

MARIN COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

Special Meeting

*Reed Union School District
Del Mar Middle School Gymnasium
105 Avenida Miraflores
Tiburon, CA 94920*

Thursday, December 15, 2022 at 6:00 pm

The meeting of the Marin County Committee on School District Organization (CCSDO) will be 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).**

A G E N D A

- | | |
|---|------------|
| 1. Welcome/Call to Order | Ms. Butler |
| 2. Attendance/Introductions | Ms. Butler |
| a. Committee Members by Roll Call | Ms. Mares |
| 3. Consider Approval and Adoption of Agenda | Ms. Butler |
| 4. Consider Approval of Minutes, CCSDO Meeting of December 14, 2022 | Ms. Butler |
| 5. Open Public Hearing | Ms. Butler |
| a. Explanation of the Petition & Presentation of Facts | Ms. Mares |
| b. Guidelines for Public Hearing | Ms. Butler |
| c. Chief Petitioners | 15-Minutes |
| d. Reed Union School District Representatives | 15-Minutes |
| e. Larkspur Corte Madera School District Representatives | 15-Minutes |

Each member of the public who wishes to address the committee will be limited to 2-minutes. Time may be shortened at the discretion of the chairperson.

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|------------------------|------------|
| f. Petition Proponents | 45-Minutes |
| g. Petition Opponents | 45-Minutes |
| h. Others | 45-Minutes |
| i. Next Steps | Ms. Mares |

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|--|------------|
| 6. Close Public Hearing | Ms. Butler |
| 7. Public Comments on Closed Session | Ms. Butler |
| 8. Closed Session | Ms. Butler |
| a. Anticipated Litigation (Govt. Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)), (one case) East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition | |
| 9. Reconvene in Open Session | Ms. Butler |
| 10. Adjournment | Ms. Butler |

Agenda Item 4:

Consider Approval of Minutes, CCSDO

Meeting of December 14, 2022

MARIN COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

Special Meeting December 14, 2022 | 6:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

The meeting of the Marin County Committee on School District Organization (CCSDO) was held on Wednesday, December 14, 2022 beginning at 6:00 pm in the Sausalito Marin City School District Library (200 Phillips Drive, Marin City, CA 94965).

AGENDA ITEM 1: Call to Order

Chairperson Debbie Butler called the meeting to order at 6:00 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 (6:46 PM)
Elizabeth Robbins	Y
Richard Sloan	Y
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 14, 2022 Agenda.

M/s/c O'Brien and Tanenberg; to approve the December 14, 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 5, 2022

Chairperson Butler called for a motion to approve the December 5, 2022 Minutes of the Special Meeting.

M/s/c Moses and O'Brien; to approve the December 5, 2022 Meeting Minutes as submitted.

Motion carried:	Aye: 9	No:	Abstain:	Absent: 2
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AGENDA ITEM 5: Open Public Hearing

Chairperson Butler opened the public hearing at 6:01 p.m.

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

Secretary Designee Terena Mares introduced the Tennessee Glen 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 Petitioner Pam Keon addressed the County Committee.

AGENDA ITEM 5d: Sausalito Marin City School District

Dr. Itoco Garcia, Superintendent from the Sausalito Marin City School District, addressed the County Committee.

AGENDA ITEM 5e: Mill Valley School District

Representatives from the Mill Valley School District were not in attendance. A statement from Kimberly Berman, Mill Valley Superintendent was included in the meeting packet.

AGENDA ITEM 5f: Petition Proponents

0 proponents of the petition addressed the County Committee.

AGENDA ITEM 5g: Petition Opponents

0 opponents of the petition addressed the County Committee. 1 person addressed the County Committee with a neutral comment.

AGENDA ITEM 5h: Next Steps

The Secretary Designee on behalf of the County Committee, is sending a Request for Proposals (RFP) to secure the services of an environmental consultant to conduct the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)/environmental impact review. The County Committee is tentatively holding meeting dates in early March to make the decision regarding the Tennessee Glen territory transfer petition, assuming the CEQA review is complete by that time.

AGENDA ITEM 6: Close Public Hearing

Chairperson Butler closed the public hearing at 6:59 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 7: Adjournment

Chairperson Butler called for a motion to adjourn the December 14, 2022 Meeting.

M/s/c Crocket and O'Brien; to approve the adjournment of the December 14, 2022 Meeting.

Motion carried:	Aye: 10	No:	Abstain:	Absent: 1
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Chairperson Butler adjourned the meeting at 7:00 pm.

Agenda Item 5a:

Explanation of the Petition & Presentation of Facts

1. Petition Received by County Superintendent of Schools: 10/27/2022
2. Petition Submitted to the Registrar of Voters: 10/28/2022
3. Certificate of Petition Verification Received from the Registrar of Voters: 11/10/2022
4. County Superintendent of Schools Validated Petition: 11/11/2022
5. Number of Parcels in Territory: 463
6. Number of Registered Voters in Territory: 909
7. Number of Signatures on Petition: 281
8. Number of Valid Signatures: 247
9. Number of Individual Emails/Comments Received Regarding Petition
 - a. In Support of Petition: 33
 - b. In Opposition to Petition: 194

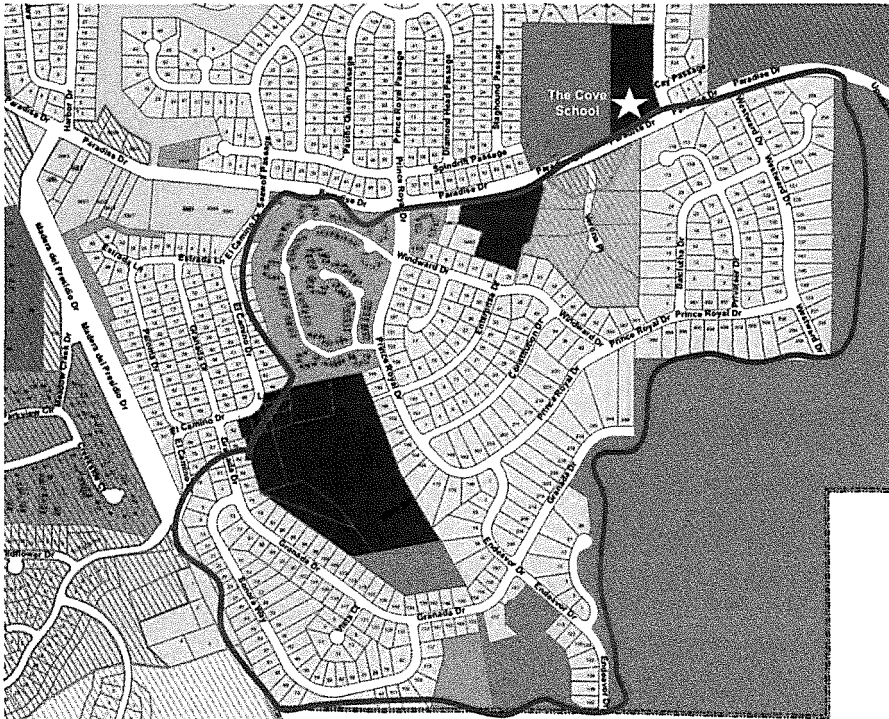
PETITION FOR TRANSFER OF TERRITORY

To the Superintendent of Schools of Marin County:

Pursuant to *Education Code* Section 35700, subdivision (a), the undersigned, constituting at least 25 percent of the registered electors residing in the territory proposed to be transferred, now within the boundaries of the Reed Union School District, Marin County, petition that the boundaries of the Reed Union School District be changed to eliminate from it the territory hereinafter described. The undersigned persons petition that the territory be transferred to and included within the Larkspur Corte Madera School District of Marin County.

The property to be transferred is described as follows:

The 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 undersigned request the changes in the respective boundaries of the school districts for the following reasons:

1. The territory is geographically part of the Town of Corte Madera and therefore should be included in the Larkspur Corte Madera School District. This neighborhood should attend their community schools. The distance from this territory to the Reed Union School District requires us to leave our community for school. Ring Mountain is a natural barrier between our neighborhood and Tiburon, separating this neighborhood from a true community experience with the Reed Union School District.
2. The Cove School (of the Larkspur Corte Madera School District) opened in 2014 and has close proximity to this territory. It is on average less than 1 mile (a range of 0.2 - 1.1 miles) from our territory to The Cove School, whereas it is on average over 5 miles (a range of 4.9-5.9 miles) to Reed Elementary of the Reed Union School District. It is in the best interest of kids to attend their community school and to then continue in the district through 8th grade for social/emotional growth and educational consistency. Additionally, Hall Middle School of the Larkspur Corte Madera School District is on average a half a mile closer (a range of .2 - 1 miles closer) than Del Mar of Reed Union School District.
3. Some streets in this neighborhood are already in the attendance boundaries for the Larkspur Corte Madera School District. Incorporating these streets into the district is a continuation of the attendance

boundaries that would bring our neighborhood back together so everyone in the Marin Estates, Mariner Green, and East Corte Madera Hillside subdivisions would attend the same school district as other neighborhoods in Corte Madera.

The Chief Petitioners for the purpose of receiving notices and so forth are:

- 1. Craig Blok [redacted] [redacted]
- 2. Heather Armstrong Choate [redacted] [redacted]
[redacted]
- 3. Paul Burton [redacted]

Corte Madera Schools *for* Corte Madera Kids

ALIGNING SCHOOLS WITH OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

A petition with more than 25% registered-voter support is currently being validated. It supports **changing the school district boundaries** for areas of East Corte Madera (ECM) **from Reed Union School District (RUSD) to the Larkspur-Corte Madera School District (LCMSD).**

We are still hopeful that RUSD and LCMSD can reach an agreement that allows current IDT students and siblings to continue in LCMSD through Hall middle school.

WHY SUPPORT THE PETITION?

• COMMUNITY CONTINUITY - DEEPER SENSE OF BELONGING

- Align our children's schools with our local community's identity
- Create consistency and convenience of extracurricular activities and sports teams within our community

• PROXIMITY OF SCHOOLS TO HOME

- The Cove is steps away from our homes - walk, bike, scoot with friends
- Safer in an emergency. Easier for kids to unite and egress with families
- Lowers carbon footprint - reduced Tiburon Blvd traffic
- Commute time saves over one hour per day; 20+ hours per month

• CLEAR PATHWAY FOR RUSD FAMILIES TO REMAIN AT RUSD

- LCMSD BP 5117 provides a path for funding for kids to go to RUSD
- LCMSD and IDT families have always been committed to school choice

The updating of ECM district boundaries is overdue. RUSD's Granada School (in ECM) closed in 1980s. LCMSD's Cove School opened in 2014. Our neighborhood school has changed, yet district boundaries remain unchanged. Let's make the change so our kids can attend the schools in their community and get them off the roads and into the classroom.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Date: December 1, 2022 at 9:06:39 PM PST
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: East Corte Madera territory transfer

Hello!

My name is [REDACTED], and I live on [REDACTED] in East Corte Madera. Earlier this year, I signed a petition for the territory transfer. At the time, I had the understanding that the people of East Corte Madera would be able to vote on such a transfer. Since that doesn't seem to be the case, PLEASE REMOVE MY NAME/SIGNATURE FROM THE PETITION.

I oppose this territory transfer, and I want to remain a part of RUSD.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Date: December 1, 2022 at 7:53:23 PM PST
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Letter following last night's public hearing

Mary Jane and Terena,

I am writing to express my extreme disappointment in the way last night's public hearing was handled. Specifically, it was very disheartening to hear so many lies at the first public hearing from Reed supporters.

First, the question of the petition validity. Only one woman, [REDACTED], came forward saying she misled people. No supporter of the ECM petition lied. It looks like it was just that one woman. She is also claiming she was told to lie. That is simply not true. Attached are multiple emails where she was clearly supportive of redistricting. She knew what she was doing. Her comments should be struck from the record. Earlier this year, she also cried in the gallery in front of no less than 40 people saying she felt like a "red headed stepchild" at Reed for so many reasons including not being able to ride bikes to school during walk and roll days.

The lies, hate, and bullying coming from the Reed board and parents in this neighborhood has been severely disappointing and downright terrifying. Whether it be the fabrication of reality from [REDACTED], or [REDACTED] saying she bought her house in this neighborhood for Reed schools when she texted me a year ago saying she was jealous we got into the Cove and that gave her renewed hope (message attached). Whether it be [REDACTED] accosting my husband in our driveway of our home. Whether it be [REDACTED] publicly posting on Nextdoor that "maybe we should just go around with a petition that says we're going to demolish [REDACTED] house" (also attached).

I don't know if this sounds scary to you all, but in the world we live in today it is in fact VERY scary to be on the receiving end of these threats from the Reed community.

What are the morals of these Reed parents? What are they teaching their children?

Words in my [REDACTED] report card from the Cove last week stated "Social Emotional Learning is a Guiding Principle at Cove. We create safe, inclusive environments that celebrate differences. We are flexible, collaborative and reflective. It is expected that each child treats everyone with respect, using kind words and conflict resolution strategies to solve problems."

I truly feel this from the Cove community. And I have truly experienced the diametric opposite from the Reed parents in our neighborhood.

The bottom line is that we are trying to do the right thing. Not only from "a small group of people" which is the narrative they are pushing, but from the families we hear from and continue to hear from every year. The families that tried so hard and were forced to go to Reed, the current families on IDT, and the new families looking at their options. It doesn't take a lot to uncover that most people do not want to commute an hour to work or school. Our realtor recently told us that she went to Reed and felt bad for the ECM kids because they were picked on every day. Our values are squarely set in doing the right thing and being the voice of a large portion of the community that does indeed want this.

I understand no one wants to uproot their children from their current schools. We don't want any child to be uprooted.

Why did "school choice" not pass? Why has Reed not agreed to taking current students if there is funding coming alongside it? Why are they so committed to their agenda and not working with the community? The sharp words from [REDACTED] at the public hearing clearly showed that they are after their own agenda and not doing what is in the best interest for the children whose stability and upbringing are at stake here.

I plead with you to use your power and influence to do the right thing for this community.

Best,



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From: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Redistricting petition - let's do this!
Date: December 1, 2022 at 7:31:40 PM PST
To: [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: [REDACTED]
Date: May 25, 2022 at 10:13:31 AM PDT
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Redistricting petition - let's do this!

I'm SO DOWN. I can't meet tomorrow, any time Friday and Saturday. I echo [REDACTED] urgency- we basically have until June 10 to collect 140 signatures on a petition in favor of redistricting. Just want to put the anxiety out there so we can MOVE on this IMMEDIATELY. sorry for all the caps. But the pressure is seriously on otherwise this isn't going to happen and reed will just take our kids back. I don't think they give a flying duck about our kids going to the cove.

That's my 2 cents.

Best, [REDACTED]

On May 25, 2022, at 10:03 AM, [REDACTED] wrote:

Let's do it!!!!

I can't tonight, but can tomorrow during day, and I could in the evening, but really want to watch warriors game.

Can also on Friday during day or evening

I have the entire summer off work so look forward to this being my project!

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

On May 25, 2022, at 9:54 AM, [REDACTED] wrote:

Hi friends,

All of a sudden [REDACTED] and I are feeling like we need to start the redistricting movement for a number of reasons. Like now, ASAP. And I want to give it a try in our little pocket of Marin Estates - up Granada to where it meets Endeavor, Sonora, and Vista Ct. This would make it so our side of the hill, along with the flat streets, would all be LCM.

I have lots to share, including reasons why we need to move on this ASAP, but I'd rather meet in person to think it through and get started.

I'm emailing this group because after collecting anecdotal stories of families we know who prefer LCM, the 4 of us know a good share of them and we geographically share the same part of the neighborhood.

So I ask you...

1. Do you want to get this effort started??

2. Can we meet, in person, ASAP, to talk it through and get it going? Ideally we'll set aside 2 hours. The nature of this school district stuff has been so last minute but it's incredibly important to our family - I'd even take time off work to meet with you all. Please let me know when you are free this week so we can get going. I could do 5:00 or later any night this week (except for tonight) but I prefer to start closer to 5 rather than later. If you all are moved to start tonight, I'm free closer to 7:00.

I'm attaching the petition [REDACTED] put together a number of years ago for reference. Let's do this!

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Tuesday 6/14, RUSD board meeting
Date: December 1, 2022 at 7:38:39 PM PST
To: [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: [REDACTED]
Date: June 14, 2022 at 8:00:23 AM PDT
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Subject: Tuesday 6/14, RUSD board meeting

Hi parents,

If you can attend the board meeting tonight, please do so. Listed in the agenda is an update to the IDT process and a "transfer of territory", ie our petition.

Superintendent McGrath is recruiting people from our neighborhood to speak tonight likely AGAINST our petition to redistrict. We need to show up again. This item IS on the

agenda.

Please come tonight if you can. I know it's last minute.

The agenda link is below. Attached is the pdf referring to the IDT process update and one of the last pages mentions the "transfer of territory".

Please confirm if you can attend the meeting tonight. Also if you're willing, please plan to speak.

<https://www.agendaonline.net/public/Meeting.aspx?AgencyID=111&MeetingID=86844&AgencyTypeID=1&IsArchived=False>

Best,

On Jun 11, 2022, at 9:41 PM, [REDACTED] wrote:

Hi IDT community,

We are preparing to turn in a petition to the Marin County Office of Education requesting a change in the LCMSD attendance boundaries to include the east Corte Madera hillside. I am passing along a meeting organized by Mary Jane Burke that will address the legal process of requesting such a change at the local, county, and state levels. Please read her message below - **the virtual meeting is on 6/15 at 5:00pm.** I encourage all of you to attend and submit any questions you have about the petition or process of redistricting.

Please note: We still have not heard from the districts regarding an updated interdistrict transfer agreement between LCMSD and RUSD - this topic will not be addressed in this meeting.

Best,

[REDACTED]

FROM MARY JANE BURKE:

Hi All: [SEP 1 11:11 AM]

Please join us for a virtual informational webinar that will cover the intricacies and legal steps involved to process a transfer of a school district territory on **Wednesday, June 15 from 5:00PM – 6:00PM.**

My colleagues Terena Mares, Senior Deputy Superintendent and Jon Lenz, Assistant Superintendent, will lead us through this discussion. Please submit any questions you might have prior to the webinar to superintendentsoffice@marinschools.org.

The flyer attached and below is in English and Spanish. Webinar will be recorded and presented in English with live Spanish translation.

Please click [HERE](#) to join the webinar | Dial In: +1 408-638-0968 | Webinar ID: 816-0391-1030 | Passcode: 149549

Thank you, in advance, for sharing far and wide with your school communities.

Best,

Mary Jane



We're at curious minds by the dmv. I talked to the CM/L registration person and she told me that they haven't been able to fulfill any transfer requests for cove in the last few years. Are you guys at Reed? How do you like it??

Odd! We are at the Cove and we love it!! It is so great to be in this community. I have another friend who is trying to get in the Cove for the fall kindergarten class. You might know her too - [REDACTED] on [REDACTED]. Hoping it works out for you both!! 🙌 🙌 🙌

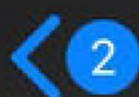
Oh wow that's amazing!! I'm so jealous! How did you get in?!

We got lucky the year [REDACTED] was going. We found out in May that they had opened up another class so everyone that year got in. Are you guys up for kindergarten this fall? I'd love to connect you with [REDACTED] because



iMessage





DM



Dana >

We got lucky the year [REDACTED] was going. We found out in May that they had opened up another class so everyone that year got in. Are you guys up for kindergarten this fall? I'd love to connect you with [REDACTED] because she's been all over it this year. We should do a neighborhood moms happy hour soon!

Wow that's so awesome!! I actually met [REDACTED] in an awkward way - her dog play bit [REDACTED] at skunk hollow and but they connected on their similar names 😊 but yes I would love to do a happy hour and hear about her experience! Thanks for the renewed hope though - I had given up after talking to the registration person! [REDACTED] isn't eligible for [REDACTED] until 2022

* 1. [REDACTED] / 2. [REDACTED] 😄

Oh! That is an awkward way to meet. I love the story about how



iMessage



start a new petition to prosecute [REDACTED] for fraud. The signatures were obtained by deceiving their neighbors.

20 min ago [Like](#) [Reply](#) [Share](#)



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] it's not democracy when the signatures are fraudulently obtained.

Maybe we should just go around with a petition that says that we're going to demolish [REDACTED] house, but tell you that it's a petition to build a homeless shelter, far away from the city, of course. Would that be democracy?

14 min ago [Like](#) [Reply](#) [Share](#)

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] these posts from RUSD families inciting violence are abhorrent, sickening and shameful. Is this indicative of the entire RUSD community? The petition stated clearly what it was for in plain English and numerous individuals understood. If you do not wish to change zoning, just vote against it if and when it makes it to the ballot.

Just now [Like](#) [Reply](#) [Share](#)

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Notifications

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2022 9:30 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Re: Please Consider Formally Opposing East Corte Madera Territory Transfer

Thank you all for yesterday's decision of opposition, I could tell it may not have been easy, appreciate you getting it right.

[REDACTED]

On Tue, Dec 6, 2022 at 2:32 PM [REDACTED] > wrote:

Hi Brett - Thank you for your reply. You may have confused my neighbors with the LCM presentation on 11/30, most don't know idt, idt agreement, and petition are 3 separate items. I requested you to stay on agenda only, petition. Instead you spoke about IDT's (not relevant) and money/tax (may not have been factual). You also 1) did not speak about kids 2) said the word choice four times 3) didn't support or oppose the petition, but your support may have been implied because you spoke.

The blurring of these 3 separate issues together on 11/30, and the potential blurring of the 3 items in spring of 2022 when you helped the chief petitioners, may have directly or indirectly contributed to the unfortunate use of misinformation used in collecting petition signatures.

As requested, please work with LCM board to consider formally opposing this petition for any or all number of reasons available. If you do oppose this petition, please don't qualify it. If you don't have a position by 12/15, please consider not presenting. Thank you for considering my input on these factors, I know it's a lot, and I appreciate the dialogue on this very important matter. Thanks,

[REDACTED]

On Wed, Nov 30, 2022 at 5:19 PM [REDACTED] > wrote:

Hi Brett,

Tonight's hearing is *only* about this particular petition and the facts of this petition, it's *not* an opportunity for you to speak on IDT's or present about other info (bonds, parcel tax, property tax, LCFF/basic aid). It is not a night for political advancement. This particular petition submitted 10/27 is the Only item on the agenda.

Yes, agree, it is very important that the public gives their views openly and fairly. You are not a member of the public, please stick only to the details of this particular petition/agenda and nothing else. Also if you can avoid saying 'choice' please? (it kind of stung in your IDT announcement to many).

I saw the welcome sign on my run this afternoon, awesome, thank you!

[REDACTED]

On Wed, Nov 30, 2022 at 4:39 PM Brett Geithman <bgeithman@lcmschools.org> wrote:

Hi [REDACTED]

I appreciate your email and attached documents. I understand that there has been concern about how the petition was presented and the division this has caused in the neighborhood.

Please know LCMSD has made a fair and reasonable proposal to RUSD regarding an agreement that encompasses the interests of both RUSD and LCMSD families. An agreement is the optimal pathway in supporting our community.

With that said, some community members have submitted a petition that has initiated a redistricting process. LCMSD is committed to honoring processes and respecting community opinions. It is important for us to hear from the public, as well as uncover other implications (bonds, parcel tax, property tax, LCFF/basic aid) before making a recommendation to support/oppose the petition.

I hope you can appreciate our perspective and thank you for sharing your opinions on this matter.

Thanks,



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11:01am - November 30th, 2022

Attn: LCMSD Trustees & Brett Geithman

230 Doherty Drive

Larkspur, CA 94903

[Sent Via email](#)

Sent Via Certified USPS Mail

Re: Please Consider Formally Opposing East Corte Madera Territory Transfer

Dear LCMSD Trustees & Brett,

Tonight around 6:15pm it appears you have 15 minutes to present the LCMSD position on a territory transfer petition.

I am writing to respectfully request you oppose this petition. Please ensure you have fully read each of the attached pages, specifically the 166 communications about the disinformation spread to obtain petition signatures and the levels of frustration to outrage this caused in our community.

I hope you and your board come tonight with strong opposition to this petition based on what you already knew and can now read on paper. I know you all to be of strong morals and hope you do what is 'right', oppose this petition. From my perspective anything else would be wrong i.e.: 1) not taking a stance at all 2) supporting petition 3) using the time to talk about anything but this specific petition 4) putting some other political twist on things in anyway.

Your action tonight will have a big impact on how quickly we can build back our amazing community. I'm not sure about all the history around this, but I want to urge you to do the morally correct thing tonight.

Thank you for considering! If you have any questions or would like to discuss, please don't hesitate to contact me, my cell phone is [REDACTED] and my email is [REDACTED] Please keep this letter confidential.

Sincerely and respectfully,

[REDACTED]

CC: LCMSD Board & Trustees

[REDACTED]

CC: Marin Board & Committee Members:

[REDACTED]

Attachments: 11/29/22 Agenda and Packet with all redacted citizen attachments

Please Note: The attachment refers to letters included with the 11/30/22 Public Hearing Meeting found at <https://www.marinschools.org/Page/8512>.

Re: Redistricting petition for RUSD

[REDACTED]

Fri 12/2/2022 2:59 PM

To: CCSDO Mailbox <CCSDO@marinschools.org>

Dear Terena,

Thank you for your email. To be clear, though, I am not writing with a concern that my name will be publicly released. I am concerned that my name is on the list at all. I do not support redistricting, I feel I was misled as to what the petition meant

Let me know if I need to do anything else.

thanks

 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: CCSDO Mailbox <CCSDO@marinschools.org>

Sent: Friday, December 2, 2022 2:54 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: Redistricting petition for RUSD

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email. This is to confirm we have received your email. The names and signatures on territory transfer petitions are not made publicly available. Therefore, we have redacted all names and signatures from public postings of the petition. However, in October, our office errored in releasing copies of the petition with signatures to certain individuals. We have contacted those individuals and requested they delete the names and signatures.

Again, all publicly available copies of the petition do not include names and signatures of individuals who signed the petition.

Terena Mares

Senior Deputy Superintendent
Marin County Office of Education

Secretary Designee
County Committee on School District Organization

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 22, 2022 9 47 AM
To: Superintendents Office <superintendentsoffice@marinschools.org>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Redistricting petition for RUSD

Hi,

I just wanted to be sure my email, below, was received and considered? Do I need to notify anyone else? I don't want my name to be associated with supporting redistricting

Please let me know if I need to do anything further

Thanks, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 12 24 PM
To: superintendentsoffice@marinschools.org
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Redistricting petition for RUSD

Hello,

I live in East Corte Madera and my kids went to RUSD. I have been reading about the petition to redistrict my neighborhood to Corte Madera schools, and I want to be sure my name is not shown as supporting this. I think I signed a petition when someone came to my house, but I was told this would allow parents to decide which school district they wanted. I did not intend to sign a petition supporting redistricting. **Please remove my name if it appears as supporting this.**

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

Please confirm receipt.

[REDACTED]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

 *Please consider the environment before printing this email.*

The information contained in this correspondence is intended only for the individual or entity named above, and may contain information that is privileged and confidential. Dissemination, distribution or copying without the prior approval of the sender is strictly prohibited. If you think that you have received this message in error, please delete it and notify the sender. Marin County Office of Education

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2022 8:24 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Reed/Cove

Terena-

It appears the school redistricting has turned into a mess and all started by people not knowing all the facts. I'm one of them. I signed the petition because it seems crazy to have children blocks from Cove school clogging up the road driving to Reed. I was not made aware of the state and local tax funding and difference between schools.

Hope the schools decide to work together and do what's best for the students. This taught me a lesson to research before signing.

The schools need to do more with the traffic situation on Paradise drive and Trestle Glen each and every morning. It's crazy there are only one adult and one child in each vehicle. Teach them about saving energy and our planet by using less vehicles.

Best,

 *Please consider the environment before printing this email.*

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[REDACTED]

First, [REDACTED] suggested that she misled people about the petition, and she was directed by other petition circulators to get signatures around choice. This is not true. Attached are emails from her as a petition leader where she states redistricting petition to change the boundary lines, clearly in the emails.

The emails also show how other petition leaders clearly state petition to change the boundary lines. I have many more of these.

1

schools in the event of a wild fire or other emergency is the only reason folks need in order for it to be supported.

We now know where the rhetoric comes from, the top of the house.

The Reed board has a sense of entitlement and elitism about our neighborhood, and in general. This came to head on Wednesday. Here's what we know:

- The ECM neighborhood has always been considered second class. Numerous people (my realtor included) who went to reed in the 80/90s still feel bad about the way ECM kids were treated
- The ECM neighborhood was charged more for after school activities, bc they were non-residents. While this was fixed only this year, this point is just unreal to me.
- An ECM resident just retired as a teacher assistant, after 25 years of dedicated service to Reed. Reed cut her employment short two weeks before she was to receive full retirement benefits
- RUSD board just abolished the IDT agreement, and went backwards in their negotiations after a year. They offered \$6500 per IDT kid, when statewide cost is \$16k, and when they spend \$28k per kid
- RUSD board just called the petition circulators liars, and then they want to turn around and force us to go to their school?
- RUSD board is going to spend \$400k on legal fees to keep the boundary lines the same. Why? Clear case of not caring about kids, or the neighborhood. Why not spend half that to come to an IDT agreement.
- We know that they are holding our kids hostage bc of fear of dropping to below 901 students.

We are parents who are trying to do the right thing for our kids, and for future neighbors. A democratic process that allows the neighborhood to vote.

Saying parents are deceiving the neighborhood is dangerous, divisive, lacks any sort of leadership and professionalism. Reed is doing this to good parents who are standing up for what they believe in, and while trying to force them to go to their schools. Some have said it's shocking.

Thanks,



Please consider the environment before printing this email.

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From: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Tuesday 6/14, RUSD board meeting
Date: December 1, 2022 at 7:38:39 PM PST
To: [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: [REDACTED]
Date: June 14, 2022 at 8:00:23 AM PDT
To: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Subject: Tuesday 6/14, RUSD board meeting

Hi parents,

If you can attend the board meeting tonight, please do so. Listed in the agenda is an update to the IDT process and a "transfer of territory", ie our petition.

Superintendent McGrath is recruiting people from our neighborhood to speak tonight likely AGAINST our petition to redistrict. We need to show up again. This item IS on the

agenda.

Please come tonight if you can. I know it's last minute.

The agenda link is below. Attached is the pdf referring to the IDT process update and one of the last pages mentions the "transfer of territory".

Please confirm if you can attend the meeting tonight. Also if you're willing, please plan to speak.

<https://www.agendaonline.net/public/Meeting.aspx?AgencyID=111&MeetingID=86844&AgencyTypeID=1&IsArchived=False>

Best,

On Jun 11, 2022, at 9:41 PM, > wrote:

Hi IDT community,

We are preparing to turn in a petition to the Marin County Office of Education requesting a change in the LCMSD attendance boundaries to include the east Corte Madera hillside. I am passing along a meeting organized by Mary Jane Burke that will address the legal process of requesting such a change at the local, county, and state levels. Please read her message below - **the virtual meeting is on 6/15 at 5:00pm.** I encourage all of you to attend and submit any questions you have about the petition or process of redistricting.

Please note: We still have not heard from the districts regarding an updated interdistrict transfer agreement between LCMSD and RUSD - this topic will not be addressed in this meeting.

Best,

FROM MARY JANE BURKE:

Hi All: [11:11 AM] [SEP 15]

Please join us for a virtual informational webinar that will cover the intricacies and legal steps involved to process a transfer of a school district territory on **Wednesday, June 15 from 5:00PM – 6:00PM.**

My colleagues Terena Mares, Senior Deputy Superintendent and Jon Lenz, Assistant Superintendent, will lead us through this discussion. Please submit any questions you might have prior to the webinar to superintendentsoffice@marinschools.org.

The flyer attached and below is in English and Spanish. Webinar will be recorded and presented in English with live Spanish translation.

Please click [HERE](#) to join the webinar | Dial In: +1 408-638-0968 | Webinar ID: 816-0391-1030 | Passcode: 149549

Thank you, in advance, for sharing far and wide with your school communities.

Best,

Mary Jane

From: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Redistricting petition - let's do this!
Date: December 1, 2022 at 7:31:40 PM PST
To: [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: [REDACTED]
Date: May 25, 2022 at 10:13:31 AM PDT
To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: Re: Redistricting petition - let's do this!

I'm SO DOWN. I can't meet tomorrow, any time Friday and Saturday. I echo [REDACTED] urgency- we basically have until June 10 to collect 140 signatures on a petition in favor of redistricting. Just want to put the anxiety out there so we can MOVE on this IMMEDIATELY. sorry for all the caps. But the pressure is seriously on otherwise this isn't going to happen and reed will just take our kids back. I don't think they give a flying duck about our kids going to the cove.

That's my 2 cents.

Best, [REDACTED]

On May 25, 2022, at 10:03 AM, [REDACTED] wrote:

Let's do it!!!!

I can't tonight, but can tomorrow during day, and I could in the evening, but really want to watch warriors game.

Can also on Friday during day or evening

I have the entire summer off work so look forward to this being my project!

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

On May 25, 2022, at 9:54 AM, [REDACTED] wrote:

Hi friends,

All of a sudden [REDACTED] and I are feeling like we need to start the redistricting movement for a number of reasons. Like now, ASAP. And I want to give it a try in our little pocket of Marin Estates - up Granada to where it meets Endeavor, Sonora, and Vista Ct. This would make it so our side of the hill, along with the flat streets, would all be LCM.

I have lots to share, including reasons why we need to move on this ASAP, but I'd rather meet in person to think it through and get started.

I'm emailing this group because after collecting anecdotal stories of families we know who prefer LCM, the 4 of us know a good share of them and we geographically share the same part of the neighborhood.

So I ask you...

1. Do you want to get this effort started??

2. Can we meet, in person, ASAP, to talk it through and get it going? Ideally we'll set aside 2 hours. The nature of this school district stuff has been so last minute but it's incredibly important to our family - I'd even take time off work to meet with you all. Please let me know when you are free this week so we can get going. I could do 5:00 or later any night this week (except for tonight) but I prefer to start closer to 5 rather than later. If you all are moved to start tonight, I'm free closer to 7:00.

I'm attaching the petition Sarah put together a number of years ago for reference. Let's do this!

[REDACTED]

Date Entered	Please share your comments regarding the East Corte Madera territory transfer petition.
11/29/2022	I am not impacted by the Petition as I am in the LCM District, but I believe it should pass. The current district line is illogical and creates a situation where values in favor of attending local schools, walking/biking to school, supporting local community, siblings going to school together, and families enjoying certainty are at risk. The issues for the Reed families who would be moved have either been resolved or, on balance, are smaller than the burden of keeping the illogical district line. First, I understand that the Reed District will welcome and has space for all current Reed District families (so no Reed District family moved due to the Petition would have to change schools; that is clearly an important point). Second, I do not believe that property values will go down. Indeed, my home was incorrectly advertised as being in the Reed District, and when I found out what that would mean I was tremendously upset I might have to drive my child to school every day. It might have been a deal breaker if I had not been able to confirm with the LCM District that my child would attend the Cove. I know many families who only bought their homes because they were guaranteed an IDT, suggesting being in the Reed District when one is so geographically far from the schools is no longer a value. And third, the increase in property tax is a couple hundred a year. That is not insignificant of course, but I believe it does not warrant all the ills that go with keeping the illogical district line. Finally, I think this should be resolved so future families do not inherit this mess.
11/29/2022	Hello, I am in full support of the redistricting proposal to allow residents of the neighborhood just south of Paradise Drive near The Cove School to attend the LCMSD. The benefits are many. A significantly closer commute is better environmentally, financially for the parents, and an overall better experience for the parents and students. Studies have shown the importance of sleep for children of this age, and cutting 30 minutes off their morning and afternoon commutes is no minor improvement. Additionally, these children have grown up in the Corte Madera community, and should absolutely be able to extend their scholastic experience within their Corte Madera community. It is nothing short of frustrating that MONEY seems to be getting in the way of rationale decisions. Californians pride themselves on doing things the right way versus in the interest of finances.
11/29/2022	As a parent of [REDACTED] children in RUSD and a former resident of East Corte Madera and current resident of Tiburon, I am strongly opposed to the territory transfer of our East Corte Madera neighbors out of RUSD. Our children's lives have been positively impacted by their experience with our friends and former neighbors from ECM, through an increase in exposure to neighborhoods, perspectives, and social circles. The inclusion of this neighborhood enriches our broad community in so many ways, and these wonderful families, who contribute so much, do not deserve to have their educational and social lives upended based on a misleading petition. This neighborhood has been a part of our community for decades, and is enmeshed in the fabric of our lives, education, sports, social circles, enrichment activities, volunteer activities, and play dates since Granada School closed 40 years ago. They are our friends and neighbors, and make our community stronger. Please take the needs of these families into serious consideration while reviewing this process. They deserve to stay in the district to which they were assigned when they purchased or leased their homes. They should stay in RUSD.
11/29/2022	I am reaching out to strongly oppose the redistricting of East Corte Madera away from the Reed Union School District. We moved to Marin from San Francisco when our [REDACTED] was little specifically to enable us to be part of a school district of our choosing and begin at [REDACTED]. Having friends whose children were currently in or had been in the Reed School District gave us great insights and we loved what we heard. The decision to relocate within the RUSD area was made with great consideration and much difficulty - it is the critical reason we purchased our home in this area of East Corte Madera. Our [REDACTED] is now in [REDACTED] grade, loves [REDACTED] school and long held friendships. The unique 3 school structure of Reed/Bel Aire/Del Mar has fostered a special camaraderie and [REDACTED] is so looking forward to moving ahead to Del Mar with [REDACTED] classmates. The familiarity of being among these long held relationships has been incredibly important to all of us; the connection to our Reed School District family has played such a key role while struggling through the myriad difficulties of the pandemic as well associated other life challenges. The location of the schools has not been an issue, we have utilized the close and convenient bus to school option as well as driving (and it is worth noting that the drive along Paradise is not at all congested) - the truth is that getting to Hall Middle school is more onerous and would force travel through areas prone to traffic and commute problems vs. the easy path to Del Mar from our home. I feel it is important to also note that while there as those now promoting the redistricting with the notion that this about the city of residence there are Corte Madera residences not being included in this action. The city based concept makes no sense if The Preserve or any others in East Corte Madera are omitted. The truth is though that myriad school districts are not based on zip codes alone and that is not an adequate foundation for tearing apart our community and long established relationships. It is also key that this is not the message that was being told to people in order to get their signature on the petition. We were told very clearly that they just 'wanted the choice' to stay in the LCMSD and did not say anything about redistricting. It is incomprehensible that the historically held RUSD districting which includes our neighborhood could suddenly be changed and turn everything upside down for so many people. It came as a complete shock to discover that a few families who opted for a limited and finite school transfer for their children to LCMSD are now trying to force the entire neighborhood to change districts permanently because they do not wish to follow the terms they had agreed to. Please, I entreat the board to take the significant issues with the petition, distress and major impacts into account and deny the East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition.
11/29/2022	Dear RUSD My [REDACTED] and myself and our [REDACTED] moved to east Corte Madera neighborhood [REDACTED] years ago from the [REDACTED] for [REDACTED] to start working at [REDACTED]. we oppose the IDT Transfer out of RUSD. We chose Marin and specifically our neighborhood, and had to pay more money for a smaller space so our [REDACTED] could go to [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] had started the school year while we were renting and after moving [REDACTED] from all [REDACTED] friends we didn't want to move [REDACTED] again, although that meant buying a smaller more expensive house. That said redistricting will affect the house value which we can't afford right now given we bought expensive and put so much money into renovating. It's not fair! Specially that it doesn't feel like the kids well being is the main reason for this petition in the first place And the cove which some parents preferred doesn't have the capacity to deal with more kids anyway! Also- commuting to Hall from East Corte Madera has much more traffic than the back road commute to Del Mar. I can get to Del Mar in 1/2 the time as Hall - I know this first hand as I take [REDACTED] to Redwood (next to Hall) often and the traffic along Doherty is much worse and more time consuming. I have several friends with young children who specifically purchased their homes to be in the RUSD school district, like my [REDACTED] and I did. It is unfair to redraw territory lines when people have planned their children's education and property values associated with their East Corte Madera address being part of the wonderful RUSD district. Regards, [REDACTED]

11/29/2022	I would ask that the East Corte Madera territory remain part of the RUSD. We did the research prior to purchasing our home and we do not want our children to be forced to change schools.
11/29/2022	I am opposed to the East Corte Madera territory transfer petition. I have worked in Marin for over [REDACTED] years, however I used to reside in the [REDACTED]. When my [REDACTED] were about to reach school age, I moved to Marin. We carefully evaluated multiple school districts in the County and determined that RUSD was the best choice for our [REDACTED]. We chose where we would live accordingly. This territory transfer, if approved, would negate our careful planning and would uproot our [REDACTED] from a school and school community that they have thrived in. Please do not approve the territory transfer.
11/29/2022	We bought our home in [REDACTED] with full knowledge that Reed was our school of residence. We knowingly assumed a risk when we applied for IDT to The Cove School for our [REDACTED]. At no time did we ever believe that we were guaranteed enrollment at LCM for the full course of the k-8 journey for all [REDACTED]. Our years at Cove, and now also [REDACTED], have been exceptional. We are deeply embedded in the community. [REDACTED]. We have never felt like visitors or guests - we have been fully woven into the fabric of the Cove family. We had hoped that a solution for IDT families like ours would be determined between the two districts so that our kids could avoid disruption of their k-8 journey. While we are disappointed that the recent mediations were not about to resolve, we understand that the fiscal landscape across these two, community-funded districts no longer makes a contractual agreement reasonable. As such, we are looking forward to our new journey at Reed and are deeply grateful for the years that we had at Cove and Hall. Despite the challenging school transition that is now upon my family I urge the board to deny this petition for territory transfer. This is not a solution. This is not productive. This is a years long, costly and tiresome pathway that will ultimately turn us all away from each other as neighbors instead of towards each other. Change is hard. But we suddenly staking claim on a territory where the majority of residents opt to live in to access Tiburon schools is unreasonable and borderline unkind. It is completely opposed to the core values and tenants that both of these amazing school districts preach towards problem solving. It is bringing acrimony into an area that for over 40 years has had harmony. It is short-sighted, self-interested and unhelpful. Those of us in the ECM hillside community that took the risk and exercised IDT to attend Cove should now come together and support each other as we shift towards the exceptional education option at Reed that we are so fortunate to have. It is not a sentence, it's a privilege. Please, let's be good neighbors to each other. Let's harness all this energy and move through this change together. Let's hang at the bus stops and carpool over the ridge and make new connections. But let's not do this.
11/30/2022	We are a LCM family at Hall and Cove and have gotten to know numerous families in ECM on the IDT. They are just as much part of our community as we are. We support the boundary line change to LCM, as it is a logical choice. These families are rooted in our community and school community. Hearing that some IDT kids would have to switch districts who have been friends with our kids for years would be devastating to our own kids and the school community. Since Granada school is moving over, we don't know how that affects the revenue and maintenance, so we as LCM district residents would want to be part of a vote.
11/30/2022	As an East Corte Madera resident, I am writing in full support of the East Corte Madera district transfer from Reed Union to Larkspur Corte Madera. I grew up extremely connected to my community. I am also a [REDACTED]. So, when I moved to ECM I researched the schools, and LCMSD fit perfectly into our values, educational needs, and deep appreciation for community. I was told transfers are accepted as a standard, and now [REDACTED] in the LCMSD. Had I been told at the time that RUSD was the only option, I would not have purchased a home in ECM. The setup of living and paying taxes day to day as a Corte Madera resident, but sending my kids to Tiburon/Belvedere for school, made no sense to me and clearly erodes the opportunity to effectively be a part of and engross my kids in their community, which was a top priority for me. So, when the boards could not land an agreement this year and the petition was circulated, I happily signed it, as I know many of my neighbors did as well. You will hear opposition from current RUSD parents stating signatures were given under misunderstandings, and I ask you not to negate the MANY due to these few. 200+ signatures are the voices of our neighborhood willingly and knowledgeably supporting this district transfer. Please also be aware that many of the RUSD parents opposing this now, due only to the fear of their kids being moved mid-education, were once IDT hopefuls. Many were declined IDTs and forced into RUSD, or turned away after just inquiring about an IDT, and again forced into RUSD. I know this because I vented with them and cried with them. RUSD states 90 kids of ECM are at RUSD, however they clearly leave off the reasons for this "many were denied IDTs (and many new families want IDTs as well). What this shows you is that LCMSD was the FIRST choice for these opposers. Because it makes the most sense. Out of all the taxes we pay, the only outlier is school taxes - everything else supports Corte Madera, our community. There are multiple data points supporting the 9 criteria before you. I ask you to please approve the final recommendation, so that we, Corte Madera residents, are given the right to vote on this very important and life impacting opportunity.
11/30/2022	As a parent of [REDACTED] within the Reed Union School District, a [REDACTED], I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed territory transfer of our East Corte Madera (ECM) neighbors out of RUSD. This ECM neighborhood has been an integral part of the RUSD community for decades. While Granada School may have closed 40 years ago, it and ECM families continue to be an important part of the RUSD community. Our friends from the ECM neighborhood are not only an important part of our school community but in our personal lives, as well. They are active PTA volunteers, caring parents, and dear classmates. They are friends my children practice [REDACTED]. They are cherished classmates and friends who help make [REDACTED] at Reed so much fun for my [REDACTED]. We cannot imagine RUSD without them and we trust that we will not have to. Please do not be swayed by a vocal minority and please allow these ECM families to remain within RUSD Sincerely [REDACTED]
11/30/2022	I am strongly in support of voting on this issue as a community. Quite frankly, I feel it is long overdue. With the addition of the Cove School and the Granada School remaining unoccupied by RUSD, the boundaries should have been modified years ago. Families deserve the right to send their kids to the school that is within their local community.

11/30/2022	For the record I am vehemently opposed to the East Corte Madera territory transfer [REDACTED] and specifically purchased a house in this East Corte Madera neighborhood because of it's access to the Reed Union School District. So did the majority of my neighbors who have 90 kids currently attending RUSD. Our [REDACTED] currently in [REDACTED], has been in RUSD since [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] built relationships there these past [REDACTED] years in the school district [REDACTED] resides in. Unfortunately this is all now under threat by a small group of families who are unhappy with the risk they took with their 39 children when the IDT agreement they signed terminated in 2022 as planned. I'm honestly surprised the petition has moved along this far in process despite it being full of ill-gotten signatures. I experienced first hand the misleading tactics that were used when they approached my house with a sales pitch they were collecting signatures so neighborhood children choose between RUSD and LCMSD. It was only after I pressed the petitioner further, asking what their end game was and if that included changing our neighborhood's school district that they confirmed it was. Please note, they didn't bring it up, I had to! Unfortunately most took their sales pitch at face value and were fooled into signing. Some who expressed wanting to be removed before the petition was submitted still found themselves on it despite written communication they would be removed. This is dishonest and shameful behavior. The petitioners sell this as 'Corte Madera schools for Corte Madera children' where kids can walk to school, but it's really so their 39 children can continue to attend The Cove. The truth is, The Cove is over-enrolled and if this redistricting is successful the 90 RUSD kids will then be sent all across LCMSD, they won't be walking to a school, period. If this motto is for Corte Madera children, why aren't the petitioners also fighting to transfer the children from The Preserve and have that area transferred into LCMSD? They too have Corte Madera addresses and are in the Reed School District but I'm sure there are a number a reasons why they aren't reaching out to them and LCMSD isn't interested. Sure, petitioners don't want to rip their 39 children away from their school and friends but somehow it's okay for that to happen to 90 other kids in RUSD. Again, these are selfish motivations for people who took a risk and aren't happy with the conclusion and it's very easy to see the holes in their argument. After attending school board meetings at both school districts I have to say, RUSD went above and beyond to offer a solution to IDT families and LCMSD decided it wasn't enough, they want more of the pie. These parents should be taking it up with LCMSD instead of changing the entire school district of a neighborhood and displace 2/3rds of the children living there. I'd be curious to hear if LCMSD is asking the same amount of money for the other IDT children from other cities as they did with RUSD, worth looking into. Perhaps petitioners should purchase a house in the school district they want to be a part of than drastically affect the majority of families and home owners who are perfectly happy being in RUSD. Again, why inflict change onto the majority of families and homeowners who decided to buy into the RUSD? I sincerely hope the Marin CCSDO sees the travesty that is happening, the holes in the petitioner's argument and prevent anymore wasted time, effort and money on what is inherently a flawed petition.
11/30/2022	I support the new boundary proposal. This district boundary needs to be corrected for the long term benefit of east Corte Madera. It benefits every neighborhood to have a readily accessible local public school. A 45 minute bus ride to Tiburon is burdensome on children and families, when there is an equivalently great school within walking distance. I have seen friends turn their lives upside down and move from one part of east Corte Madera to another, so that their children could attend the Cove with their friends and neighbors. Splitting east Corte Madera in two damages the overall cohesiveness and character of our community. Students currently enrolled should be able to complete their education at their current school but, in the long term, the district boundaries should allow children to attend the school nearest to their home. Lastly, as a resident of east Corte Madera who lives within the current LCMSD district boundary, I very much hope that I am allowed to vote on the proposal, as it directly impacts my family, neighbors, and community.
11/30/2022	I support the petition for a district transfer and boundary change to allow East Corte Madera resident to be moved into the LCMSD boundary where I believe it should have been moved years ago when the ECM neighborhood school closed, and Cove was built. It's just a common sense. So many families have their kids attend Cove at this point because, well the school is right across the street! Let's make it right.
12/1/2022	My name is [REDACTED] and I live in the territory in jeopardy. My [REDACTED] is thriving at Reed. My [REDACTED] can't wait to join [REDACTED] We love our school and our community, and we strongly oppose this petition. We all knowingly purchased or rented our homes in the exceptional Reed Union School District. Our homes have always been part of Reed Union, and we had every reason to expect that this is where they would remain. So we established a community in our school district. We enrolled [REDACTED] at Reed, signed [REDACTED] up for [REDACTED] at the rec center next-door to school. [REDACTED] and I both feel like valued members of our Reed community already. Bikeability does not make community, and it wasn't even on the list of factors we looked for in a school. Reed checks all our boxes: small class sizes, low student-teacher ratios, a separate campus for the youngest students, curriculum based on current research, a variety of enrichment programs during and after school, an extra year of public school for our soon-to-be 4-year-old, a bus stop right in our neighborhood, and a strong, welcoming community. Among the many things [REDACTED] loves about going to Reed, [REDACTED] loves riding the bus to and from school "where [REDACTED] made friends from the many different Corte Madera and Tiburon neighborhoods on our bus line. The bus system that serves the entire Reed district is fun for kids, convenient for parents, good for traffic and environmental impact. If our home is pulled from our school district, we would be forced to find a new home so our children could remain at Reed. [REDACTED] just bought a home around the corner from us, where [REDACTED] hopes to spend the rest of [REDACTED] life. [REDACTED] would be heartbroken if my family was forced to move away. I am sympathetic to the pain of the 40 children in my neighborhood who chose to attend Larkspur-Corte Madera schools on 5-year interdistrict transfers "and are now in a difficult situation. However, a territory transfer that shifts their hardship onto the other two-thirds of the neighborhood "by uprooting 90 Reed children from their schools "is not the solution. I know you have received many emails from petition signatories who were misled about the basic facts of this petition and desperately wish there was a way to remove their names. In your evaluation, I hope you will consider the vast evidence of an extensive misinformation campaign behind this petition. The majority of families in our neighborhood do not want this. Please stop the destruction that this petition has done to our community. Thank you.
12/1/2022	I oppose the redistricting to LCMSD. We sent all [REDACTED] to Reed and all [REDACTED] thrived. We purchased our first home on a [REDACTED] to be in this excellent school district. While I have compassion for those families that may be required to send their children to the districted Reed School, it is the homeowner's responsibility to do due diligence on a major investment of their home and their properties districting. It is also unfair to ask the majority of families with children in Reed to make that switch and pull them from their communities. In addition, this will negatively impact our property taxes and even more significantly our property values. My [REDACTED] all enjoyed the bus to school as well as the intimate schools campuses and all if the activities. When [REDACTED] they had the bonus of friends from Tiburon as well as their local Corte Madera larkspur [REDACTED] friends. Please do not redistrict our homes for the benefit of a minority of parents who did not do the proper research when purchasing their homes.

12/1/2022	Hello - it was very disheartening to hear so many lies at the first public hearing from Reed supporters. First, the question of the petition validity. Only one [REDACTED], came forward saying [REDACTED] misled people. No supporter of the ECM petition lied. It was just that one [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] is also claiming [REDACTED] was told to lie. That is simply not true. I have an email with [REDACTED] name listed as one of the "petition leaders" and in that email, "redistricting petition plan" is listed 6 times in very clear language. Happy to share it with you and anyone interested. [REDACTED] comments should be struck from the record. Earlier this year, [REDACTED] also cried in the gallery saying [REDACTED] felt like a "red headed stepchild" at Reed for so many reasons including not being able to ride bikes to school during walk and roll days. The lies, hate, and bullying coming from the Reed board and parents in this neighborhood has been severely disappointing and downright terrifying. Whether it be the fabrication of reality from [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] saying [REDACTED] bought [REDACTED] house in this neighborhood for Reed schools when [REDACTED] texted me a year ago saying [REDACTED] was jealous we got into the Cove and that gave [REDACTED] renewed hope. Whether it be [REDACTED] accosting my [REDACTED] in our driveway of our home. Whether it be [REDACTED] publicly posting on Nextdoor that "maybe we should just go around with a petition that says we're going to demolish [REDACTED] house" I don't know if this sounds scary to you all, but in the world we live in today it is in fact VERY scary to be on the receiving end of these threats from the Reed community. What are the morals of these Reed parents? What are they teaching their children? Words in my [REDACTED] report card from the Cove last week stated "Social Emotional Learning is a Guiding Principle at Cove. We create safe, inclusive environments that celebrate differences. We are flexible, collaborative and reflective. It is expected that each child treats everyone with respect, using kind words and conflict resolution strategies to solve problems." I truly feel this from the Cove community. And I have truly experienced the diametric opposite from the Reed parents in our neighborhood. The bottom line is that we are trying to do the right thing. Not only from "a small group of people" which is the narrative they are pushing, but from the families we hear from and continue to hear from every year. The families that tried so hard and were forced to go to Reed, the current families on IDT, and the new families looking at their options. It doesn't take a lot to uncover that most people do not want to commute an hour to work or school. Our realtor recently told us that [REDACTED] went to Reed and felt bad for the ECM kids because they were picked on every day. Our values are squarely set in doing the right thing and being the voice of a large portion of the community that does indeed want this. I understand no one wants to uproot their children from their current schools. We don't want any child to be uprooted. Why did "school choice" not pass? Why has Reed not agreed to taking current students if there is funding coming alongside it? Why are they so committed to their agenda and not working with the community? The sharp words from [REDACTED] at the public hearing clearly showed that they are after their own agenda and not doing what is in the best interest for the children whose stability and upbringing are at stake here. I plead with you to use your power and influence to do the right thing for this community.
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12/7/2022

I felt it was important to follow up in light of comments made at the meeting on 11/30 at the Cove School. Thank you for reviewing.- The petition should not proceed because it is inherently invalid. As reflected in so many personal experiences that have been reported the signatures for the petition were acquired with misinformation, not only misleading statements and verbal persuasions but the petition itself changed during the process yet retained signatures from prior iterations. This flies in the face of logic and, as we have here, can result in a distorted process that steals people's rights by taking their signature then using it in ways that goes against the person's intention - a form of identity theft really. If this petition were to move forward it would demonstrate that these tactics can be used and truly encourage deception in the petition process. To earn the right to be put to a vote the petition should acquire signatures based on a clear message describing the intention and desired outcome, the petitioners have the option to do that with a new petition that is unambiguous about the goal to redistrict. The 'silent majority' (which is not substantiated in any way) referred to in the last meeting could then be reflected.- During the prior meeting there was a new heavy emphasis on Corte Madera identity and community which in truth lacks credibility since there is a portion of East Corte Madera intentionally left out of the territory transfer. If this was actually the point then the territory transfer must include The Preserve and all properties with a Corte Madera address. It is important to note that this city centric rationalizing was not at all part of the original petition or mentioned during signature acquisition.- The close proximity of the Cove school was used as an argument repeatedly, stressing that the distance to RUSD schools invalidated them as acceptable, time to ride drive or take the bus as a huge burden (using drive times that nowhere nearly reflects our much briefer trips). This completely ignores the fact that the travel distance and time is the same for multitudes of residences in Tiburon and Belvedere (some further) not to mention that it is a simple fact that most people do not live very close to their school in Marin County or any place else. To that point though, the fact is that travel to Hall Middle school and Neil Cummins crosses a lot of commute traffic and hazardous busy intersections vs the quiet convenient trip to RUSD schools via Paradise Drive or over Ring Mountain - they are in fact more pleasant and safer to get to.- Also, regarding traffic and street safety, someone had mentioned car accidents as a topic in an RUSD meeting, twisting it out of proportion with an implication it was a dangerous problem. Let's be clear though, crossing Paradise Drive near the Cove School, especially at the height of the commute and tremendous amount of frenetic school traffic not only due to the Cove School but also Marin Montessori and the large Marin County Day School is much much more hazardous then the residential streets adjacent to the RUSD schools. Even if it is necessary to cross Tiburon Blvd there are traffic lights at each school intersection (and police often along with the crossing guards), there is no traffic light to cross Paradise near the Cove School.- It cannot be stressed too much that these homes have historically been in the RUSD and were purchased as homes in the Reed School District with nothing to support any expectation of them being in any other school district. The building of the Cove School did not alter anything and the fact the districting did not change at that time clearly shows that school redistricting was not intended or desired.- I feel that I must address comments at the last meeting regarding the RUSD Board President [REDACTED] that were uncalled for and unfair. Pointed remarks were made about the strong tone of the presentation being 'hostile' and I take offense at casting [REDACTED] intensity in a negative light - the vehemence is completely called for in the face of the actions and questionable steps taken to divide our school district.

[REDACTED] has been put into the position of defending RUSD and is doing a commendable job representing us with the passion that we feel. It was heartening to hear the emotion in [REDACTED] voice; I am grateful for the keen support of the RUSD board, it is so appreciated and much more important than polished PowerPoint moves. After the last meeting there are also issue surrounding the IDTs that raised some questions: LCMSD has brought up the per student cost several times, arguing that they are not getting enough money from RUSD (but ignores the calculus that students are joining existing classes not being funded individually) This leads to the question since LCMSD has IDTs from other cities what kind of funding do they get per those students? There always was an end date on the LCSD IDTs with a likelihood that the children would return to the RUSD district their home resides in - was there no plan for this? This was the clear risk taken and the IDT was even extended allowing for a planned transition. If this is not acceptable there is the option to move and reside in the district of choice, that is exactly what we and many others did. It is simply unjust to contrive to change the entire district. Again, for a clear conclusion - if the petitioners wish to put the Territory Transfer to a vote the petition should be redone from scratch with it being clear about the intent of transferring all homes out of the RUSD, and then importantly include the Corte Madera properties they had left out as mentioned above. This talk of allowing a 'silent majority' to vote is smoke and mirrors, if this is indeed the case then it would be a clear and definite majority in a new correctly handled petition. A message to end on a positive note: To the IDT families who do join the Reed School District, know that you and your children will be welcomed at Reed, Bel Aire and Del Mar, there is no doubt they will go above and beyond to help with the transition (the three school arrangement is really great). Your RUSD neighbors are here and only happy to help. Again, thank you for taking the time to review my points, this means a lot to my family and many neighbors and so I took a good deal of time and consideration in order to provide thoughtful responses regarding the issues surrounding this petition for Territory Transfer

12/7/2022	My [REDACTED] and I support this petition. We have lived at our present address for [REDACTED] years. [REDACTED], which was a good thing for the neighborhood and for us. [REDACTED]. We suspect the 'community survey' that was done to assess the feasibility of [REDACTED] did not constitute a representative sample of the community. We were never informed of plans to [REDACTED]. When we signed our eldest up for [REDACTED], we were told there would be a free bus to school. By the time our [REDACTED], the bus was no longer free. Soon thereafter the noon kindergarten bus was cancelled and working parents had to leave work to pick up their kindergarteners. Additionally, there was active opposition by the Reed School principal, the school district's administration and board to creating day care on the school site. It seemed to us that the school board and school administration went out of their way to make things difficult for East Corte Madera parents and children. I felt personally attacked because I spoke up about it. (Years later, a former [REDACTED] spoke with me at a meeting we both attended to apologize for 'the way we treated you.')It seems to us that the school district's administration and board continue to go out of their way to make life difficult. By loudly proclaiming their opposition to this petition instead of working to solve parents' concerns, the RUSD board and administration are pitting one set of neighbors against another. This has created unnecessary anxiety and fear among all the parents who just want their children well-educated, as both the Reed and Larkspur-Corte Madera teachers seek to do. In addition, despite their claiming they welcome East Corte Madera families with open arms, there are no guarantees. Our experience has demonstrated that. Finally, in over [REDACTED] years that we have lived here, we conclude the County Office of Education Committee on School District Organization has not done enough to find a path agreeable to all the families involved. This should have been addressed when Cove School opened. It needs to be addressed now.
12/8/2022	I strongly support moving all East Corte Madera to LCM School District. It should have been done 40 years ago. High property value means having a good school NEARBY.
12/9/2022	I am opposed to this territory transfer petition. My [REDACTED] has been attending [REDACTED] School and is thriving there. [REDACTED] loves to use the school bus to get to school and come home from and we often walk to school over Ring Mountain. [REDACTED] has made strong and lasting friendships in school.
12/9/2022	I am opposed to this territory transfer petition. Our [REDACTED] has been attending [REDACTED] e School and is thriving there. [REDACTED] loves to use the school bus to get to school and we often walk to school over Ring Mountain. [REDACTED] has made strong and lasting friendships in school.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Date: December 14, 2022 at 7:32:33 PM PST
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: ECM Petition Meeting Agenda - Tonight - June 1st - 6pm

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Wednesday, November 2, 2022 at 9:57 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: ECM Petition Meeting Agenda - Tonight - June 1st - 6pm

Best, [REDACTED]

Begin forwarded message:

From: [REDACTED]
Date: June 1, 2022 at 4:00:32 PM PDT
To: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Subject: ECM Petition Meeting Agenda - Tonight - June 1st - 6pm

Team,

Agenda and other reference materials for tonight. Thanks and see you there!

June 1st, 2022 - 6pm
East Corte Madera Redistricting Petition Plan

Zoom Meeting

<https://jpmchase.zoom.us/j/4158522682>

Meeting ID: 415 852 2682

Petition Leaders

1. [REDACTED]

Parties of Interest

1. Mary Jane Burke - County Superintendent, mediator, retiring soon
 1. miburke@marinschools.org
 2. Please email her your support for the redistrict!
2. Terena Mares - Deputy Superintendent - Oversees Redistricting Committee (not in the mediations)

LCM Board of Trustees

1. Brett Geithman - LCM Superintendent
2. Annie Sherman - President
3. Eric Schmautz - VP - In Charge of current IDT mediations
4. Monica Canas - Clerk
5. Amir Movafaghi - Member

Reed Board of Trustees

1. Dr Kimberly McGrath - Reed Superintendent
2. Liz Webb - President
3. Jacqueline Jaffee - VP
4. Afsaneh Zolfaghari - Clerk
5. AJ Brady - Member - In Charge of current IDT mediations
6. Sherry Wangenheim - Member

Agenda

1. Reason for Redistrict Petition
 1. History
 2. Petition for redistrict will support all families to choose which district they will attend
 1. At this point is the only pathway for school of choice
 3. Update from Brett Geithman and IDT Mediation

1. Reed has only committed to approve kids already in LCM schools, and fund \$910 per household (not student)
 2. LCM supports choice
 3. Brett mentioned the petition in last email update
 4. Additional updates
 4. Petition timeline
 1. 25% signatures submitted to Mary Jane (June 15th)
 2. Within 30 days, petition validated (July 15th)
 3. Within 60 days, public hearing (September 15th)
 4. Within 120 days, vote (January 15, 2023)
 5. Permanent solution that allows for:
 1. Our children to attend schools in the community where they reside
 2. Walk / ride bike to school
 3. Continuity between elementary / middle / high school
 4. Support school of choice
 1. Questions - Open Forum
 2. Execution plan - 25% (~400 signatures) by June 15th - Block Captains
 3. Execution Plan - Post 25%
- Additional Agenda Items
1. RUSD board meeting next week Tuesday June 7th
 1. Need a volunteer to organize what our approach is to this meeting.
 1. Will we have a speaker or speaker(s)?
 2. Our update on the petition - we have x number of signatures, which represent x%

Documents

1. [Petition for Transfer of Territory](#) that has been submitted to the Marin County Office of Education
2. The [Reorganization of School Districts](#) handbook we are following from the State of California on how to update school attendance boundaries
3. An [overview](#) of how we will talk to our neighbors about this petition, while maintaining friendly and supportive relationships with all families. This is a draft document we will continue to update.

Please forward to anyone I may have missed.

Thanks!



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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2022 10:03 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Public Comment: East Corte Madera Territory Transfer Petition

Hi Ms. Mares,

I submitted this feedback via the online form, but wanted to send a copy to you to help ensure that you've received this. I thank you for all of your time and effort during this process, and I send along my best holiday wishes to you and the whole Board.

Best,
[REDACTED]

=== PUBLIC COMMENT ===

Someone petitioning, as a matter of their convenience, to transfer my house out of the school district that I chose is no different than someone buying the house next door and then demanding I knock my house down because they don't like it.

I accept none of the petitioners' arguments.

All of the arguments represent backward, twisted logic fabricated to justify the petitioners' personal wants. Neither the petition itself nor any of its arguments stand up to the slightest scrutiny: There is no economic benefit; there will be no environmental benefit; there will be no boon to either the students or to the schools; and there certainly hasn't been a positive effect on our community. What this petition has done best is to create stress, waste money, and upset those who made the CHOICE to live here.

Oh, "choice."

I find it ironic that the word "choice" was thrown around so often when this redistricting petition was presented to me and my neighbors. Ironic not because the petition wasn't, in fact, about choice, but because everyone in this neighborhood had already exercised their choice: to move here, knowing it was part of the Reed School District.

At no point was anyone duped. At no point was there a bait-and-switch. Nor was there an unwanted switch in school districts that we're trying to reverse. The petitioners knew what school district they were moving into long before they arrived here.

Location, Location, Location: No person with children, or the intent of having children, moves into a neighborhood without considering its school district.

In fact, I have no children, and still the school district was one of my primary purchasing decisions. 13 years ago, I specifically—and purposely—reached for the financial stars and managed to buy a house within the Reed School District. This was for a number of reasons, all of which hold true today, and none of which are relevant.

Why are they not relevant? Because, unlike the petitioners, I won't subject my neighbors to the fallout of my personal financial matters or educational priorities. The fact is, we all decided to move here. Whatever our reasons, we all CHOSE to be part of the Reed School District. And if we don't like it, we have the choice to leave.

Ironically, denying this petition is allowing the petitioners the choice they asked for. It means our houses stay in the school district we chose, and it sends a clear message to the petitioners that they, too, have a choice: if they want their children to attend a school in the Larkspur-Corte Madera School District (or a school in Ross — or one in Reno, Nevada for that matter) they have every right to CHOOSE a home located in that district.

May they go in peace.

P Please consider the environment before printing this email.

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[REDACTED]

Subject: Re: IDT news

LCMSD Zoom Information for the June 17, 2022 Board Meeting

Regular Board Meeting

Friday, June 17, 2022

8:30 a.m. – Open Session

In-Person in the Hall Middle School Library, 200 Doherty Drive, Larkspur, CA and Via Zoom (online meeting). Log-in instructions for public viewing are:

Webinar Link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82583690207?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82583690207?pwd=UEhIMUVjanlPRTJsNlh3WXB0aklmUT09)

[pwd=UEhIMUVjanlPRTJsNlh3WXB0aklmUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82583690207?pwd=UEhIMUVjanlPRTJsNlh3WXB0aklmUT09)

Passcode: lcmsd

Or Telephone:

US: [+1 669 900 6833](tel:+16699006833)

Webinar ID: 825 [8369 0207](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82583690207?pwd=UEhIMUVjanlPRTJsNlh3WXB0aklmUT09)

Passcode: 242051

On Jun 16, 2022, at 8:14 AM, S Buck <snbuck3@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi [REDACTED], sorry your email fell off, that keeps happening to a number of people and no one can figure out why!

Please feel free to email me directly at any time with any questions or to checkin, we want you to be included in all of this!! And, I'm happy to hear we are all keeping each other informed outside of this email.

As a recap, RUSD had a Board mtg this week, unfortunately not many parents could make it and it was the most informative one so far. We got to hear the Board discuss and share what they have been doing, how they feel, and next steps about the MOU with LCM. Nothing has been agreed to yet, they are still trying to agree on the funding amount to go with IDTs. Although no more mediation sessions were scheduled, they hoped to continue working with LCM to try to get a resolution. Reed parents spoke this time, in addition to LCM parents, and asked the Board to please "fix this for us" - I'm hopeful the Board saw that we are all asking for the same thing.

The county held a webinar last night to present an overview of what re-districting means and the process. That was recorded, so you can get up to speed. There is a petition that has been completed (accurately!) and will be turned in to start the redistrict process, because the Boards cannot seem to come to an agreement.

LCM has a Board Mtg tomorrow at 8:30am, and the MOU discussion is also on their agenda. I am hopeful the discussion there is as open as RUSD's was and we get more information on where an MOU might land, so these kids can get out of limbo!

I hope you all find time to enjoy some sun and recharge on positivity, as we continue through this process.

[REDACTED]

On Wednesday, June 15, 2022, [REDACTED] wrote:

Hi All,

I heard from neighbors (copied here) that there was a board meeting the other day, and also a Zoom info session (by Burke) tonight.

Unfortunately I was not aware of these as somehow I was cut off from these emails.

Can you please make sure to continue copying me?

I have been on this list and have attended all prior meetings. We have a

pending IDT and thus a “skin in the game.”

Appreciate it – thanks all.



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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Date: December 14, 2022 at 7:36:02 PM PST
To: [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]

Begin forwarded message:

[illegible]

[REDACTED]

Subject: Re: Redistrict Petition - ECM - email template for Mary Jane Burke

You may also know that Mary Jane Burke is retiring at the end of this calendar year. [John Carroll](#) is on the ballot and he's endorsed by Mary Jane and the rest of the Marin County Office of Education. He's the most likely candidate to support redistricting after Mary Jane retires. If you haven't voted in the current election, your vote for County Superintendent will absolutely affect how our efforts are carried on. Please vote!

On Tue, May 31, 2022 at 8:56 PM [REDACTED] >
wrote:

Team,

I just send this over to Mary Jane Burke - Marin County Superintendent, and oversees both districts. She is one of the mediators of the IDT agreement, and will oversee the Petition, once we get 25% of the community's signatures.

Please send across your support to her!

mjburke@marinschools.org

Hi Mary Jane,

Hope you had a great Memorial Day weekend!

I'm emailing my support for a school redistricting plan for East Corte Madera. The core reason for my support is I believe that children should have free access to the school that is located in the community that they live in.

The cove and hall schools are located in Corte Madera, the same address and community as East Corte Madera. To be able to contribute

and enjoy a community without the ability to enjoy the school district is in my view, at odds with what building a successful community is.

As an IDT, my [REDACTED] grader has experienced the joy of walking and biking to school, since the cove is less than a mile away. Compare this to Reed, which is 6.5 miles away and is where our school district says we are supposed to go.

Hall middle school is also critically important to what the Corte Madera community is. With children being the future generation, and the length of time it takes for children to grow into everything they envision for themselves, its important for children to have full access to Hall middle school, as it helps with the continuity and development of their growth as human beings.

I really appreciate your thoughtfulness, and consideration as this matter continues.

Also, agenda for tomorrow's meeting is coming soon!

[REDACTED]

On May 31, 2022, at 8:03 PM, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] wrote:

+some neighbors

On Mon, May 30, 2022 at 3:19 PM [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] wrote:

Dear LCM IDT/Future IDT community,

As we have been waiting for a meaningful update from LCMSD and RUSD regarding a new IDT agreement between the districts, a group of us have chosen to explore the process of changing the attendance boundaries for LCMSD to include our neighborhood. The first step in this process is creating a petition and getting signatures from 25% of the voters in the affected area. Once we turn in the petition, it will allow both districts and the county/state officials to do a more formal exploration of what is best for our neighborhood in

the long run.

We have created the petition required to start this process and we're excited to share more with you. Our goal is for each family in our neighborhood to have the choice to go to LCMSD or RUSD, along with the appropriate funding for each child. The LCM board of trustees and superintendent have expressed support for a plan to allow for families in our neighborhood to have a choice of school district (LCMSD or RUSD) while the Reed board has not yet demonstrated that same vision. Changing the attendance boundaries for LCMSD to include our neighborhood may be the only way to ensure families have a choice.

(1) **Please join us for a Zoom meeting on Wednesday 6/1 at 6:00pm** at which we will share more details about our vision for this process, the petition and how to sign.

Zoom
info: <https://jpmchase.zoom.us/j/415852268>
Meeting ID: 415 852 2682

Here are some documents you can review to become more informed on the process and our plan:

- [Petition for Transfer of Territory](#) that has been submitted to the Marin County Office of Education
- The [Reorganization of School Districts](#) handbook we are following from the State of California on how to update school attendance boundaries
- An [overview](#) of how we will talk to our neighbors about this petition, while maintaining friendly and supportive relationships with all families. This is a draft document we will continue to update.

(2) **If you already know you support this initiative, please email Mary Jane Burke (mjburke@marinschools.org)**, Marin County Superintendent of Schools, to share your support with her. If we each send our support for including the ECM neighborhood in the attendance boundaries for LCMSD, we are paving the way to have the Marin County Office of Education support us in this process.

If you are interested in signing the petition before

Wednesday, please email me. Hope to see you at the meeting on Wednesday at 6:00pm, and please invite any families who may support this initiative but are not on the email list.

Warmly,

[REDACTED]

--

[REDACTED]



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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Date: December 14, 2022 at 7:40:16 PM PST
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: RUSD BOARD MEETING TONIGHT

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 8:01 AM
To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: Re: RUSD BOARD MEETING TONIGHT

Hi All,

My neighbor shared that Reed parents from our neighborhood will be speaking tonight to say that they want to continue in the district - I don't think it's against the petition directly. This is likely because Terena will be there to discuss the petition process and Reed parents haven't yet come to share with the board that they wish to remain in RUSD.

> On Jun 14, 2022, at 4:52 PM, [REDACTED] wrote:
>
> + [REDACTED]
>
>> On Jun 14, 2022, at 4:49 PM, [REDACTED] wrote:
>>
>> *Please forward this email to other parents you know for sure support this petition*
>>
>> Parents, superintendent McGrath is recruiting people from our neighborhood to
speak tonight likely AGAINST our petition to redistrict. We need to show up again. This
item IS on the agenda.
>>
>> Please come tonight if you can. I know it's last minute.
>>
>> The agenda link is below. Attached is the pdf referring to the IDT process update and
one of the last pages mentions the "transfer of territory".
>>
>> [https://www.agendaonline.net/public/Meeting.aspx?
AgencyID=111&MeetingID=86844&AgencyTypeID=1&IsArchived=False](https://www.agendaonline.net/public/Meeting.aspx?AgencyID=111&MeetingID=86844&AgencyTypeID=1&IsArchived=False)
>>

Best, [REDACTED]



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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Date: December 14, 2022 at 7:34:09 PM PST
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Such great petition progress!

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 5:54 PM
To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Such great petition progress!

Great, thank you, I'll check later. Are you able to come to the board meeting tonight?

Best, [REDACTED]

On Jun 14, 2022, at 5:25 PM, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] wrote:

[REDACTED], I just dropped off the signatures sheet in between some packages on your doorstep. Hope that's okay!

Thanks

On Mon, Jun 13, 2022 at 12:43 [REDACTED] wrote:

That's awesome, I reached out to a mom on that street yesterday too as I saw they hadn't seen it yet!

No need to stop them today, can you ask them to drop off by tomorrow night? [REDACTED] is at [REDACTED]. We wanted to get them in before the mtg on Wed. So that gives them some time - maybe even at a block Warriors party tonight ha!

Thank you again, it was awesome to see your numbers push us over 290!!

On Monday, June 13, 2022, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] wrote:

Hi [REDACTED]

We left them with our friends at [REDACTED] to get a couple more signatures today and [REDACTED] said to return them anytime this week.

If you need them sooner, we can go get them and drop them off today?

Thanks

[REDACTED]

On Mon, Jun 13, 2022 at 12:20 [REDACTED] > wrote:

Hi [REDACTED] we see you got some signatures, awesome!!

Wanted to ensure you knew [REDACTED] took over the sheets from [REDACTED], so hoping you can drop those today with her and we will be sending them in tomorrow.

Thank you!!

[REDACTED]

On Thursday, June 9, 2022, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] wrote:

[REDACTED],

I encourage you to get signatures in any way you think is best! If you want to reach out to the larger group, go for it. The email [REDACTED] sent to the group re: the Reed board meeting this week is the larger group but she removed a couple of Reed families. I'd encourage you to use that email list. Or maybe reach out to individuals and see if they'd be willing to help?

I believe mediations are over tomorrow and we'll have some sort of update from the superintendents. We could also consider reaching out to the larger group after hearing back from the district (because it's seeming likely that the short-term deal is not what we would have wanted).

On Wed, Jun 8, 2022 at 9:35 PM [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] wrote:

Hi all,

So proud of this group. I am 1 signature away from filling 4 pages and can do some more collection this week.

I feel the most success has come via neighborhood acquaintances and "referrals". Wondering this group's thoughts on asking our larger group (seems we are missing many!) to help on this final push.

If individuals don't have time to collect signatures, they could help by identifying neighbors who they think could be interested in signing and even help arrange a time for someone to come by with the petition. Seems this would be most efficient!

Thoughts?

[REDACTED]

On Wednesday, June 8, 2022, 09:11:18 PM PDT, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] wrote:

Hi everyone,

A couple of updates:

(1) We heard back from the elections office and they say we have 960 voters in our area. **That means we need 240 valid signatures** to have our petition validated by the elections office. From what I can count on the spreadsheet currently, we have ~190 signatures on the completed pages! We probably need 20% more than what we think we need because some will be disqualified. I'd be really happy if we turned in 300 signatures, and okay to turn in 290.

(2) **We need YOUR help for the last round of signatures - we are**

so close! We are leaving this weekend for [REDACTED] and so I'm passing the baton to [REDACTED]. Our hope is to finish up signatures in the next few days because we know people will be off for summer vacations. We also want to turn in the completed petition to MJB by June 15.

- If you have signature pages that remain blank and you're not actively going door to door (or acquaintance to acquaintance) to collect signatures, can you contact someone in the group to take over those pages? At this point it would be better to fill the empty pages in between than signing out new ones.
- Can you commit to doing 2 hours (or more!) of door to door in the next few days? (Or to fill a page or two?) 5:30-7:30 has been a really successful time for us as we've been going door to door.
- Can you turn in all of your completed signature pages to [REDACTED] by Sunday? ([REDACTED] and I can take them until Friday too...) This will help us do a page by page tally to make certain our count is correct.

Please let me know how I can help. I've got such mama bear energy around this petition and I'll do anything to make it successful - I'm relying on you all as we head out [REDACTED]. I have little faith in the school districts at this point -- we have to see this through to control our own destiny :)

With such great gratitude,

[REDACTED]

On Mon, Jun 6, 2022 at 10:09 PM [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I can't help but send another update. In just one more night of talking to neighbors, we moved up from 87 to 112 households in our neighborhood who have signed!!! Y'all, we're moving mountains!

On Sun, Jun 5, 2022 at 7:25 PM [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] wrote:

Hi friends,

We're making such great progress! Looking over the Block Captain spreadsheet right now and seeing that we have signatures from 87 households in our neighborhood. Woo hoo! That's ~18% of households in our neighborhood. We still haven't heard back from MJB re: number of signatures we need, but hopefully we will hear from her in the next few days. I have to believe we must be at least halfway to 25% of signatures from voters in our neighborhood.

I am so grateful to all of you for your dedication and hours you're putting in - this could really make a big impact on each of our families and I'm proud we're fighting this hard. Plus, it's so fun finding new friends in all of you!

Over this next week, keep collecting signatures. Feel free to call and check in if you want guidance, otherwise sign up for more signature pages and streets (if you want) whenever you have the time and energy. If you find any other people who offer to help, feel free to help them participate. Either send them my way or you can just sign out pages and areas that they help you with (and you can log the results in the spreadsheet).

I can't remember who of you I told, so sharing again here: I added a column next to the petition pages for you to mark when the pages are filled with signatures. This will just help us keep track of total overall signatures as we proceed.

Wishing you all a good week and lots of positive energy.
Go Warriors!

Xo 



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[REDACTED]

Here is where I corrected the email I sent

[illegible]

[REDACTED]

Subject: Re: Tuesday 6/14, RUSD board meeting

Correction, from [REDACTED]:

" Hi All,

My neighbor shared that Reed parents from our neighborhood will be speaking tonight to say that they want to continue in the district - I don't think it's against the petition directly. This is likely because Terena will be there to discuss the petition process and Reed parents haven't yet come to share with the board that they wish to remain in RUSD. "

Apologies - I got that wrong!

Best, [REDACTED]

On Jun 14, 2022, at 8:00 AM, [REDACTED] wrote:

Hi parents,

If you can attend the board meeting tonight, please do so. Listed in the agenda is an update to the IDT process and a "transfer of territory", ie our petition.

Superintendent McGrath is recruiting people from our neighborhood to

Speak tonight likely AGAINST our petition to redistrict. We need to show up again. This item IS on the agenda.

Please come tonight if you can. I know it's last minute.

The agenda link is below. Attached is the pdf referring to the IDT process update and one of the last pages mentions the "transfer of territory".

Please confirm if you can attend the meeting tonight. Also if you're willing, please plan to speak.

<https://www.agendaonline.net/public/Meeting.aspx?AgencyID=111&MeetingID=86844&AgencyTypeID=1&IsArchived=False>

Best,

On Jun 11, 2022, at 9:41 PM, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] wrote:

Hi IDT community,

We are preparing to turn in a petition to the Marin County Office of Education requesting a change in the LCMSD attendance boundaries to include the east Corte Madera hillside. I am passing along a meeting organized by Mary Jane Burke that will address the legal process of requesting such a change at the local, county, and state levels. Please read her message below - **the virtual meeting is on 6/15 at 5:00pm**. I encourage all of you to attend and submit any questions you have about the petition or process of redistricting.

Please note: We still have not heard from the districts regarding an updated interdistrict transfer agreement between LCMSD and RUSD - this topic will not be addressed in this meeting.

Best,

FROM MARY JANE BURKE:

Hi All:

Please join us for a virtual informational webinar that will cover the intricacies and legal steps involved to process a transfer of a school district territory on **Wednesday, June 15 from 5:00PM – 6:00PM.**

My colleagues Terena Mares, Senior Deputy Superintendent and Jon Lenz, Assistant Superintendent, will lead us through this discussion. Please submit any questions you might have prior to the webinar to superintendentsoffice@marinschools.org.

The flyer attached and below is in English and Spanish. Webinar will be recorded and presented in English with live Spanish translation.

Please click [HERE](#) to join the webinar | Dial In: +1 408-638-0968 | Webinar ID: 816-0391-1030 | Passcode: 149549

Thank you, in advance, for sharing far and wide with your school communities.

Best,
Mary Jane



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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Date: December 14, 2022 at 11:36:51 AM PST
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Territory Transfer Petition - Name Removal

Hello Ms. Burke and Ms. Mares,

We are writing to request that our names and signatures be removed from the Territory Transfer Petition. We are residents of [REDACTED] in East Corte madera and signed the petition under the false pretense that the petition was simply to allow neighboring families the opportunity to choose the school they wished their child(ren) to attend.

In light of new information, we are in disagreement with the territory transfer petition and wish for our names and signatures to be removed immediately. Please let us know if there is anything further we must do to remove our names from this petition.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Warmest regards,
[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Date: December 14, 2022 at 7:32:00 PM PST
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: More information

Hi Mary Jane and Terena,

I hope your week is going well. Thank you for your tireless work to ensure a fair and democratic process around this petition.

I looked at the packet in preparation for tomorrow's public hearing and thought it was only right that I also send you emails that I had received during the spring, so that you don't, and the committee doesn't, and the public doesn't, get a one-sided biased opinion of me and get only one side of the reality of what unfolded.

Yes, I did want my kids to go to The Cove. Yes, [REDACTED] was denied twice. Yes, after the first denial and upon trying again for the fall of [REDACTED] year (the current school year) I supported the petition last year early May-June 14; June 14 being the date I learned that "school of choice" was not a possibility if my territory was rezoned, as I was promised and was lead to believe. Yes, I mislead people based on information I had received. I am so sorry for that. Yes, I too was mislead. Yes, last school year I had big feelings and felt last year at school that I had a mountain to climb to make friends and meet people and get involved in the community, because of my own incorrect assumptions and not knowing anyone. Last year was also still very much directed by COVID, so yes, I felt excluded and left out of the community because there weren't many opportunities to meet anyone and I wasn't making my own efforts. I own all of this. Yes, I cried at The Cove School, in a room of my peers and in front of Brett Geithman, stating I want my kids to bike and walk to school, and I felt like the "redheaded step child". I did say that. In fact, it was at that meeting where I believe the beginning of my emotional exploitation ensued. Brett Geithman was the exact person who was giving me information about making my district one of "school of choice" via the petition, who made promises to me that if we "got 25% of the signatures we needed my kids would be approved to attend The Cove in perpetuity", that if we got the signatures we needed

he would make this territory “school of choice”. Yes, this message was repeated again and again and again in meetings, conversations and emails. All of which I am going to forward to you both in several emails after this one. Yes, I am making major statements, and I stand beside them. I am not trying to attack anyone, just tell my story, my truth. Yes, I absolutely oppose this petition, oppose my family and my neighborhood having to leave RUSD. Yes, I changed my mind in the middle of this entire process, from wanting my kids to go to the Cove to wanting my kids to go to RUSD, because I learned and researched. Just like consenting to sex, I changed my desires in the middle of this situation, and I am entitled to do just that. I see from the packet that there are emails from me, even though my name is redacted, that might portray me as “changing sides”, and having “an agenda”, and that I knew that the petition was to redistrict. I knew the petition was to redistrict, but to a district of choice.

I think I have said all I can, so please feel free to reach back out to me with questions. Please look out for subsequent emails. And I look forward to seeing you tomorrow.

Thank you again.

Warmly, 



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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Date: December 14, 2022 at 8:11:23 PM PST
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Petitioning to include our neighborhood in LCMSD attendance boundaries

Best, [REDACTED]

Begin forwarded message:

From: [REDACTED]
Date: June 1, 2022 at 6:51:02 AM PDT
To: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Subject: Re: Petitioning to include our neighborhood in LCMSD attendance boundaries

Hi [REDACTED],

Like you, I absolutely support choice for all students. One major motivator behind changing the attendance boundaries is the superintendent of LCM, Brett Geithman, has expressed an interest in a permanent solution for all students, allowing them to attend either Reed or LCM (the district of their choice) for the entirety of their TK-8 grade experience. If our attendance boundaries were in LCM, that would allow Brett to pursue such an arrangement that wouldn't require worry from year to year about our childrens' educational continuity.

Unfortunately the Reed district has not yet shown support for such an idea and instead offered a draft agreement that would require 48 kids to be pulled from their learning community. If Reed expressed an interest in allowing appropriate funding and educational continuity TK-8 for each child in our neighborhood, we wouldn't need to redistrict first to make choice for each family a reality.

Yes, I am in the same position as you and [REDACTED]. My [REDACTED] starts [REDACTED] in August - if [REDACTED] goes to Reed and settles in, we won't likely want to have to move [REDACTED] districts in a couple of years.

There is a lot to discuss tonight. Thanks for your active participation and thoughtful question. See you tonight on Zoom.

[REDACTED]

On Wed, Jun 1, 2022 at 12:01 AM [REDACTED] > wrote:

Hi All,

I have not seen a reply to the below question (by [REDACTED]), so I am posing the same question. And hope the Zoom session will address this tomorrow.

I am also in support for the petition – however, the petition's language says: "...petition that the boundaries of the Reed Union School District be changed to **eliminate** from it the territory hereinafter described."

This sounds more like adding ECM to LCMSD and "eliminating" it from RUSD, rather than "adding LCMSD as an option in addition to the current RUSD district."

[REDACTED]

Subject: Re: Petitioning to include our neighborhood in LCMSD attendance boundaries

Hi All-

This may be covered in the meeting, but if not here is my main concern or question with this initiative.

I would like to know how the re-drawing of the boundaries would look in the shorter term.... I support this initiative; however my concern would be being forced over to Reed next year and then being forced back to Corte Madera two, three, or four years later. Does the redrawing of the boundaries mean our neighborhood is no longer in Reed district? If so, would we then need an IDT to stay at Reed?

Like many of you- my kids are still young enough that four years from now they will still be in elementary and middle school... and I would hate to be in this position again some years later....

I have faith that this is something that will be addressed, I just felt the need to throw it out there in case it is not.

Thank you!



On May 30, 2022, at 8:38 PM, [REDACTED] wrote:

Thanks [REDACTED]! Super excited to be partnering with you on this effort!

To summarize, we would love all of your help to obtain 25% of voters in the area affected to sign the petition. We are asking for you to help us with only folks you know who will sign, or perhaps ones that may very well sign.

1. 25% allows for a couple things:
 1. More formal discussions from two school districts, and more importantly, the county superintendent who oversees both districts will get involved
 2. At the very least it will help Reed and LCM meet in the middle for the current IDT discussion that is currently on the table
2. Zoom meeting this coming Wednesday 6/1 - 6pm. Meeting ID: 415 852 2682
3. Please email Mary Jane Burke - Country superintendent who oversees both districts an email supporting formal redistricting discussions.

Here is the Petition: [Petition for Transfer of Territory](#)

Look forward to seeing everyone at the zoom meeting!

[REDACTED]

On May 30, 2022, at 3:18 PM, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] wrote:

Dear LCM IDT/Future IDT community,

As we have been waiting for a meaningful update from LCMSD and RUSD regarding a new IDT agreement between the districts, a group of us have chosen to explore the process of changing the attendance boundaries for LCMSD to include our neighborhood. The first step in this process is creating a petition and getting signatures from 25% of the voters in the affected area. Once we turn in the petition, it will allow both districts and the county/state officials to do a more formal exploration of what is best for our neighborhood in the long run.

We have created the petition required to start this process and we're excited to share more with you. Our goal is for each family in our neighborhood to have the choice to go to LCMSD or RUSD, along with the appropriate funding for each child. The LCM board of trustees and superintendent have expressed support for a plan to allow for families in our neighborhood to have a choice of school district (LCMSD or RUSD) while the Reed board has not yet demonstrated that same vision. Changing the attendance boundaries for LCMSD to include our neighborhood may be the only way to ensure families have a choice.

(1) **Please join us for a Zoom meeting on Wednesday 6/1 at 6:00pm** at which we will share more details about our vision for this process, the petition and how to sign.

Zoom

info: <https://jpmchase.zoom.us/j/415852268> Meeting ID: 415 852 2682

Here are some documents you can review to become more informed on the process and our plan:

- [Petition for Transfer of Territory](#) that has been submitted to the Marin County Office of Education
- The [Reorganization of School Districts](#) handbook we are following from the State of California on how to update school attendance boundaries
- An [overview](#) of how we will talk to our neighbors about this petition, while maintaining friendly and supportive relationships with all families. This is a draft document we will continue to update.

(2) **If you already know you support this initiative, please email Mary Jane Burke (mjburke@marinschools.org)**, Marin County Superintendent of Schools, to share your support with her. If we each send our support for including the ECM neighborhood in the attendance boundaries for LCMSD, we are paving the way to have the Marin County Office of Education support us in this process.

If you are interested in signing the petition before Wednesday, please email me. Hope to see you at the meeting on Wednesday at 6:00pm, and please invite any families who may support this initiative but are not on the email list.

Warmly,





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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]: Terena Mares
Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2022 5:39 PM
To: Alexis Oberlander
Cc: Jon Lenz
Subject: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Date: December 13, 2022 at 5:35:55 PM PST
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd:

Dear Ms. Mares,

We are writing to oppose the petition to change our school district from Reed to Larkspur/Corte Madera. We have been living in East Corte Madera since [REDACTED] and being in the Reed School District was one of the most important factors that we considered in purchasing our home in this neighborhood. We presently have a [REDACTED] at Reed and a [REDACTED] at Del Mar (who has also been in this school district since [REDACTED]).

We have been pleased with the quality of education they've received in the Reed School District and are happy to be part of the Reed community. We do not have any interest in switching school districts. Our children are strongly integrated into the Reed community. Our [REDACTED] presently attends [REDACTED], for example, on the Reed campus where we have great relationships with the director and teachers. He has been there since [REDACTED] and they have been an integral part of his development and sense of security and happiness. All the teachers and support staff we have encountered at Reed, Bel Aire, and Del Mar have also been excellent. The bus system has also been very convenient for our household with two working parents. Lastly, the friends they would be leaving behind would be shattering to them.

We wholeheartedly wish to remain in the Reed school district similar to the majority of families in our neighborhood. Forcing the majority to make the switch to a new school district that is only favored by a stark minority in this neighborhood would be unfair to our community and unnecessarily disruptive and devastating to our children. Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,



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Agenda Item 5d:

*Reed Union School District
Representatives*



REED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

277 A Karen Way Tiburon, CA 94920 tel: 415.381.1112 fax: 415.384.0890
www.reedschools.org

Board of Trustees:

Jacqueline Jaffee
Shelby Pasarell Tsai
Sherry Wangenheim
Liz E. Webb
Afsaneh Zolfaghari

Dr. Kimberly McGrath
Superintendent

Carlos Estrella
Chief Business Official

By U.S. Mail & E-Mail: tmare@marinschools.org

December 14, 2022

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

Dear Marin County Committee on School District Organization,

On behalf of the Reed Union School District ("RUSD"), I am writing to supplement my correspondence, dated November 29, 2022, to the Marin County Committee on School District Organization ("County Committee"). Attached for the County Committee's consideration are redacted copies of additional letters from RUSD community members in opposition to the proposed transfer of territory from RUSD to the Larkspur-Corte Madera School District. These letters were received from November 30, 2022 to the present. It is my hope that these messages will continue to highlight the degree of community opposition that exists towards the Petition.

If you have any questions about the enclosed, please contact me at your convenience.

Dr. Kimberly McGrath
Superintendent

Enclosure: Community Letters in Opposition to the Petition

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Tue, Nov 29, 2022 at 1:36 PM

Subject: Opposition to Territory Transfer

To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear RUSD Board & Superintendent

As a resident in the RUSD district, I am contacting you to clearly state my opposition to the territory transfer of our East Corte Madera neighbors out of RUSD. My [REDACTED] has many close friends from that area and they grew up lovely together. The inclusion of this neighborhood enriches our broad community in so many ways. We've survived the pandemic together and we certainly hope that the proud culture of inclusion will not exclude our friends from East Corte Madera. They are our friends and neighbors, and make our community stronger.

Please do everything you can to fight this transfer.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Nov 28, 2022 at 11:05 AM
Subject: Redistricting Petition
To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear RUSD Board & Superintendent,

As a parent of a child at both [REDACTED] schools and a resident in the RUSD district, I am contacting you to clearly state my opposition to the territory transfer of our East Corte Madera neighbors out of RUSD. We moved here only a few years ago and are just starting to build a community. Not only have my children formed wonderful, close friendships with our friends from ECM, but we as parents have. We love our little Tiburon community but see the benefits of having an increase in exposure to neighborhoods, perspectives, and social circles. It is a really nice balance. This neighborhood has been a part of our community for decades, and is very enmeshed in the fabric of our lives, education, sports, social circles, enrichment activities, volunteer activities, and play dates since Granada School closed 40 years ago. They are our friends and neighbors and make our community stronger. I don't see any reason why this has even become an issue for debate and should be left alone.

Please do everything you can to fight this transfer.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To:

Dear Members of the Marin County Committee for School District Organization,

As a parent and homeowner from the East Corte Madera hillside, I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed territory transfer of our neighborhood into the Larkspur-Corte Madera District. My [REDACTED] and I purchased our home in Marin Estates precisely because it is within the boundary of the Reed Union School District. We actually moved from a home within the Larkspur-Corte Madera School District Boundary so that we could live within the boundary of RUSD and our kids could attend Reed Union schools. This was our intent when we purchased our property on [REDACTED]. We feel so fortunate to be a part of RUSD. We found the district to be inclusive, supportive and welcoming of our family after our move, and our [REDACTED] had a great experience as a new student at [REDACTED].

As a parent of students who attended schools in both Larkspur-Corte Madera and Reed Union School Districts, and are now at [REDACTED], I have a wide lens from which to view the proposed territory transfer. While our kids enjoyed and thrived in their elementary school years at [REDACTED] and the [REDACTED], I have full confidence they would have been equally successful and supported had they attended Reed and Bel Aire. Middle School is where, for our family, the districts' offerings diverged. There are systems in place at Del Mar Middle School to alert parents when students are falling behind, as well as support classes and psychological services and testing to meet students where they are and lift them up. We are so grateful that our [REDACTED] was able to attend Del Mar, and, with the services [REDACTED] received there, [REDACTED] was well prepared for the focus, organization, and rigor required to succeed at

With the many student services that the Reed Union School District provides, it's vital that it remain inclusive for families of all socio-economic levels. Maintaining the middle-class East Corte Madera neighborhoods within RUSD is an important step towards socio-economic diversity at Reed, Bel Aire, and Del Mar. Redistricting would come at a great loss of community and socio-economic awareness to RUSD students, while also removing access to critical student services which East Corte Madera students, like ours, might not otherwise receive.

Maintaining the Corte Madera neighborhoods within RUSD is also vital for community-building. It was such a great experience for our [REDACTED] to attend Del Mar. Through [REDACTED] years at Del Mar and extra curricular activities throughout Marin, our [REDACTED] arrived at [REDACTED] with close friends who reside in Tiburon, Corte Madera, Larkspur, Mill Valley and Kentfield. Creating connections between families from Corte Madera, Tiburon and Belvedere in the elementary and middle school years builds trust amongst students as they embark on their high school journeys and beyond.

One of the points for redistricting, per the flyer circulated in our neighborhood (see below), that it would "create consistency and convenience of extra curricular activities and sports teams within our community", is something that already exists within our community, and is not a reason to disrupt the school boundaries of our neighborhood. When it comes to sports and activities, Southern Marin is the community. Our children swam with Tidalwaves in Larkspur and Northbay Aquatics in Tiburon and Larkspur; they played basketball with CYO in Larkspur and NBBA in San Rafael; flag football in Mill Valley; tennis at Tiburon and Corte Madera courts; and LaCrosse in Mill Valley and Tiburon. I could name more, but the point is the same. The beauty of all of these activities and sports is that they bring our small communities together - already!

The second point, "the proximity of schools to home", is only accurate for the Cove School. Del Mar is far closer to our neighborhood than Hall Middle School. Our route to Del Mar, a beautiful 12 minute drive along Paradise Drive, was such a lovely way for our [REDACTED] to begin each day. In contrast, the trip to and from Hall, which we made with our [REDACTED], was congested with long waits in traffic, as we were caught up in and had to navigate the stressful ride amongst many commuters accessing both highway 101 and Redwood High School. On the other hand, many of our neighbors regularly walk to Bel Aire or bike to Del Mar over Ring Mountain. I can't imagine a more peaceful and healthy way to begin each day.

The third point, a "clear pathway for RUSD families to remain at RUSD" claims that there is a commitment to school choice and a funding path for kids to go to RUSD (after redistricting). I don't believe this is the case. In fact, wouldn't the territory transfer simply transfer the burden from a few families seeking an IDT to the majority of families in our neighborhood being required to seek IDT's?

In closing, I oppose the proposed territory transfer before you. The points argued in favor of redistricting are not persuasive enough to disrupt and upend the lives and investments of the majority of homeowners and renters alike who, like me, are content with their decision to reside within the boundaries of the Reed Union School District, in Corte Madera. Instead, I hope LCMSD removes their high financial bar for IDT's and return to the negotiation with more reasonable terms. Please join me in opposing this territory transfer. Thank you for your consideration.

Best,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Attachment: Redistricting Flyer circulating in the neighborhood and posted on Nextdoor

Corte Madera Schools *for* Corte Madera Kids

Aligning Schools With Our Local Community

A petition with more than 25% registered-voter support is currently being validated. It supports **changing the school district boundaries** for areas of East Corte Madera (ECM) **from Reed Union School District (RUSD) to the Larkspur-Corte Madera School District (LCMSD).**

We are still hopeful that RUSD and LCMSD can reach an agreement that allows current IDT students and siblings to continue in LCMSD through Hall middle school.

WHY SUPPORT THE PETITION?

• COMMUNITY CONTINUITY - DEEPER SENSE OF BELONGING

- Align our children's schools with our local community's identity
- Create consistency and convenience of extracurricular activities and sports teams within our community

• PROXIMITY OF SCHOOLS TO HOME

- The Cove is steps away from our homes - walk, bike, scoot with friends
- Safer in an emergency. Easier for kids to unite and egress with families
- Lowers carbon footprint - reduced Tiburon Blvd traffic
- Commute time saves over one hour per day; 20+ hours per month

• CLEAR PATHWAY FOR RUSD FAMILIES TO REMAIN AT RUSD

- LCMSD BP 5117 provides a path for funding for kids to go to RUSD
- LCMSD and IDT families have always been committed to school choice

The updating of ECM district boundaries is overdue. RUSD's Granada School (in ECM) closed in 1980s. LCMSD's Cove School opened in 2014. Our neighborhood school has changed, yet district boundaries remain unchanged. Let's make the change so our kids can attend the schools in their community.

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Tue, Nov 29, 2022 at 2:35 PM
Subject: East Corte Madera School Transfer
To: <kmcgrath@reedschools.org>

Dear Dr. McGrath,

We hope that things are going well with your treatment and you have been able to return to work.

We are contacting you to clearly state our opposition to the territory transfer of our East Corte Madera neighbors out of RUSD. Our children, [REDACTED] have been in RUSD schools since kindergarten (now they are in [REDACTED] grade) and have thrived within the school district. We moved to East Corte Madera this past August after being forced out of our Tiburon rental and little did we know about the unfortunate reality that this great neighborhood and community could be taken out of the Reed Union School district. We have since had the time to talk with many people that have been positively impacted by their experience in ECM, through an increase in exposure to neighborhoods, perspectives, and social circles. We think this community brings countless benefits to RUSD schools and we strongly agree that the inclusion of this neighborhood within RUSD enriches our broad community in so many ways.

Please do everything you can to fight this transfer.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Tue, Nov 29, 2022 at 6:35 PM
Subject: Opposition to ECM Transfer
To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear RUSD Board & Superintendent,

As a parent of [REDACTED] in RUSD (and a former RUSD student), I am contacting you to clearly state my opposition to the territory transfer of our East Corte Madera (ECM) neighbors out of RUSD.

My and my [REDACTED] lives have been positively impacted by my and their experience with friends from ECM that attend RUSD schools. The inclusion of this neighborhood enriches our broad community in so many ways. It has been a part of our community for decades, and is very enmeshed in the fabric of our lives, education, sports, social circles, enrichment activities, volunteer activities, and play dates since Granada School closed 40 years ago. My [REDACTED] lives in ECM and has sent [REDACTED] through RUSD, and her very positive experience is one of the reasons why we decided to move to Tiburon and join the RUSD community.

Our children attend school together, socialize together and play sports together and our friends in ECM make our RUSD community stronger. Please do not let a vocal minority tear apart those bonds.

Please do everything you can to fight this transfer.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Wed, Nov 30, 2022 at 11:02 AM
Subject: Territory Transfer
To: [REDACTED]

Dear RUSD Board & Superintendent,

As a parent of [REDACTED] in the RUSD district, I am contacting you to clearly state my opposition to the territory transfer of our East Corte Madera neighbors out of RUSD. My child's life has been positively impacted by their experience with our friends from ECM, through an increase in exposure to neighborhoods, perspectives, and social circles. The inclusion of this neighborhood enriches our broad community in so many ways. This neighborhood has been a part of our community for decades, and is very enmeshed in the fabric of our lives, education, sports, social circles, enrichment activities, volunteer activities, and play dates since Granada School closed 40 years ago. They are our friends and neighbors, and make our community stronger.

Sincerely, [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Wed, Nov 30, 2022 at 4:41 PM
Subject: Opposition to Territory Transfer of ECM out of RUSD
To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear RUSD Board & Superintendent,

As a parent of [REDACTED] in RUSD, I am contacting you to clearly state my opposition to the territory transfer of our East Corte Madera (ECM) neighbors out of RUSD.

My [REDACTED] life, as well as our family's, has been positively impacted by his experience with friends from ECM that attend RUSD schools.

The inclusion of this neighborhood enriches our broad community in so many ways— our family has met so many people from ECM that have confirmed our decision to move to Tiburon [REDACTED] years ago was the right one. Without these relationships we would not feel the sense of community we have felt coming to Reed Union. It has been a part of our community for decades, and is very enmeshed in the fabric of our lives, education, sports, social circles, enrichment activities, volunteer activities, and play dates since Granada School closed 40 years ago. These friendships would not have been possible without the ECM community in RUSD.

Our children attend school together, socialize together and play sports together. Please do not let a vocal minority tear apart those bonds.

Our friends in ECM make our RUSD community stronger.

I am appalled that this territory transfer is being considered when 2/3rds of the eligible student population already attend RUSD. If these families wanted to attend the Larkspur Corte Madera schools they could have applied for an independent transfer already. Now they are being forced to uproot their lives at the request of a small portion of that community.

Please do everything you can to fight this transfer.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Thu, Dec 1, 2022 at 11:36 AM
Subject: Opposition to ECD Transfer Petition

[REDACTED]

Dear RUSD Board & Superintendent,

As a parent of [REDACTED] in RUSD, I am contacting you to clearly state my opposition to the territory transfer of our East Corte Madera (ECM) neighbors out of RUSD.

My children's lives have been positively impacted by their experience with friends from ECM that attend RUSD schools.

The inclusion of this neighborhood has led to close friendships with all of my kids over the years. We've hiked over the back of Ring Mountain to meet them. The walk is a short adventure from our house - and it's one of my favorite things about living where we live. It has been a part of our community for decades, and is very enmeshed in the fabric of our lives, education, sports, social circles, enrichment activities, volunteer activities, and play dates since Granada School closed 40 years ago.

Our children attend school together, socialize together and play sports together. Please do not let a vocal minority tear apart those bonds.

Our friends in ECM make our RUSD community stronger.

Please do everything you can to fight this transfer.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Thu, Dec 1, 2022 at 11:06 AM

Subject: Opposition to the territory transfer of ECM

To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear RUSD Board & Superintendent,

As a parent of [REDACTED] in RUSD, I am contacting you to clearly state my opposition to the territory transfer of our East Corte Madera (ECM) neighbors out of RUSD.

My child's life has been positively impacted by their experience with friends from ECM that attend RUSD schools.

ECM has been a part of our community for decades, and is very enmeshed in the fabric of our lives, education, sports, social circles, enrichment activities, volunteer activities, and play dates since Granada School closed 40 years ago.

Our children attend school together, socialize together and play sports together. Please do not let a vocal minority tear apart those bonds.

Our friends in ECM make our RUSD community stronger.

We as parents have strong bonds with these families and time/friendships are often harder to keep in different district.

Please do everything you can to fight this transfer.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Wed, Nov 30, 2022 at 9:04 PM
Subject: Opposition to Territory Transfer of ECM out of RUSD
To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear RUSD Board & Superintendent,

As a parent of [REDACTED] in RUSD, I am contacting you to clearly state my opposition to the territory transfer of our East Corte Madera (ECM) neighbors out of RUSD.

My [REDACTED] life, as well as our family's, has been positively impacted by his experience with friends from ECM that attend RUSD schools.

The inclusion of this neighborhood enriches our broad community in so many ways—our family has met so many people from ECM that have confirmed our decision to move to Tiburon [REDACTED] years ago was the right one. Without these relationships we would not feel the sense of community we have felt coming to Reed Union. It has been a part of our community for decades, and is very enmeshed in the fabric of our lives, education, sports, social circles, enrichment activities, volunteer activities, and play dates since Granada School closed 40 years ago. These friendships would not have been possible without the ECM community in RUSD.

Our children attend school together, socialize together and play sports together. Please do not let a vocal minority tear apart those bonds.

Our friends in ECM make our RUSD community stronger.

I am appalled that this territory transfer is being considered when 2/3rds of the eligible student population already attend RUSD. If these families wanted to attend the Larkspur Corte Madera schools they could have applied for an independent transfer already. Now they are being forced to uproot their lives at the request of a small portion of that community.

Please do everything you can to fight this transfer.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Tue, Dec 6, 2022 at 9:56 PM
Subject: writing in opposition to the rezoning of ECM to LCM school district
To: [REDACTED]

Dear RUSD Board & Superintendent,

As a parent of [REDACTED] in RUSD, I am contacting you to clearly state my opposition to the territory transfer of our East Corte Madera (ECM) neighbors out of RUSD.

My child's life has been positively impacted by their experience with friends from ECM that attend RUSD schools.

The inclusion of this neighborhood enriches our broader community in so many ways, adding incredible families to our community, offering a more affordable alternative to the town of Tiburon, and giving our community some socio-economic dimension. It has been a part of our community for decades, and is very enmeshed in the fabric of our lives, education, sports, social circles, enrichment activities, volunteer activities, and play dates since Granada School closed 40 years ago.

Our children attend school together, socialize together and play sports together. Please do not let a vocal minority tear apart those bonds.

Our friends in ECM make our RUSD community stronger.

[REDACTED]

Please do everything you can to fight this transfer.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Tue, Dec 13, 2022 at 5:35 PM
Subject: Fwd:
To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Ms. Mares,

We are writing to oppose the petition to change our school district from Reed to Larkspur/Corte Madera. We have been living in East Corte Madera since [REDACTED], and being in the Reed School District was one of the most important factors that we considered in purchasing our home in this neighborhood. We presently have a [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] and a [REDACTED] grader at [REDACTED] (who has also been in this school district since [REDACTED]).

We have been pleased with the quality of education they've received in the Reed School District and are happy to be part of the Reed community. We do not have any interest in switching school districts. Our children are strongly integrated into the Reed community. Our [REDACTED] presently attends [REDACTED], for example, on the Reed campus where we have great relationships with the director and teachers. [REDACTED] has been there since [REDACTED] and they have been an integral part of [REDACTED] development and sense of security and happiness. All the teachers and support staff we have encountered at Reed, Bel Aire, and Del Mar have also been excellent. The bus system has also been very convenient for our household with two working parents. Lastly, the friends they would be leaving behind would be shattering to them.

We wholeheartedly wish to remain in the Reed school district similar to the majority of families in our neighborhood. Forcing the majority to make the switch to a new school district that is only favored by a stark minority in this neighborhood would be unfair to our community and unnecessarily disruptive and devastating to our children. Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Agenda Item 5e:

*Larkspur Corte Maders School District
Representatives*

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