

January 17, 2025

Dear CCUSD Families,

I am writing to share important updates regarding the potential school closures, boundary adjustments, and grade configuration.

In listening to our community, we have heard how important it is to keep our school communities together. To honor this priority, we are updating the boundary adjustment recommendation for Lone Mountain Elementary students. Should the Governing Board vote to close Lone Mountain, all Lone Mountain students will be zoned to Black Mountain Elementary. If all current Lone Mountain students choose to attend Black Mountain Elementary, the projected enrollment at Black Mountain Elementary will be 676 students, which is below capacity.

To ensure transparency and gather additional community input prior to making a final recommendation, the CCUSD Governing Board will host a special public meeting on **January 28, 2025, at 6:00 PM in the Governing Board room, located at 33016 N. 60th Street, Scottsdale AZ 85266**. This meeting will provide an opportunity for the public to comment on the proposed closures, updated boundary adjustments, and grade configuration. The meeting will take place prior to the regularly-scheduled business meeting.

We know that this decision is important and impacts our community. In the interest of making the best recommendation, **CCUSD administration will postpone their final recommendation to the Board until the February 11, 2025 regular Governing Board meeting**.

As previously noted in prior communication to CCUSD families and at prior Board meetings, the recommendation to close schools, adjust boundaries, and reconfigure grade levels is driven by several key factors:

- **Declining Enrollment:** The District has experienced a steady decline in student enrollment over the past several years. The demographer's report continues to predict the declining number of students within the District's boundaries. With fewer students, our school buildings have become significantly underutilized. It is no longer sustainable to maintain facilities that are not operating at full or near full capacity.
- **Financial Constraints:** Like many Arizona school districts, CCUSD faces increasing financial pressures. Closing underutilized schools allows us to reallocate resources more effectively and stabilize our budget for the future.
- **Improved Efficiency:** By merging schools, CCUSD can address a persistent staffing shortage and make better use of our highly qualified educators.

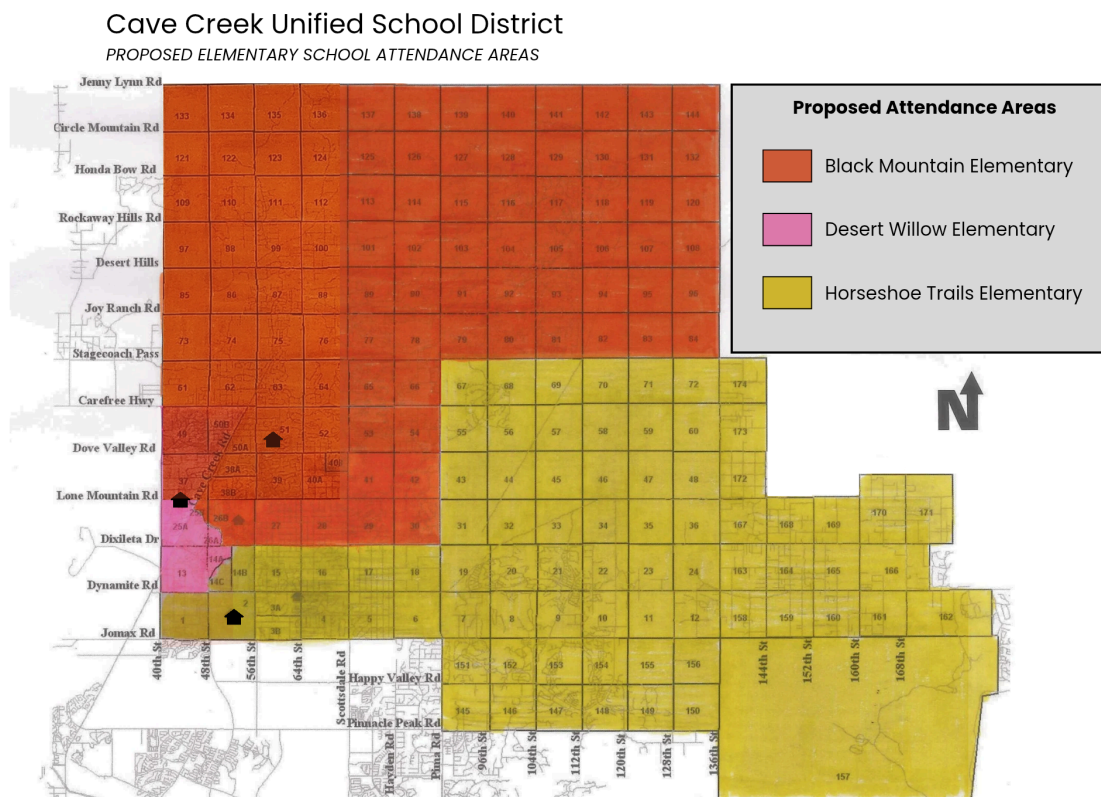
If the District does not take action now to close schools, it will inevitably need to implement additional alternative cost-savings measures, which will likely include cuts to existing academic programs (including but not limited to Art, Music, PE, etc.), increased class sizes, the elimination

of teaching positions, and reduced services that support our mission of teaching and learning. These are not desirable options, nor are they in the best interest of students, and I do not support options that will negatively affect student learning and academic success.

The District website ccusd93.org contains a [resource page](#) where the proposed boundary map (also provided in this letter) is located. The resource page chronicles the work of the focus group and also includes the presentation to the Board on December 3rd, 2024, videos from the community forums on January 8, 2025 and January 9, 2025 and the public Governing Board meeting held on January 13, 2025.

Please see the updated proposal to the boundary maps below:

All of Desert Sun Academy rezoned to Horseshoe Trails Elementary
All of Lone Mountain Elementary rezoned to Black Mountain Elementary



While we know we have heard from some of our community, we encourage everyone to be a part of the next steps as our Governing Board makes the difficult but necessary decisions, prioritizing better futures for our students moving forward. The public is welcome to attend a work-study session on January 28, 2025 from 3:00-5:00 PM in the Governing Board room, to listen as the Board discusses these issues.

The choices we face are not easy, but I know this community will come together to create better futures for all. We understand the impact this decision will have on our community, and we are committed to supporting our students, families, and staff throughout this process. Together, we

will navigate these changes and continue to provide our children with the bright futures they deserve.

Moving Forward Together,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Dolezal", written over a light gray rectangular background.

Bill Dolezal
Superintendent