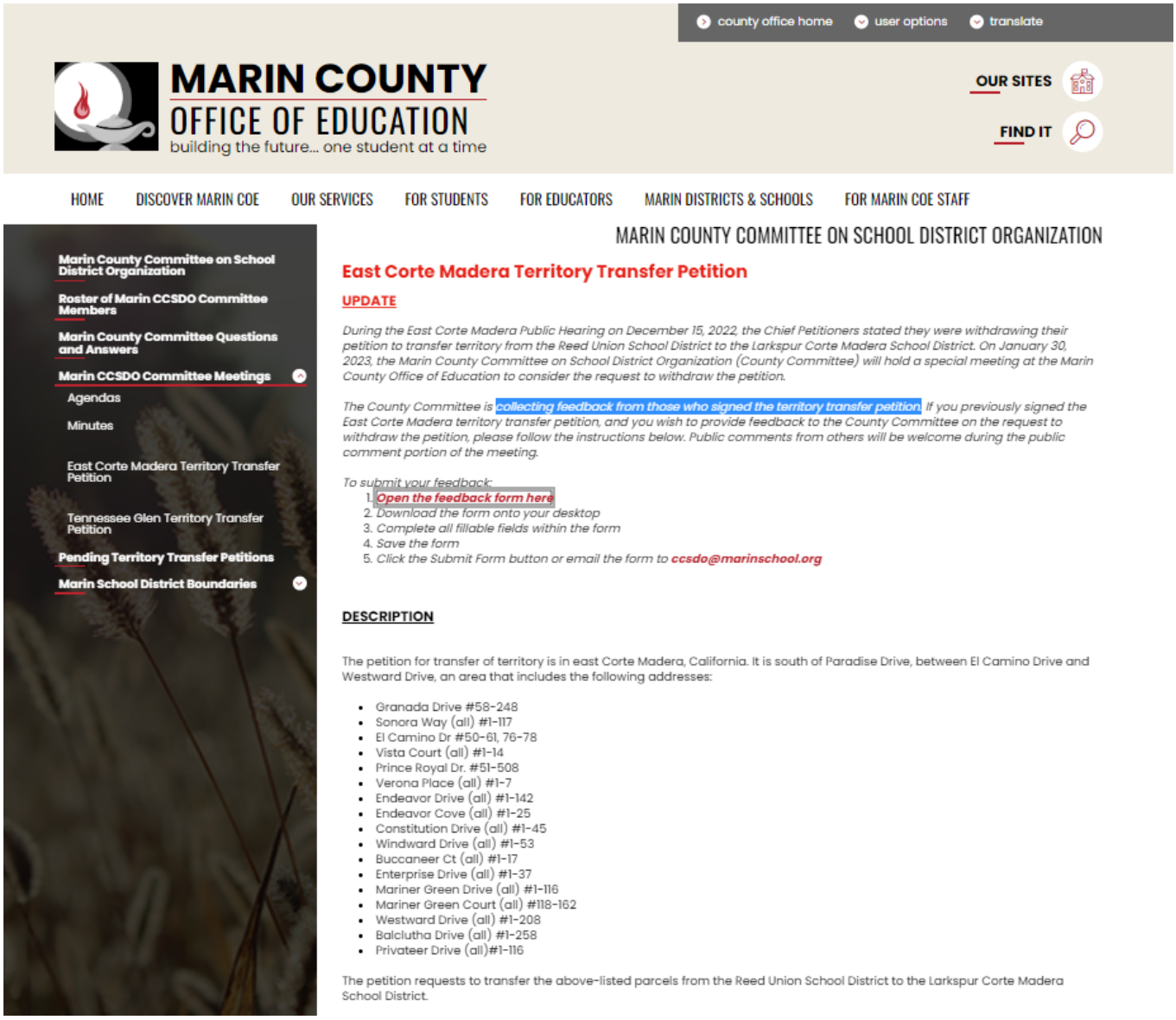
Wishing you all happy holidays!

Best,

Terena

Opportunity to Respond to Petition Withdrawal Request from those who Signed the East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition

https://www.marinschools.org/Page/8512



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MARIN COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION
building the future... one student at a time

OUR SITES
FIND IT

HOME | DISCOVER MARIN COE | OUR SERVICES | FOR STUDENTS | FOR EDUCATORS | MARIN DISTRICTS & SCHOOLS | FOR MARIN COE STAFF

- Marin County Committee on School District Organization
- Roster of Marin CCSDO Committee Members
- Marin County Committee Questions and Answers
- Marin CCSDO Committee Meetings
  - Agendas
  - Minutes
- East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition
- Tennessee Glen Territory Transfer Petition
- Pending Territory Transfer Petitions
- Marin School District Boundaries

MARIN COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition

UPDATE

During the East Corte Madera Public Hearing on December 15, 2022, the Chief Petitioners stated they were withdrawing their petition to transfer territory from the Reed Union School District to the Larkspur Corte Madera School District. On January 30, 2023, the Marin County Committee on School District Organization (County Committee) will hold a special meeting at the Marin County Office of Education to consider the request to withdraw the petition.

The County Committee is collecting feedback from those who signed the territory transfer petition. If you previously signed the East Corte Madera territory transfer petition, and you wish to provide feedback to the County Committee on the request to withdraw the petition, please follow the instructions below. Public comments from others will be welcome during the public comment portion of the meeting.

To submit your feedback:

1. ***Open the feedback form here***
2. *Download the form onto your desktop*
3. *Complete all fillable fields within the form*
4. *Save the form*
5. *Click the Submit Form button or email the form to* ***ccsdo@marinschool.org***

DESCRIPTION

The petition for transfer of territory is in east Corte Madera, California. It is south of Paradise Drive, between El Camino Drive and Westward Drive, an area that includes the following addresses:

- Granada Drive #58-248
- Sonora Way (all) #1-117
- El Camino Dr #50-61, 76-78
- Vista Court (all) #1-14
- Prince Royal Dr. #51-508
- Verona Place (all) #1-7
- Endeavor Drive (all) #1-142
- Endeavor Cove (all) #1-25
- Constitution Drive (all) #1-45
- Windward Drive (all) #1-53
- Buccaneer Ct (all) #1-17
- Enterprise Drive (all) #1-37
- Mariner Green Drive (all) #1-116
- Mariner Green Court (all) #118-162
- Westward Drive (all) #1-208
- Balclutha Drive (all) #1-258
- Privateer Drive (all)#1-116

The petition requests to transfer the above-listed parcels from the Reed Union School District to the Larkspur Corte Madera School District.

MARIN COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

During the East Corte Madera Public Hearing on December 15, 2022, the Chief Petitioners stated they were withdrawing their petition to transfer territory from the Reed Union School District to the Larkspur Corte Madera School District. On January 30, 2023, the Marin County Committee on School District Organization (County Committee) will hold a special meeting at the Marin County Office of Education to consider the request to withdraw the petition.

The County Committee is collecting feedback from those who signed the territory transfer petition. If you previously signed the East Corte Madera territory transfer petition, and you wish to provide feedback to the County Committee on the request to withdraw the petition, please complete, sign, and submit the form below. Public comments from others will be welcome during the public comment portion of the meeting.

I live in the territory proposed for transfer:	◯ YES	◯ NO
I live in the Reed Union School District:	◯ YES	◯ NO
I live in the Larkspur Corte Madera School District:	◯ YES	◯ NO

I, _____, affirm that I live at _____
(name) *(street address and city)*

and signed the East Corte Madera territory transfer petition.

◯ I support the withdrawal of the territory transfer petition

◯ I oppose the withdrawal of the territory transfer petition

Additional Comments

I understand and agree that by electronically signing and submitting this affirmation it is the equivalent of my handwritten signature.

_____ _____
Signature Date

Submit Form

To submit, click the Submit Form button, or save this PDF and email it to ccsdo@marinschools.org

Withdrawal of Petition Email from Larry Shirey, Education Programs Consultant, California Department of Education

From: Larry Shirey <LShirey@cde.ca.gov>
Sent: Friday, November 4, 2022 2:56 PM
To: Terena Mares; Joshua Speaks
Cc: Jon Lenz; Alexis Oberlander
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Withdrawal of Petition

Sorry, Terena…can't confirm that.

There is no authority in the *Education Code* for chief petitioners to withdraw the petition (i.e., thwart the desire of those voters who are requesting the transfer through the petition).

The function of chief petitioners is to receive notifications (*EC* Section 35701) and file appeals (*EC* Section 35710.5)…not control the fate of the petition.

Please let me know if you have questions.

Thanks.

Larry

From: Terena Mares <tmares@marinschools.org>
Sent: Friday, November 4, 2022 2:46 PM
To: Larry Shirey <LShirey@cde.ca.gov>; Joshua Speaks <JSpeaks@cde.ca.gov>
Cc: Jon Lenz <jlenz@marinschools.org>; Alexis Oberlander <aoberlander@marinschools.org>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Withdrawal of Petition

CAUTION! This email originated from outside the California Department of Education. Be careful of links and attachments.

Hi Larry,

Thank you again for your time and help today and always. One more thing, can you confirm that the petitioners can withdraw their petition at any time up to the decision of the county committee?

Best,
Terena

Terena Mares
Senior Deputy Superintendent
Marin County Office of Education
tmares@marinschools.org
O | 415.499.5835
[redacted]

Larkspur Corte Madera School District
Resolution No. 2022/23-7

In Support of Withdrawal of the East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition

RESOLUTION NO. 2022/23-7

OF THE LARKSPUR-CORTE MADERA SCHOOL DISTRICT IN SUPPORT OF WITHDRAWAL OF THE EAST CORTE MADERA TERRITORY TRANSFER PETITION

WHEREAS, on October 27, 2022, Petitioners Craig Blok, Paul Burton and Heather Choate submitted a petition to the Marin County Committee on School District Organization ("County Committee") to transfer territory currently within the Reed School District ("Reed") to the Larkspur-Corte Madera School District ("Larkspur-Corte Madera") (the "Petition"); and

WHEREAS, on November 30, 2022, and December 15, 2022, the County Committee conducted a public hearing at which it received a presentation from the Petitioners, Reed and Larkspur-Corte Madera, as well as public testimony from residents and organizations from each of the affected territories; and

WHEREAS, the information provided highlighted the shortcomings of the Petition; and

WHEREAS, owing to these shortcomings, Petitioners have decided to withdraw their Petition; and

WHEREAS, the District is in support of the withdrawal.

NOW THEREFORE, the Governing Board of the Larkspur-Corte Madera School District (the "Board") hereby finds, determines, declares, orders and resolves as follows:

Section 1. That all of the recitals set forth above are true and correct, and the Board so finds and determines.

Section 2. That the Board approves of the withdrawal of the Petition.

Section 3. That the Board reserves its right to make a different determination on any subsequent Petition.

APPROVED, PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board of the Larkspur-Corte Madera School District on the 18th day of January, 2023, by the following vote:

AYES: Movafaghi, Blair, Sherman

NOES: 0

ABSTENTIONS: Schmautz, Medved

Annie Sherman, President of the Governing Board

Attested to:

Amir Movafaghi, Clerk of the Governing Board

7

Larkspur Corte Madera School District
Resolution No. 2022/23-06

In Opposition to the East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition

RESOLUTION NO. 2022/23-06

OF THE LARKSPUR-CORTE MADERA SCHOOL DISTRICT IN OPPOSITION TO THE EAST CORTE MADERA TERRITORY TRANSFER PETITION AND FURTHER REQUESTING THE MARIN COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION DENY THE PETITION

WHEREAS, on October 27, 2022, Petitioners Craig Blok, Paul Burton and Heather Choate submitted a petition to the Marin County Committee on School District Organization ("County Committee") to transfer territory currently within the Reed School District ("Reed") to the Larkspur-Corte Madera School District ("Larkspur-Corte Madera) (the "Petition"); and

WHEREAS, on November 30, 2022, the County Committee conducted a public hearing at which it received a presentation from Petitioners, Larkspur-Corte Madera School District, and Reed Union School District as well as public testimony from residents and organizations from each of the affected territories; and

WHEREAS, the information provided highlighted the shortcomings of the Petition; and

WHEREAS, owing to these shortcomings, Larkspur-Corte Madera School District desires to publicly express its opposition to this current Petition and further requests that the County Committee exercise its discretion to deny the Petition.

NOW THEREFORE, the Governing Board of the Larkspur-Corte Madera School District (the "Board") hereby finds, determines, declares, orders and resolves as follows:

Section 1. That all of the recitals set forth above are true and correct, and the Board so finds and determines.

Section 2. That the Board opposes the current Petition as presently constituted.

Section 3. That the Board respectfully requests the Marin County Committee on School District Organization deny the Petition.

Section 4. That the Board reserves its right to make a different determination on any subsequent Petition.

APPROVED, PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board of the Larkspur-Corte Madera School District on the 12th day of December, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: _____

NOES: _____

ABSTENTIONS: _____

_____
Annie Sherman, President of the Governing Board

Attested to: _____
Monica Cañas, Clerk of the Governing Board

Reed Union School District
Resolution No. 08-2022/2023

Supporting Chief Petitioners' Request to Withdraw the October 27, 2022 Petition to Transfer Territory from Reed Union School District to Larkspur-Corte Madera School District

REED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
RESOLUTION No. 08-2022/2023

SUPPORTING CHIEF PETITIONERS' REQUEST TO WITHDRAW THE OCTOBER 27, 2022 PETITION TO TRANSFER TERRITORY FROM REED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT TO LARKSPUR-CORTE MADERA SCHOOL DISTRICT

WHEREAS, on October 27, 2022, three individuals (Chief Petitioners) submitted a petition to the Marin County Superintendent of Schools, requesting to transfer territory from the Reed Union School District to the Larkspur-Corte Madera School District (Petition);

WHEREAS, the Petition lists the following addresses as the territory to be transferred (Territory): Granada Dr. # 58-248, Sonora Way #1-117, El Camino Dr. # 50-61, 76-78, Vista Ct. # 1-14, Prince Royal Dr. # 51-508, Verona Pl. # 1-7, Endeavor Dr. # 1-142, Endeavor Cove # 1-25, Constitution Dr. #1-45, Windward Dr. # 1-52, Buccaneer Ct. # 1-17, Enterprise Dr. #1-37, Mariner Green Dr. # 1-116, Mariner Green Ct. # 118-162, Westward Dr. #1-208, Balclutha Dr. # 1-258, and Privateer Dr. # 1-116;

WHEREAS, upon receipt of a petition for territory transfer from the County Superintendent, the Marin County Committee on School District Organization (County Committee) shall hold at least two hearings on the matter, conduct appropriate review under the California Environmental Quality Act, and conduct a full and complete review of the petition, including but not limited to reviewing the statutory criteria provided in Education Code section 35753;

WHEREAS, the County Committee held its first hearing on November 30, 2022, where a large number of community members, including members that live within the Territory, gave public comment opposing the Petition;

WHEREAS, on December 12, 2022, the governing board of the Larkspur-Corte Madera School District unanimously adopted a resolution opposing the Petition;

WHEREAS, on December 13, 2022, the Reed Union School District Board of Trustees (Board) unanimously adopted Resolution No. 07-2022/2023, opposing the Petition due to numerous procedural and substantive issues addressed in the resolution;

WHEREAS, the Board incorporates Resolution No. 07-2022/2023 herein by reference (Exhibit A) and continues to express those same procedural and substantive objections to the Petition;

WHEREAS, on December 15, 2022 the County Committee held its second public hearing on the Petition, at which a large number of community members gave public comment in opposition to the Petition and at which the Chief Petitioners announced their desire to withdraw the Petition from consideration;

WHEREAS, the Board restates its unequivocal and unreserved opposition to the Petition;

WHEREAS, without waiving any of its procedural and substantive objections to the Petition, the Board supports the Chief Petitioners' request to withdraw the Petition;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Trustees of the Reed Union School District hereby resolves as follows:

1. The above recitals are correct and true.

2. The Board supports the Chief Petitioners' request to withdraw the Petition and requests that the County Committee effectuate this request at the first available opportunity.

3. The Board respectfully reasserts its position that the Petition is procedurally flawed, substantively deficient, and fails to substantially meet the legal criteria of Education Code section 35753 subdivision (a)(1) through (a)(9).

4. The District Superintendent/designee is hereby authorized and directed to take any other actions necessary to oppose the Petition and to effectuate the purposes of this resolution.

APPROVED, ADOPTED, AND SIGNED, this 10th day of January 2023, with the following votes:

AYES:	-5-
NOES:	-0-
ABSENT:	-0-
ABSTAIN:	-0-

Jacqueline Jaffee,
Reed USD Board President

ATTEST:

Reed USD Board Clerk

Exhibit A

REED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
RESOLUTION No. 07-2022/2023

OPPOSING THE OCTOBER 27, 2022 PETITION TO TRANSFER TERRITORY FROM REED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT (RUSD) TO LARKSPUR CORTE MADERA SCHOOL DISTRICT (LCMSD)

WHEREAS, on October 27, 2022, three individuals submitted a petition to the Marin County Superintendent of Schools, requesting to transfer territory from the Reed Union School District to the Larkspur Corte Madera School District (Petition);

WHEREAS, the Petition lists the following addresses as the territory to be transferred (Territory): Granada Dr. # 58-248, Sonora Way #1-117, El Camino Dr. # 50-61, 76-78, Vista Court # 1-14, Prince Royal Dr. # 51-508, Verona Pl. # 1-7, Endeavor Dr. # 1-142, Endeavor Cove # 1-25, Constitution Dr. #1-45, Windward Dr. # 1-52, Buccaneer Ct. # 1-17, Enterprise Dr. #1-37, Mariner Green Dr. # 1-116, Mariner Green Ct. # 118-162, Westward Dr. #1-208, Balclutha Dr. # 1-258, and Privateer Dr. # 1-116;

WHEREAS, the Petition focuses on Territory in East Corte Madera, but intentionally excludes certain areas of East Corte Madera from the proposed transfer, including the Preserve Apartments;

WHEREAS, upon receipt of a petition for territory transfer, the Marin County Superintendent of Schools (County Superintendent) has 30 days to examine the petition and determine whether it is sufficient and signed as required by law (Ed. Code, § 35704);

WHEREAS, immediately following submission of the Petition, a significant number of community members contacted District staff, District Board members, and the Marin County Office of Education opposing the Petition and stating clear concerns about how signatures were collected during the petitioning process;

WHEREAS, community members expressed concerns that the Petition was described as creating "school choice" rather than a petition for territory transfer, and expressed additional concerns that multiple versions of the Petition were circulated during the petitioning process;

WHEREAS, the Petition fails to include multiple homes on Paradise Drive (that are currently in RUSD) from the Territory, in violation of the "leapfrogging" provisions of Education Code section 35543;

WHEREAS, despite these concerns, on or around November 11, 2022, the County Superintendent concluded that the Petition was sufficient, and presented the Petition to the Marin County Committee on School District Organization (County Committee);

WHEREAS, upon receipt of a petition for territory transfer from the County Superintendent, the County Committee shall hold at least two hearings on the matter, conduct appropriate review under the California Environmental Quality Act, and conduct a full and complete review of the petition, including but not limited to reviewing the statutory criteria provided in Education Code section 35753;

WHEREAS, the County Committee held its first hearing on November 30, 2022, where a large number of community members, including members that live within the Territory, gave public comment opposing the Petition;

WHEREAS, prior to the November 30, 2022 hearing, the County Committee/County Superintendent received at least 166 emails/comments opposed to the Petition, while receiving only 21 emails/comments in support of the Petition;

WHEREAS, the second public hearing is currently scheduled for December 15, 2022;

WHEREAS, the Board has taken a holistic approach in reviewing the Petition, including but not limited to listening to community members, reviewing the potential implications of the territory transfer on families living within the Territory and the wider RUSD community, reviewing the fiscal, educational, and community impacts of the Petition, and reviewing the procedural issues raised concerning the petitioning process;

WHEREAS, as the date of this Resolution, the Board and District staff continue to receive emails from community members in opposition to the territory transfer;

WHEREAS, the Board especially appreciates, acknowledges, and recognizes the considerable amount of emails and comments received from community members through this process;

WHEREAS, families of approximately two-thirds of the students who live within the Territory have chosen, and continue to choose, to send their children to RUSD schools;

WHEREAS, based on its review, the Board has determined that:

- There is substantial evidence proving that the process by which petitioners sought and obtained signatures was fundamentally flawed;
- The Petition does not meet the necessary criteria for approval under Education Code sections 35710 and 35753;
- If approved, this territory transfer would have significant and far-reaching negative impacts on RUSD, its families, and its greater community; and

WHEREAS, the Board therefore wishes to state its unequivocal and unreserved **opposition** to the Petition.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Trustees of the Reed Union School District hereby resolves as follows:

1. The above recitals are correct and true.

2. The Board of Trustee of the Reed Union School District unreservedly opposes the proposed transfer of Territory from RUSD to LCMSD.

3. The Board respectfully requests that the County Committee disapprove the Petition due to the fundamental flaws in the petitioning process, the Petition's failure to meet the requisite criteria under Education Code section 35753, and the community's clear and overwhelming opposition to the territory transfer.

4. The District Superintendent/designee is hereby authorized and directed to take any other actions necessary to oppose the Petition and to effectuate the purposes of this resolution.

APPROVED, ADOPTED, AND SIGNED, this 13th day of December 2022, with the following votes:

AYES: -5-
NOES: -0-
ABSENT: -0-
ABSTAIN: -0-

GOVERNING BOARD of the
REED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

Liz Webb

President, Governing Board

ATTEST:

Clerk, Governing Board

Emails and Comments Received Regarding the East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition since 12/15/22 Public Hearing

Alexis Oberlander

From: Jon Lenz
Sent: Wednesday, January 11, 2023 8:59 AM
To: Alexis Oberlander
Subject: FW: District transfer

To include with the information available to the public regarding communications received regarding this matter.

Thanks,

Jonathan Lenz
Deputy Superintendent
Marin County Office of Education
1111 Las Gallinas Avenue
San Rafael, CA 94903
(415) 499-5850

[redacted]

On Jan 10, 2023, at 12:10 PM, Jon Lenz <jlenz@marinschools.org> wrote:

Jon

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2023 11:24:42 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: District transfer

Anyone else feel like we were just swindled by the Mob in Marin? Wool pulled over our eyes? A herculean effort to shift our gaze from facts to the overdramatized statements of one person. Let's recap and see if you agree...get your popcorn ready.

A section of East Corte Madera is zoned for the Tiburon/Belvedere (RUSD) school district. However, kids in this area have been allowed to attend Corte Madera schools through an agreement between the school districts. That agreement was abruptly ended, leading a group of parents with kids in the Corte Madera schools to petition the county to change the district lines moving them out of Tiburon and into Corte Madera - the only option available that would allow their kids currently in Corte Madera schools to stay, and not be ripped away to Tiburon schools.

In order for these parents to petition the county for the district change, they needed to get 25% of neighbor signatures. Petitioners went door to door, spoke with neighbors, got signatures and notified the school boards.

Once RUSD found out about this process, an attack of substantial proportions was launched, as a change in this district means a loss of millions for them.

What unfolds next is nothing short of a cinematic experience with Mob like tendencies, right here in our Marin community.

Enter stage right, [redacted].

[redacted] tried to get [redacted] into Corte Madera schools last year, but was denied due to space, and forced into Reed Union. [redacted] vocally opposed this in multiple settings, went door to door petitioning signatures, and finally re-applied this year for a second time, trying to get [redacted] child into Corte Madera for [redacted]. Because the agreement had now fallen apart between the districts, [redacted] child was again denied, and [redacted] was forced back into RUSD.

[redacted], now facing an angry mob of RUSD parents and Board members, trying [redacted] best not to feel more isolated, made a bold statement that [redacted] mislead neighbors about the petition they were signing, with the hopes that would get the petition thrown out entirely, and finally setting [redacted] back into good graces with [redacted] new school community.

With this, [redacted], takes on the ultimate role of sacrificing [redacted] to become RUSD's main character for the duration of this cinematic experience, with the sole intent to discredit the

entire petition process, ending it before it can go to a vote – selfishly taking away our resident's encouraged and American right (true to Mob's core operating premises). [redacted] joined RUSD's strategy team, yes they created a strategy team with meetings, planning, marketing, and even statement writing coaching.

Plot twist. Documents were then shared at Marin County Of Education meetings, showing [redacted] knew the petition was about "redistricting", therefore [redacted] would not have mislead neighbors – any good movie would have paused to have [redacted] motive and words questioned or explored. However, instead of zooming in on this twist, [redacted], RUSD, and their proponents continued their loud, singular focused messaging on petition invalidity, and [redacted] statements were never verified.

And here, my dear readers, is where we really see the power of the Mob.

Officials, Larkspur Corte Madera Board members, and even the MCOE members not only took [redacted]' words as truth, but extrapolated [redacted] words and applied them to all other petitioner's efforts, running with the unfounded message that the entire petition was done under false pretenses. Other petitioners with high integrity, other petitioners who spent hours speaking with neighbors, other petitioners truly caring about their neighbors – all were thrown into the pile as liars.

This message was allowed to expand and overshadow the entire process and background. RUSD spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on legal teams, strategy sessions, and more...money they refused to spend supporting the effort to keep Corte Madera children in their schools.

From here, our movie hits its climax, RUSD supporters go door to door yelling at neighbors to remove their names from the petition, they get neighbors to stand and state publicly that they were lied to, and scare a neighborhood into silence, as any good Mob would do. In return, these neighbors get to stay on the good side of RUSD, they won't be harassed further, they won't be shunned, and they will get smiles instead of scowls when they run into a neighbor in the area.

When you step back and rewind this movie, play it over and over in your head as a neutral moviegoer, interested in a storyline and character development, you see a Tragedy unfold. You see a neighborhood that isn't being torn apart by this one process, you see a neighborhood that was never solidified in the first place. Had it been, RUSD parents would have stood up for their

neighbor's Corte Madera schooled kids and demanded they not be ripped from their schools - but that never happened.

As we sit and wait for [redacted] to face misdemeanor charges on falsification (perhaps a sequel), we also await MCOE to return a decision on denying the petition. A decision made without reviewing the facts fully, a decision made under strong coercion to avoid fact confirming, and a decision made within a flawed process. For when a petition like this is passed, all kids move immediately. There is no provision for grandfathering kids or allowing the completion of educations currently in process, and generally no comprehension of what is best for children.

And that, is the biggest tragedy of this sad and disappointing movie. The one miss in this plot is the focus on children. This movie has money, coercion, drama, lies, conflict....but, never the children. Parents, School Boards, County Boards, and more, all involved in a debacle. Taking away the focus of what is best for the child. Tiburon's reputation of being arrogant, selfish, and pretentious will continue to precede them with these acts, Marin's reputation of vocalizing progressiveness, community, and general well-being for all, yet contradictory actions of the opposite will continue to precede them.

And now, do you feel swindled? Did you succumb to the Mob's efforts? Or, were you able to see past their distractions, and walk away from this experience with the facts?

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[redacted]

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: Monday, December 19, 2022 11:45 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Re: Clarification needed by LCMSD on need for BP5117??

Hey Brett,

Thank you for the detailed response. It is appreciated. Not sure if the 8/24 BP5117(a) update helped your negotiations, and its specific use 6 weeks later by the petitioners made it seem coordinated. Additionally when the LCM board announced its opposition, board members opposed it, said they were neutral, and then finished by saying they could support a future petition for ECM. Stating that potential future support by LCM board members to redistrict did Not seem neutral.

My goal is to communicate that you and the board's actions over the past year, while perhaps not the intent, had a real impact in supporting and empowering the petitioners. Directly contributing to what one county member called the craziest event in Marin in 40 years (or something like that). Hopefully we learn from 2022 in order not to repeat it over the next 4 decades.

Thanks again for helping to clarify,

[redacted]

On Fri, Dec 16, 2022 at 1:06 PM Brett Geithman <bgeithman@lcmschools.org> wrote:

> Hi [redacted],

BP5117 is not a new Board Policy; it is an updated policy. For your reference, I have attached the bold/strikethrough version where you can see the updates from the former version. Majority of these updates are provided by CSBA. However, we did include the following language in the update:

The Board may enter into an agreement with any other school district regarding the program costs of any student on an interdistrict transfer.

The Board may enter into an agreement with any other school district when interdistrict transfers are 10 or more where a calculation, based on property taxes or an agreed upon formula, would be used to determine a per pupil amount that the releasing district would reimburse the receiving district.

To respond to your comments:

- We created this since we had an agreement with RUSD, were negotiating a new one, and we've had agreements with districts regarding program costs of students on interdistrict transfer. Since this was a practice, it was important to memorialize it in a Board Policy and set some criteria, such as the 10 or more students.
- "**may** enter into an agreement," means both districts would have to create an agreement regarding payment. We would not unilaterally pay another district if 10 or more of our students were on IDT (like your Ross example), just as we would not expect another district to pay us without an agreement. This language identifies an agreement our district may, not shall, enter.
- "releasing district would reimburse the receiving district," means that we may enter into an agreement when we have 10 or more from another district in LCM on an IDT or if 10 or more LCM students are on IDT in another district. LCMSD could be the sending or receiving district with this language.
- The idea to memorialize a practice already in place came from our subcommittee working on the new LCMSD/RUSD agreement.
- Updating a Board Policy with majority of the language coming from CSBA when we were negotiating an agreement regarding IDTs is appropriate.
- We have remained neutral throughout the process until 12/12/22. I'm not sure where you see this is unneutral; however, hopefully my response has clarified the language.

In regards to your other comments:

- Last night I used 6 of the allotted 15 minutes.
    - Of those 6, I spent 1-2 reading the BP that petitioners were referring to as I assumed the commission did not have that readily available.
    - I also spent 1-2 addressing a specific email from one community member who was spreading misinformation about me attending a neighborhood petition meeting, which I did not, referring to a 6/1/22 agenda attached to the public hearing materials.
    - I spent the remaining minutes stating that we had honored the process by gathering information, including the 11/30 public comments, for me to then make a recommendation to the LCMSD Board to oppose this petition. I also stated that I would recommend the Board support the withdraw of the petition. Finally, I shared how our goal was to find creative solutions to support all students and that we were still willing to engage in future discussions with RUSD.

- The other negative impacts you are citing I discussed in the first public hearing (parcel tax, property tax). Trustee Mueller also referred to these issues during our 12/12 Board Meeting where the Board approved a resolution to oppose the petition. We did not have this information in January 2022. We requested a legal opinion after receiving notice from petitioners that they had submitted the petition.

I hope this follow up email to our discussion last night has answered your questions.

Thanks,

Dr. Brett Geithman

Superintendent

he/him/his

Larkspur-Corte Madera School District

230 Doherty Drive, Larkspur, CA 94939

415.927.6960 x3202

#WEareLCMSD

www.lcmschools.org

bgeithman@lcmschools.org

From: [redacted]
Date: Friday, December 16, 2022 at 10:03 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Re: Clarification needed by LCMSD on need for BP5117??

[redacted]

2023 will be a great kid focused year! Thank you for your service.

On Fri, Dec 16, 2022 at 9:01 AM [redacted] > wrote:

> Hi Brett,
>
> Thanks for the quick chat last night on BP5117, I hadn't read it until now. Seems like it is for money OUT of lcm on IDT's, thus would only apply to LCM/RUSD if the ECM territory transfer passed. (you said it is not related to this petition, but it is, and thus it's in all the petitioners literature too) Now - if 10 LCM kids want to leave Hall (possible) and go to Ross - LCM agrees to send money to Ross. Did the idea for this originate with you or the board?
>
> How can LCM board & Brett all say you are neutral now / past, after authoring BP5117? Please help me understand better, it seems so clearly UNneutral to me.
>
> There is a negative cloud over your actions in the spring of 2022 with the petitioners, BP5117, and, this entire year. So much so, last night 12/15 you spent 15 minutes defending things. Again off agenda, more relevant would have been LCM research showing "huge negative impacts to LCMSD" as stated by [redacted] . Too bad we didn't have this in January of 2022. Can you share this research and add it to your opposition position?
>
> Thank you again for discussing my questions and for your continued follow up and service. Thanks,
>
> Attached BP5117:

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE

The Board of Trustees recognizes that parents/guardians of students who reside within the geographic boundaries of one district may, for a variety of reasons, desire to enroll their children in a school in another district.

The Board may enter into an agreement with any other school district, for a term not to exceed five school years, for the interdistrict attendance of students who are residents of the districts. (Education Code 46600)

The Board may enter into an agreement with any other school district regarding the program costs of any student on an interdistrict transfer.

The Board may enter into an agreement with any other school district when interdistrict transfers are 10 or more where a calculation, based on property taxes or an agreed upon formula, would be used to determine a per pupil amount that the releasing district would reimburse the receiving district.

The agreement shall specify the terms and conditions under which interdistrict attendance shall be permitted or denied. It also may contain standards agreed upon by both districts for reapplication and/or revocation of the student's permit. (Education Code 46600)

Upon receiving a permit for transfer into the district that has been approved by the student's district of residence, or upon receiving a written request from the parent/guardian of a district student who wishes to enroll in another district, the Superintendent or designee shall review the request and may approve or deny the permit subject to the terms and conditions of the interdistrict attendance agreement.

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

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[redacted]

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: Friday, December 16, 2022 9:52 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Note on 12/15 Public Hearing

Hi County Board -

It's worth noting one of the inaccuracies in the 12/15 petitioner's 15minute statement, when it was stated they didn't lie or spread disinformation to their neighbors to get signatures. Petitioners stated only one signature collector used disinformation to gather signatures.

However this is not true. Marin county & reed have around 100 signature removal requests. The county could simply check those names to the signature collector, and based on what I've heard only, the county might find the largest use of disinformation to get signatures were chief petitioner 1) [redacted], and circulator/collectors 2) [redacted], and 3) [redacted]. You could add the signature's removed before submission and that may amplify your results.

It's important to speak the truth these days, I was surprised by this statement from the petitioners. Hope you get back to real business asap for the benefit of the county and the kids, and Happy Holidays,

[redacted]

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[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

Begin forwarded message:

From: [redacted]
Date: December 15, 2022 at 7:10:58 PM PST
To: [redacted]
Subject: Petition for Territory Transfer RUSD/LCMSD

Dear Marin County Committee on School District Reorganization,

We are writing to express our opposition to the petition filed on 10.27.22 with the County Superintendent requesting territory be transferred from the Reed Union School District to the Larkspur-Corte Madera School District.
We are parents of a [redacted] student at [redacted] within the Reed School District.
Although we do not reside in the disputed area, we believe based on the following criteria, the Petition should be denied by the CCSDO.

I. Many of the signatures on the petition were obtained under false pretenses, using multiple petitions with different verbiage.

II. The Petition has been opposed by both school districts

III. The Community has presented overwhelming opposition to the petition at both board meetings and public hearings

IV. According to Education Code 35753 there are Nine State Board of Education Criteria for reorganizing school districts and all criteria must be met. The Petition clearly does not meet all nine criteria for example:

1. Approval of the petition will result in a greater than 10% change in multiple racial/ethnic populations at RUSD, therefore, not preserving the integrated environment.

2. The Territory Transfer will significantly disrupt the educational programs of the districts resulting in the loss of approximately 9 FTE teacher positions at RUSD, increased student-to-teacher

ratios in both districts, loss of access to PreK for some families, and potentially insufficient facilities for students at LCSMD

3. Negative fiscal implications resulting in the immediate loss of millions to RUSD and ongoing revenue streams
4. Loss of Community Identity

These are a few of the many examples presented over the past month and a half that clearly show that the Petition for Territory Transfer is not only invalid but also non-compliant with the Nine State Board of Education Criteria necessary to approve the Petition.

Thank you for your time,

[redacted]

`



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[redacted]

[redacted]

From: Kimberly McGrath <kmcgrath@reedschools.org>
Sent: Friday, December 16, 2022 1:42 PM
To: Terena Mares <tmares@marinschools.org>
Subject: Fwd: Public Comment - ECM Redistricting Petition

Dr. Kimberly McGrath
Superintendent
Reed Union School District
"We are even stronger together!"

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: [redacted]>
Date: Thu, Dec 15, 2022 at 4:40 PM
Subject: Public Comment - ECM Redistricting Petition
To: <lwebb@reedschools.org>, <kmcgrath@reedschools.org>

Public comment on the East Corte Madera school redistricting petition:

My [redacted] and I relocated to Corte Madera with our [redacted] in the summer of [redacted]. During our months-long search for a home, our number one selection criterium was the quality of the public school district. Within the first couple of minutes of viewing our current home, the realtor stated "...and, it's in the Reed School District, one of the best!", clearly inferring that this added value to the home.

We could not have asked for a better experience having two children attend the Reed schools K-8, due to the quality and engagement level of the teachers, the benevolence of the Foundation, the inclusion of art, music, PE, library, Spanish, media and laptop computers. As parents we attended every back-to-school, open house, performance, school play and parent-teacher conference. Not once did we consider it a hardship to make the short drive to these activities. On the contrary, we felt it was a gift to be in the district and able to participate.

During this period we all made lasting friendships with both Corte Madera and Tiburon residents, effectively extending our realm which was also a gift.

I would recommend the Reed School experience to anyone.

I regret signing the redistricting petition and although it's probably too late I would like to remove my signature. It was explained to me as "providing parents a choice" with no mention of redistricting. The petitioner should have started with "I would like to remove the primary attribute of your home".

We purchased our home specifically because it is in the Reed School District, and have no regrets whatsoever. I urge the Marin County Office of Education to reject the East Corte Madera redistricting proposal.

Sincerely,

[redacted]



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[redacted]

From: [redacted] January 12, 2023 4:45 PM
To: Jon Lenz
Subject: Re: Closing-out East Corte Madera Transfer

Jon, 10-4, I'll check agenda before. Thanks for considering adding a unanimous vote to deny (and/or accepting the withdrawal, suppose you could do both). Don't spend more of the kids money. Seems like a more correct recording of this history, in my view.

Marin has two national records, longest running board member [redacted], and only petition to ever be opposed by both districts, withdrawn, and denied. The second record shows the process working correctly! Cheers,

[redacted]

On Thu, Jan 12, 2023 at 2:25 PM Jon Lenz <jlenz@marinschools.org> wrote:

> Hi [redacted],
>
> Although a date has been set for the meeting (January 30th), the scope of the agenda is still under review. Please check the Marin County Committee on School District Organization website to access the agenda. The meeting agenda will be posted at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.
>
> Best,
>
> Jonathan Lenz
> Deputy Superintendent
>
> Marin County Office of Education
> 1111 Las Gallinas Avenue
> San Rafael, CA 94903
> (415) 499-5850

From: [redacted]>
Sent: Monday, January 9, 2023 5:01 PM
To: [redacted]
>
Subject: Re: Closing-out East Corte Madera Transfer

Thanks Jon,

I see the withdrawal is in progress for 1/30 meeting. Did the County Committee also weigh the option of voting to deny/reject the petition? Are both options the same cost (ie, reports, time,)etc?

I'm just curious, not advocating for you to change course now. (but the rejection does seem more fitting, if you're up to speed on this petition).

Enjoy the last few hours of dry skies.

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

On Mon, Jan 9, 2023 at 3:57 PM Jon Lenz <jlenz@marinschools.org> wrote:

> Hi [redacted]
>
> Thanks for reaching out – and Happy New Year to you!

Please be aware that we have tentatively scheduled a special meeting of the Marin County Committee on School District Organization (County Committee) on January 30, 2023. The meeting will be held at the Marin County Office of Education and the purpose of the meeting will be for the County Committee to consider the request from the Chief Petitioners to withdraw the East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition.

As part of this meeting, the County Committee is collecting feedback from those who signed the East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition. The feedback form can be found here. Public comment from others will be welcome during the public comment portion of the meeting.

A copy of the January 30th meeting agenda will be posted on the MCOE website at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

Best,

Jonathan Lenz
Deputy Superintendent

Marin County Office of Education
1111 Las Gallinas Avenue
San Rafael, CA 94903
(415) 499-5850



From: [redacted]
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2023 3:50 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Re: Closing-out East Corte Madera Transfer

Hi Kate and John - Adding you to below email with Robert Henry, looks like Terena retired. Hope you can help with an update on CCSDO's plan to close out this petition? Happy New year,

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

On Fri, Jan 6, 2023 at 3:35 PM [redacted] > wrote:

> Hi Bob and Terena, Happy New year! How the CCSDO closes this territory transfer doesn't necessarily matter in 2023, but when we look back in 5 or 20 years, A more historically accurate outcome of the past 3 months would be for the CCSDO to vote and reject/deny this petition unanimously. A withdrawal outcome doesn't seem right, after facts we made clear and having endured two full hearings (against my pleadings).
>
> We should only have the 'vote' option if 1) your board was 100% guaranteed to reject / Deny, and 2) if it didn't cost your department and more time or money (ie no ceqa or other).
>
> If these two items are certain, can CCSDO do this the right way? Can you share any other updates or progress you're making with the community?
>
> Thanks again, hope 2023 is off to a great start, Stay Dry!
>
> [redacted]
>
> [redacted]
>
> [redacted]

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RUSD Territory Transfer Public Hearing #2

[redacted]

Thu 12/15/2022 2:04 PM

To: CCSDO Mailbo CCSDO@marinschools.org

Cc: Terena Mares <tmares@marinschools.org>

1 attachments (3 MB)

[redacted]

Please see attached for my written disapproval of the territory transfer attempt for this 2nd public hearing and please feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Thank you,

[redacted]

December 15, 2022

To the members of the CCSDO,

As a resident of the East Corte Madera neighborhood facing this territory transfer petition, thank you for your involvement in this matter. I'm writing to reiterate that this attempt to change the territory and redistrict our neighborhood school should not now, or EVER, be allowed to happen.

In the November 30th Public Hearing, you heard first hand the overwhelming resistance within our community against this petition and our support to stay within the Reed Union School District.

As a homeowner who decided to purchase specifically in this East Corte Madera [redacted]ghborhood in 2013 because of RUSD, moving from San Francisco when our child was [redacted], we paid a premium for that privilege compared to other houses aroun[redacted]ur area [redacted]a part of LCMSD. We knew the school district we were buying into and our [redacted], now [redacted], has attended RUSD since Kindergarten and has built many friendships over these past [redacted] attending the Reed and Bel Aire schools.

We, along with the other RUSD families in our neighborhood did not take the risk of a 5yr IDT term for our children to attend LCMSD. We should not NOW or EVER be expected to have our kids be pulled from RUSD, our taxes raised and our property values affected by the selfishness of the minority of families who did agree to the risk they took on.

I want to respond to some of the arguments the petitioners have brought up during the last few school board meetings and public hearings.

The hardship of pulling LCMSD kids from The Cove.

I have a hard time addressing the logic the petitioners have in regards to this. Their kids are attending The Cove because of their own decisions to apply for a limited termed IDT with no guarantee of extension. The children are only there because of that decision and there was zero assurance it would go beyond 2022. Now they're willing to redistrict our entire neighborhood to preserve their children's relationships since the risk they took on didn't pay off and it's somehow okay to adversely affect the 2/3rds of the children in our neighborhood to be pulled away from the school district they reside in and attend, that our neighborhood has historically been a part of so that 1/3 of the children can stay at theirs, which their parents signed a termed IDT for? I don't see how it's right to pass that hardship along to the 2/3rds of the kids and the families who didn't take the risk of an IDT.

Hearsay and inaccuracies in how petitioners collected signatures.

[redacted]eiterate my first-hand experi[redacted]e when being approached with the petition at [redacted] here in Corte Madera. The [redacted] approached our house on June 8th asking for a signature "to support school choice" for our neighborhood and it was only after I pressed further about what the intention of the petition was for, asking if it was to change the school districts, that this man reluctantly acknowledged it was to do exactly that.

I was so taken aback by this attempt I texted my neighbors immediately and have the date on record. This mirrors the many others you've he[redacted]v used the when being approach[redacted] for their signatures, including [redacted], a RUSD [redacted] who resides in E[redacted]M, [redacted] spoke [redacted] at the first CCSDO pu[redacted]c hearing and at [redacted]ool board meetings about [redacted] experience. [redacted] wanted to withdraw [redacted] signature when [redacted] found out the true intention of the petition but it wasn't removed before it was submitted despite assurances it would be.

Pure and simple there was ZERO transparency in how this petition was sold and what its true intentions were. The process for collecting the signatures was flawed, the process to remove signatures when requested was flawed and it's approach for what it covers is flawed. Their sales pitch was about "choice", it wasn't about school[redacted]ing and that's why it's made it so far, built on the lies of the chief petitioners. Even [redacted], who was one of the signature[redacted]llectors, wanted to invalidate all the paperwork [redacted]submitted and endorsed [redacted]cause [redacted] w[redacted]misled[redacted] chief petitioners and therefore misled the people whose signatures [redacted] obtained, [redacted] know [redacted] involvement was misleading and bravely, for the right reasons, made this publicly known to the CCSDO in the 1st hearing.

The fact that there were different versions of the petition that were signed over the version that was submitted is appalling and grounds in itself that this petition should be denied. This is an ill conceived attempt to redistrict our neighborhood for the small group of families who took a risk, lost and now want the neighborhood to suffer so they can maintain status quo.

Corte Madera Schools for Corte Madera Kids.

This is disingenuous. 2/3rds of the kids in our neighborhood attend RUSD, the majority of us purchased here because of RUSD and enjoy the added property value of that access. Those that attend RUSD want to stay in RUSD, we don't want to attend LCMSD or we would've purchased a house in the LCMSD district.

It's glaring that this petition doesn't include all the residents in the city of Corte Madera who would still reside in the RUSD, all the residences along Paradise Drive the petitioners leapfrogged and excluded, including several single family homes and the residents of "The Preserve" apartments.

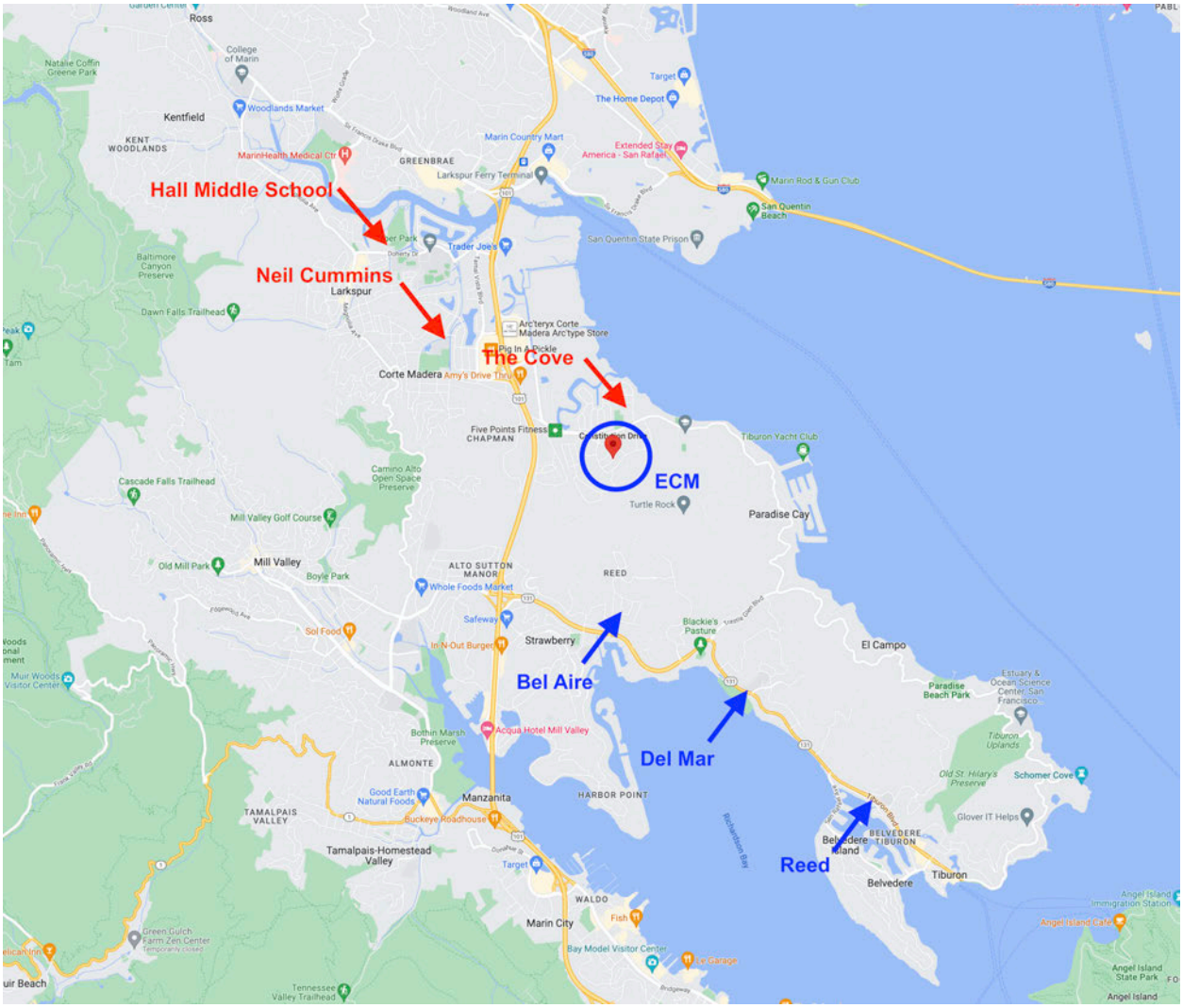
A few petitioners mentioned their real estate agents sold them on the ability to have a choice to attend both school districts. While that was a possibility when the IDT was in place, should the homeowners wanted to take the risk, they should take this issue up with their real estate agent if they're dissatisfied with their inability to maintain the IDT as ALL legal paperwork when purchasing a house clearly states what school district it resides in. Again, they signed legal documents knowing what school district they were buying into, they signed IDTs knowing the risk they were taking on, neither of these two things need to affect any of us who are happy being in and attending RUSD schools.

Our neighborhood's close proximity to The Cove for walking, biking and safety.

There is absolutely zero assurance that The Cove would be able to absorb all the kids who attend Reed and Bel Aire should this territory transfer occur, that means commuting further away to Neil Cummins, which is across the 101 freeway. Ironically the visuals the presenters had in the last public hearing highlighted only the Cove's proximity to our

neighborhood, it laughably did not encompass enough of the map to represent Neil Cummins or Hall Middle School to give the audience a bigger picture of the distances involved.

I'm happy to show you what that looks like:



The truth is, we live in Marin County, it's a sprawling community across a beautiful landscape which is the reason why a lot of us chose to live here over a more densely populated city. Having to drive around is a by-product of this landscape and families within Tiburon/ Belvedere have to commute to their schools, many with longer commutes than I have to the 3 RUSD schools.

As many others have mentioned, our ECM kids enjoy the school bus ride to the RUSD schools where they learn independence and form friendships, not only with ECM kids but also with the many Tiburon kids who use the buses. For parents like myself who drive our children to schoo[redacted]e never found it an inconvenience, it's a time for me to spend a little extra time with our [redacted] for the 7-10min commute we currently have from ECM to Bel Aire. That's right, I'm not spending hours a day in a car commuting to RUSD schools as some might lead you to believe.

This petition was an attempt to try and get leverage for IDT negotiations and when RUSD and LCMSD could not find an agreement, despite the generosity of RUSD's offer to maintain IDTs for affected families. This was their last ditch attempt to keep their kids in The Cove and in the process it hasn't created community in our neighborhood, it's done the exact opposite and created division. Just as notably, it's wasted the TIME and MONEY of parents, school boards and the CCSDO away from the myriad of other things it could be better spent. There is no "Silent Majority" who is waiting for a vote to happen, they are not scare to speak, the fact is they don't exist outside of who few families trying to fraudulently push this through.

I strongly encourage the CCSDO to not only stop this petition for a territory transfer now but to prevent it from EVER coming up again in the future.

The majority of families have unified to fight this now and will continue to do so again if this happens again. With RUSD opposing this territory transfer in the Nov 30th public hearing and now LCMSD officially opposing it after their recent Dec 12th school board meeting, the CCSDO should invalidate this petition and not let it go to a vote. Stop the process now and save all of us from having to waste more time, money and effort fighting a flawed petition.

Families who really want to stay at The Cove and LCMSD have always had, and still have, the choice to purchase a residence inside of LCMSD if they feel that is the most important thing for their children. That will not affect the 2/3rds of our community's children who attend RUSD and the vast majority of our households who wish to remain in the RUSD district maintaining our children's continuity, our taxes as structured and our houses value. A school redistricting will destroy our neighborhood and I know we would be one of many who would sell our houses if being part of the RUSD was under threat again.

Thank you,

[redacted]

Closing out East Corte Madera Transfer

[redacted]

Fri 1/6/2023 3:35 PM

To: [redacted]

Hi Bob and Terena, Happy New year! How the CCSDO closes this territory transfer doesn't necessarily matter in 2023, but when we look back in 5 or 20 years, A more historically accurate outcome of the past 3 months would be for the CCSDO to vote and reject/deny this petition unanimously. A withdrawal outcome doesn't seem right, after facts we made clear and having endured two full hearings (against my pleadings).

We should only have the 'vote' option if 1) your board was 100% guaranteed to reject / Deny, and 2) if it didn't cost your department and more time or money (ie no ceqa or other).

If these two items are certain, can CCSDO do this the right way? Can you share any other updates or progress you're making with the community?

Thanks again, hope 2023 is off to a great start, Stay Dry!

[redacted]

Status of Petition for School District Boundary Change

[redacted]

Fri 1/20/2023 11:15 AM

To: CCSDO Mailbo CCSDO@marinschools.org

Dear Mr. Lenz,

I wanted to confirm that the redistricting petition has successfully been withdrawn.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

[redacted]

From: Hilary Gibson <hgibson@nmgovlaw.com>
Sent: Friday, December 16, 2022 10:13 AM
To: Terena Mares <tmares@marinschools.org>
Subject: RE: Letter Re: East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition
Importance: High

Good morning, Ms. Mares,

Could you please confirm receipt of the below and attached at your earliest convenience?

Thank you,

Hilary J. Gibson, Partner

NIELSEN MERKSAMER
PARRINELLO GROSS & LEONI LLP

2350 Kerner Boulevard, Suite 250
San Rafael, California 94901
t: 415.389.6800 • f: 415.388.6874
e: hgibson@nmgovlaw.com

NIELSEN MERKSAMER

Please visit www.nmgovlaw.com for more information about our firm

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From: Hilary Gibson
Sent: Thursday, December 15, 2022 12:05 PM
To: [redacted]

Subject: Letter Re: East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition
Importance: High

Dear County Committee Members,

Please see the attached correspondence of today's date, regarding the East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition. We appreciate your attention to this correspondence, and ask that it be added to the official record for the proceedings on the Petition.

Sincerely,

Hilary J. Gibson, Partner

NIELSEN MERKSAMER
PARRINELLO GROSS & LEONI LLP

2350 Kerner Boulevard, Suite 250
San Rafael, California 94901
t: 415.389.6800 • f: 415.388.6874
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December 15, 2022

Marin County Committee on School District Organization
1111 Las Gallinas Avenue
San Rafael, CA 94903

VIA .PDF

Re: East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition

Dear County Committee Members,

Our firm has been retained to represent families in the Reed Union School District who oppose the petition for a transfer of territory from Reed Union School District ("RUSD") to Larkspur Corte Madera School District ("LCMSD"), hereinafter the "Petition." Our firm has extensive experience advising school districts and local community groups on school district governance and organization issues, and representing such clients before both local bodies and the State Board of Education.

We note at the outset that as of the writing of this letter, the RUSD Board of Trustees has voted unanimously to formally oppose the Petition, and has adopted a resolution memorializing that opposition. After the first public hearing on November 30, 2022, the LCMSD Board of Trustees also adopted a resolution formally opposing the Petition. In public comment made at the November 30th public hearing, RUSD Trustee Liz Webb stated that the County Committee had received 166 individual comments and emails opposing the Petition, compared to only 21 in support. RUSD also received almost a hundred comments opposing the Petition, and a great many community members appeared at the November 30th public hearing to voice their opposition to the County Committee. There is, in other words, broad consensus in opposition to the Petition (including by the affected Districts themselves), and only a small, vocal minority in support.

Pursuant to California Education Code § 35710, the County Committee *may* approve the Petition *only* if it finds that all nine (9) of the conditions enumerated in Education Code § 35753 are substantially met. At the first public hearing and in the communications from the community prior to that

hearing, the County Committee received testimony detailing the numerous reasons why the proposed transfer of territory does not meet these conditions. A letter from RUSD Superintendent Kimberly McGrath, dated November 29, 2022, provides information about district demographics/diversity, enrollment, district finances, and educational programs, all of which would be negatively impacted by the proposed territory transfer. We understand that RUSD plans to continue to build upon this already robust analysis with further information detailing why the nine (9) statutory criteria are not met. Our intent is to supplement, rather than repeat, that analysis with information about which the opposed families are uniquely qualified to speak—the substantial community identity they experience as part of RUSD. (See Ed. Code § 35753(a)(2).)

The letters and comments from those opposed to the Petition speak to the deep community ties that would be lost if the 463 parcels included in the Petition were to be transferred from RUSD to LCMSD. These communications tell of families who planned their lives—purchased their homes, enrolled their children in school and extracurricular activities, and became involved with their communities and schools—based on the reasonable expectation that their homes would remain in their assigned school district. These families speak of bonds forged on the bus on the way to school, on sports teams, and volunteering in their children's classrooms. RUSD parents living in the area proposed to be transferred serve in leadership roles on the PTA, Foundation, and School Board. They coach baseball teams in the Tiburon Peninsula Little League, which includes the communities of Tiburon, Belvedere, East Corte Madera, Strawberry (Mill Valley), and Angel Island. Their children play soccer and tennis in the Tiburon Peninsula soccer and tennis clubs. This community involvement, and the friendships formed on the baseball/softball diamond, the soccer field, and the tennis courts, contribute to the substantial community identity shared by families in RUSD.

These comments also confirm that the question of distance between home and school, an issue to which those in support of the Petition assign paramount importance, may, at the elementary school level, be relevant to some and less so to others—while the families supporting the transfer tout the benefits of being able to walk to school, many of those opposed (including former RUSD students who rode the bus to school in their younger years) speak to the experience of riding the school bus as one that fosters both friendships and independence. However, it must also be noted that the issue of distance becomes completely irrelevant (and arguably cuts the *other* way) at the middle school level, as the homes proposed to be transferred are in fact *closer* to RUSD's middle school than they are to LCMSD's middle school.

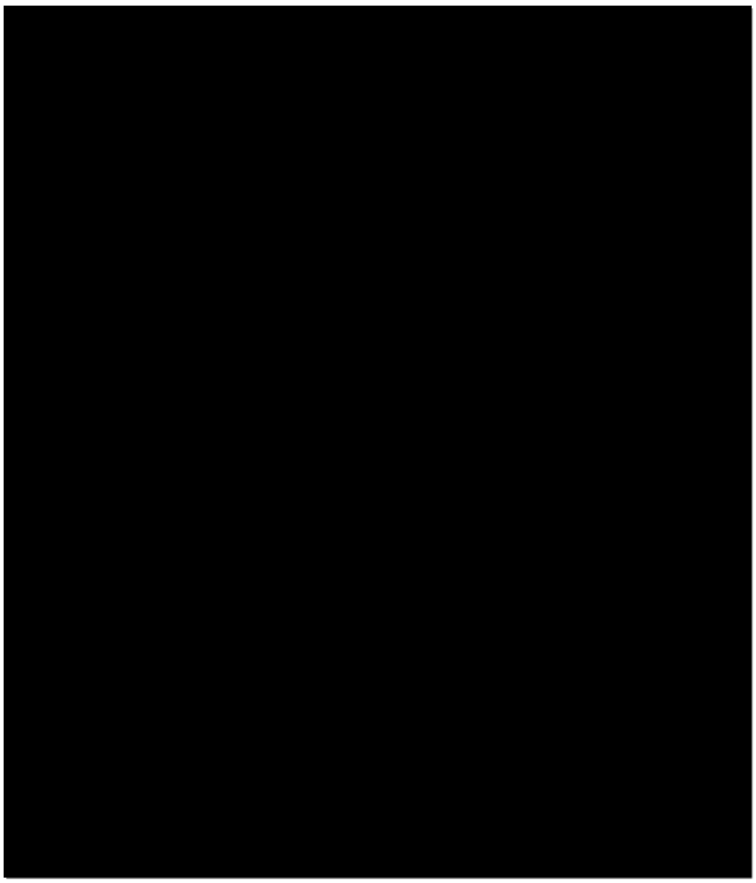
We appreciate the County Committee's careful attention to this matter, and to the many voices that have weighed in regarding the experience of families and children in East Corte Madera. In light of the substantial body of information that has been provided to date showing that the statutory criteria specified in Education Code § 35753 are not met, which we anticipate will only continue to grow as the County Committee continues its evaluation of the Petition, we urge the County Committee to deny the Petition to transfer territory from RUSD to LCMSD.

Sincerely,

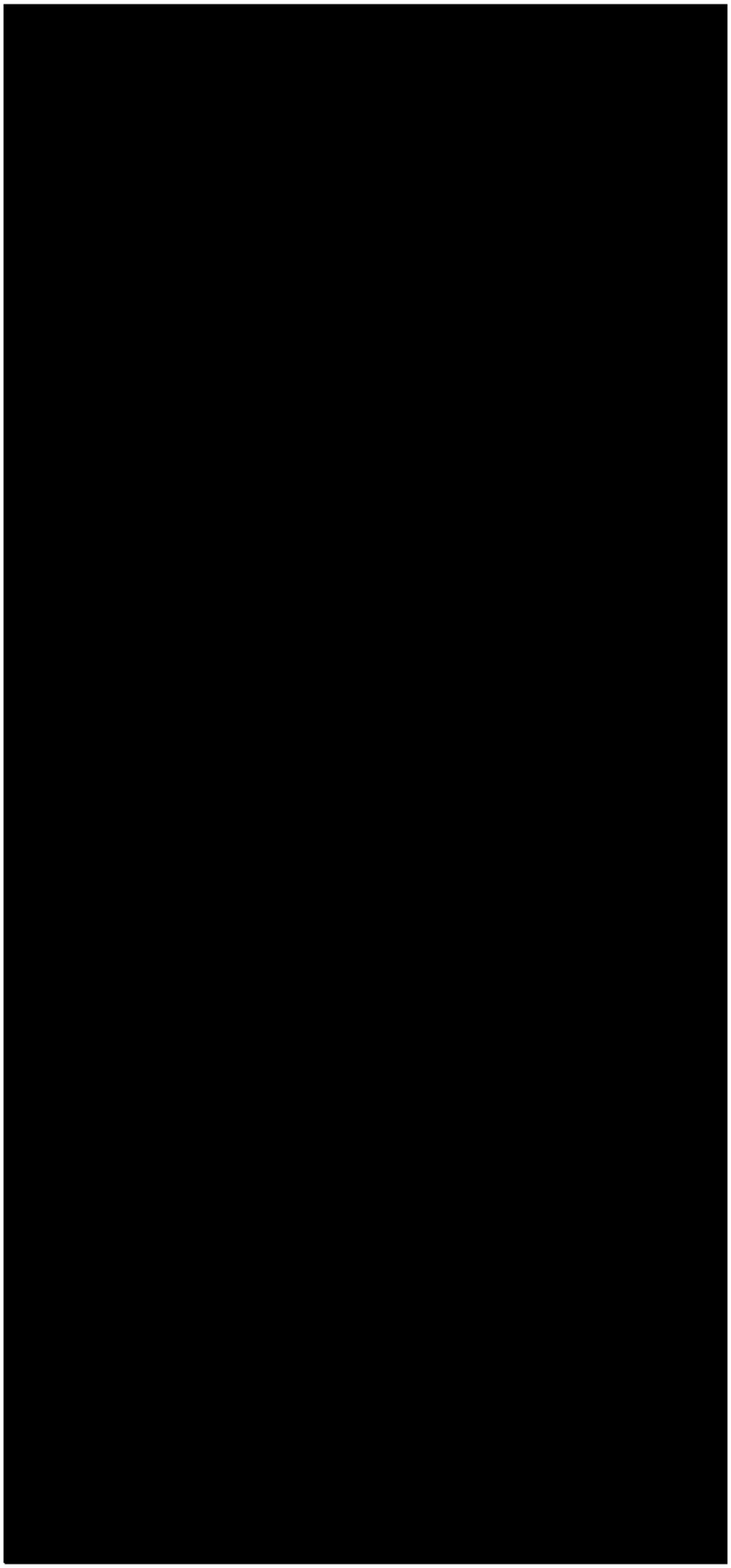
Hilary J. Gibson

On behalf of:

Peter Sherrer
Angela Sherrer
Kris Kilayko
Brian Sadigursky
Ariana Ghelfi
Arnaud Ghelfi
Valerie Flahive
Dana McRay
Blake McRay
Tracy Cameron
Summer Tokarz
Paul Tokarz
Josh Neland



Clare Neland
Scott Hibbard
Lindsey Hibbard
Marc Chu
Valerie Chu
Cheryl Gross
Emily Rusting
Jacob Rusting
Khashi Mohebali
Carolina Martinez
Jose Puentes
Susan Parker
James Parker
Stephanie Ham
Luke Ham
Carl Krawitt
Jodi Krawitt
Whitney Davidson
Liliana Espinosa
Stacy UyBico
Joel Hernandez
Jeff Diener
Jacquelyn Lambert
Mark Lambert
Maria Gutierrez
Kalon Gutierrez
Valeria Pinna
Amy Krause



Vince Chhabria

Amy Dugdale

Alexis Dugdale

Seth Frederiksen

Suzanne Coppola

Erin Muller

Daniel Muller

Dana Harden

Garrett Harden

Jason Cammisa

Dylan Dupuis

Yosselyn Dupuis

Raquel Newman

Megan McKinley

Carrie Bourguignon

Mark Bourguignon

Amira Iskander

Ramy Ibrahim

Mimi Woo

Jong Woo

Fatma Betül Kinalilar

Berk Kinalilar

Albert Lee

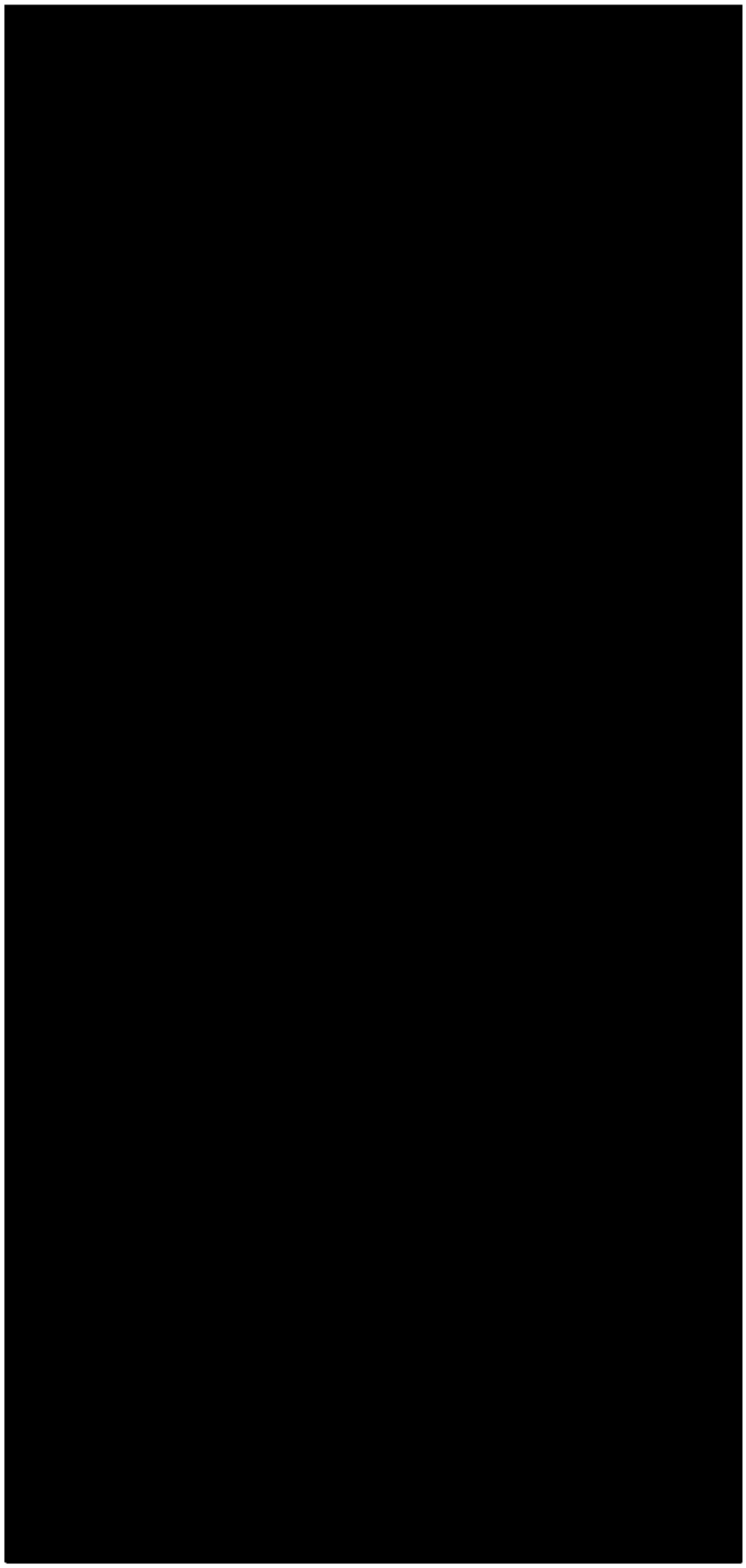
Candice Truempert-Lee

Ariel Vigo

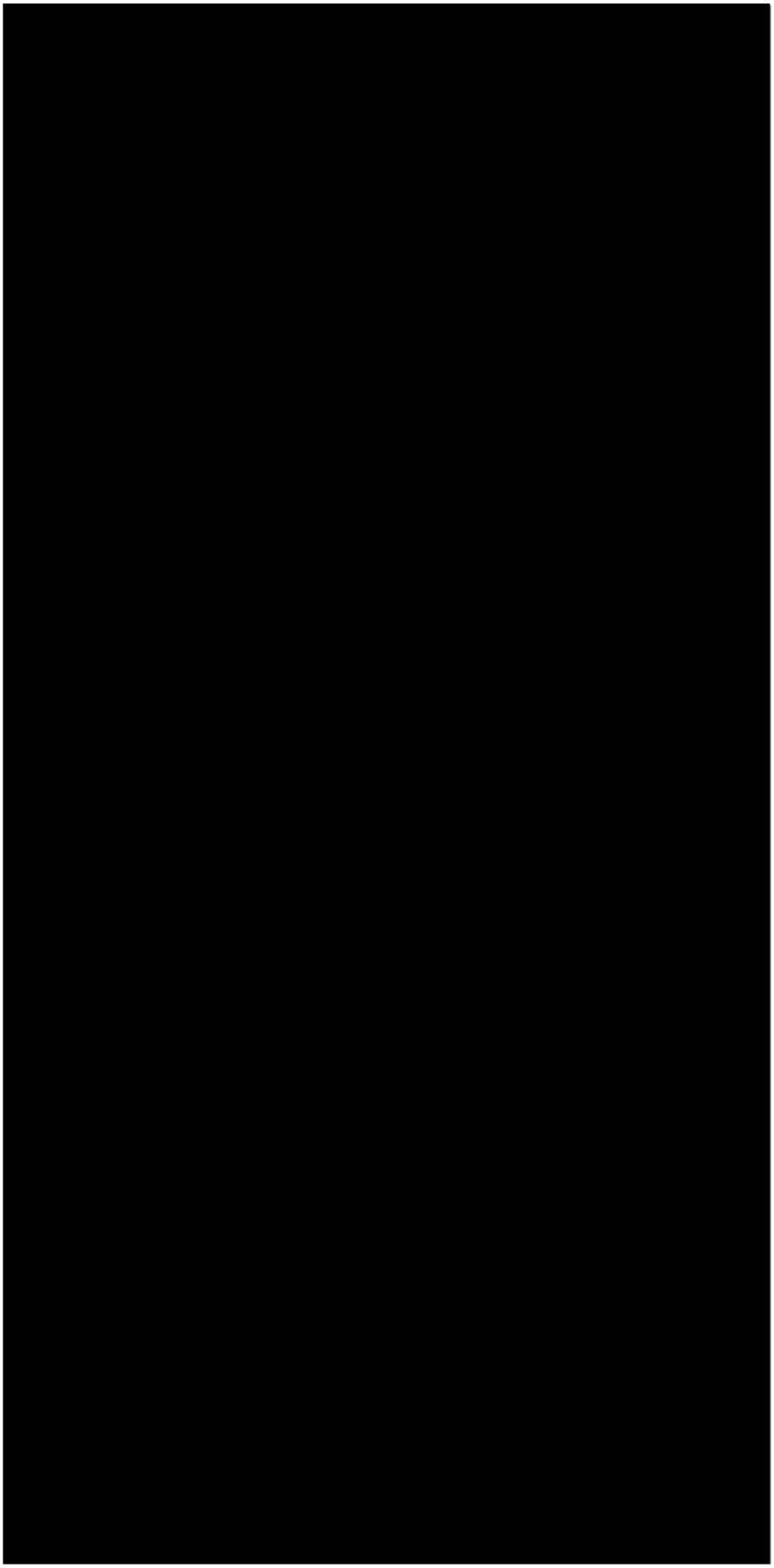
Jeremy Watt

Shannon Everley

Terry Everley



Emily Mohebali
Juan Fiorentini
Teresa Fiorentini
Jim Glennon
Karin Smyth
Jennifer Feldman
Marshall Feldman
Linda Tull
Matthew Carlson
Maya Tuve
Arin Bass
Adam Lasoff
Timothy Jolis
Karen Burrous
Gabor Nagy
Mai Katsube
Courtney Denis
Mark Denis
Bojana Rnjak
Omri Berger
Jessica Glennon
Peter McSweeney
Cory McSweeney
Jenna Brady
Michel San Galli
Emily Rose
Jennifer Engstrom
Brian Engstrom



Heather Samaras

Gretchen LeBuhn

Mark Reynolds

Lucy Churton

Ken Churton

Andrea Dyer

Michael Miller

Sanford Redlich

Ute Schulz

Chris Stiller

Nicole Stiller

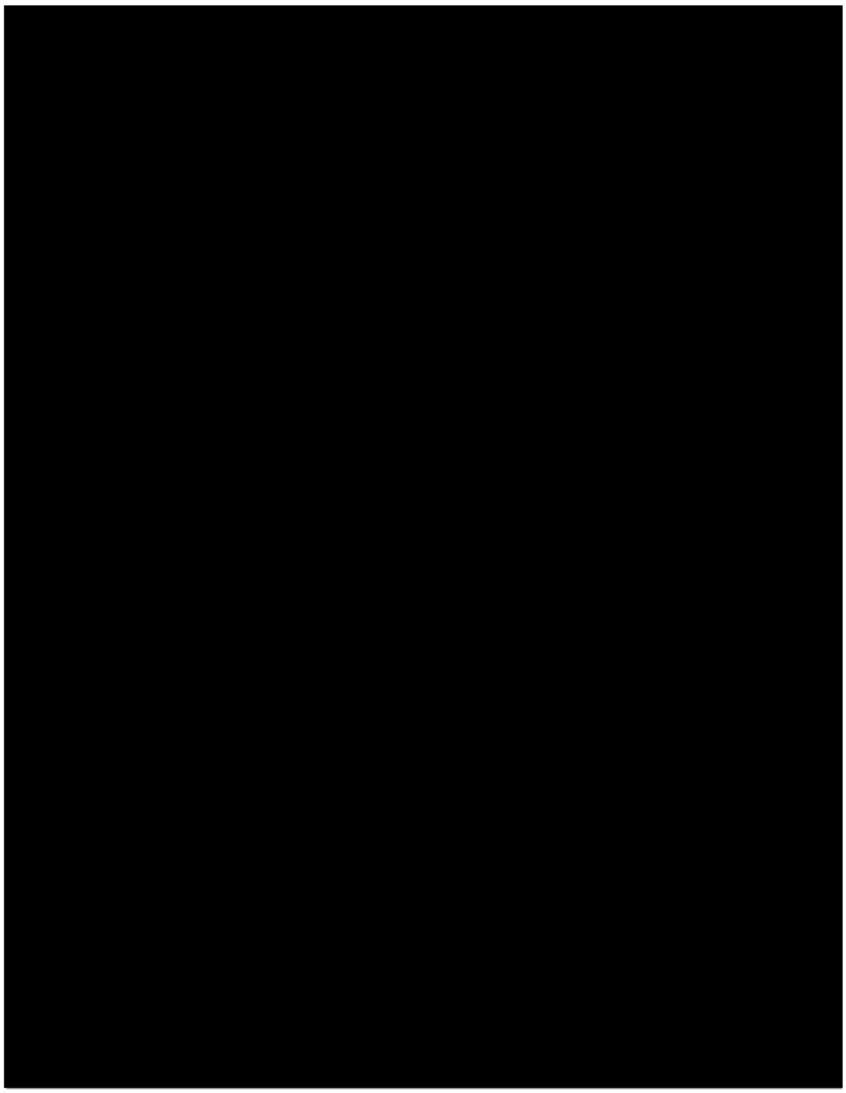
Sam Madden

Laura Madden

Susan Moellenberg

Keith Collins

Jennifer Corbell



Draft Resolution No. 001-2023

MARIN COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION
RESOLUTION NO. 001-2023

Whereas, the East Corte Madera territory transfer petition here at issue seeks to transfer territory form one school district to another; and

Whereas, the petition was filed with the Marin County Office of Education on October 27, 2022; and

Whereas, on October 28, 2022 the petition was submitted to the Marin County Registrar of Voters (Registrar) for verification of the required signatures; and

Whereas, on November 10, 2022 the Registrar issued a certified verification of sufficient signatures; and

Whereas, the Registrar's verification found that there were 281 signatures on the petition, of which 247 were verified as registered voters; and

Whereas, under Education Code section 35700 the petition required 228 verified signatures based on a total of 909 registered voters in the area subject to the proposed transfer; and

Whereas, on November 11, 2022 the Marin County Superintendent of Schools validated the petition under Education Code section 35704 and submitted the petition to the Marin County Committee on School District Organization (Committee); and

Whereas, in accordance with Education Code section 35705 the first public hearing on the proposed transfer was held on November 30, 2022; and

Whereas, at the first public hearing a total of 45 individuals addressed the Committee; and

Whereas, in addition to the number of speakers the Committee received 187 written communications from members of the public; and

Whereas, most of the speakers and most of the written communications objected to the petition on either procedural grounds (related largely to allegations involving the integrity of the signature gathering process) or substantive grounds (based on the mandated criteria for transfers of territory as set forth in the Education Code); and

Whereas, on December 15, 2022 a second public hearing on the petition was held, in accordance with Education Code section 35705; and

Whereas, at the second public hearing the Committee heard from 23 speakers and received 30 written documents from members of the public regarding both procedural and substantive aspects of the petition; and

Whereas, at the second public hearing the Chief Petitioners made a request to withdraw the petition; and

Whereas, legal counsel for the Committee stated that acting on advice from the State Department of Education the chief petitioners lacked the prerogative to unilaterally withdraw the petition; and

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Whereas, the Committee adjourned the second public hearing with the understanding that a special meeting of the Committee would be held at which time the Committee would further consider its options with respect to the Chief Petitioners' request to withdraw the petition; and

Whereas, subsequent to the second public hearing the Committee did receive formal notice from the Chief Petitioners regarding their request to withdraw the petition; and

Whereas, the Committee also received formal notice from both of the interested school districts supporting the effort to withdraw the petition; and

Whereas, after the petition was filed with the County Superintendent of Schools approximately 58 individuals, many of whom have publicly identified themselves as having signed the petition, have expressed a desire to withdraw their names from the petition; and

Whereas, it is settled law that those who sign a petition may not remove their name from the petition once it is filed; and

Whereas, in contrast to removing a name from the petition it is also settled law that the collective petitioners who signed a petition may withdraw the petition at any time before the election is held on the subject matter of the petition; and

Whereas, it appears reasonable to assume that even though they cannot now remove their names from the petition those individuals do support withdrawal of the petition; and

Whereas, although it may not be determinative that the 58 individuals who have self-identified as having signed the petition and have subsequently requested that their names be removed from the petition now support withdrawal of the petition; and

Whereas, the total number of those seeking to withdraw their names from the petition may be material to the issue of whether sufficient support exists to now withdraw the petition; and

Whereas, the Committee is aware that significant public school funds will be spent on continuing to process the petition, including the costs of conducting the Environmental Impact Review (EIR) process, as required under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), further hearings and meetings; and a possible election; and

Whereas, the Committee is aware that substantial publicity has been given to the Chief Petitioners request to withdraw the petition; and

Whereas, the Committee has reviewed the entire record and considered all the information submitted to it; and

Whereas, the Committee has exercised its independent discretion in making these findings and conclusions;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that…

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[Option 1]

The Committee determines that on balance it is in the best interest of the public that the petition here at issue should be and is hereby withdrawn;

And that as soon as this resolution is duly executed the staff shall provide a copy to the State Department of Education, the chief petitioners, and the two school districts, and shall post this resolution on the Committees web site for a minimum of 60 days.

[Option 2]

The Committee determines that on balance it is in the best interest of the public that the petition not be withdrawn and that the Code required process shall be followed to its conclusion;

[Option 3]

The Committee is not yet prepared to address the request to withdraw the petition and requests the following information and/or process be followed before considering the matter further------

[Options 4, etc.]

Further options as may be determined by the Committee.

Duly and regularly adopted this 31st day of January 2023, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

_____
DEBBIE BUTLER, Chairperson
Marin County Committee on
School District Organization

ATTEST:

JOHN CARROLL
Marin County Superintendent of Schools

_____
JON LENZ, Secretary Designee
Marin County Committee on
School District Organization

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