

ETIWANDA SCHOOL DISTRICT

San Bernardino County Committee on School District Organization

May 20, 2026

TERRITORY TRANSFER RESPONSE

Etiwanda School District — Representatives Present



Charlayne Sprague

Superintendent

Etiwanda School District



Laura Rowland

Assistant Superintendent of Personnel Services

Incoming Superintendent



Michael Higgins

Director of Operations and Facilities

Facilities & Site Planning



Doug Claflin

Assistant Superintendent of Business Services

Fiscal & Financial Analysis

Important Process Considerations



The Etiwanda School District was NOT expecting this territory transfer request and was caught off guard by the proposal.

1

The proposed boundary has existed for over 100 years

This is a long-standing, established boundary — not a recent arrangement

2

The area is historically expected to remain within ESD

Community planning and infrastructure have been developed with this understanding

3

Transfer involves substantial undeveloped territory and future growth

The territory represents significant future enrollment and fiscal potential for ESD

Facilities & Enrollment Data — Context Matters

Facilities Data Concern

Data presented about lack of facilities was based on a **Level 2 Fee Study** — which **EXCLUDES relocatable classrooms**

This exclusion significantly understates ESD's existing capacity and paints a misleading picture of the district's facilities situation.

Enrollment Reality

Like most California school districts, ESD is experiencing **enrollment decline**

However, ESD successfully **offsets this decline** by attracting **Interdistrict Transfer students**

This demonstrates the district's appeal and the desirability of its educational programs — ESD remains a destination district.

9 Statutory Criteria — Preliminary Analysis (1 of 2)

1 of 2

1

Adequate Enrollment

Criterion: Avoid significant enrollment harm

ESD Analysis: Territory is undeveloped. ESD forgoes ~1,457 projected future students — no current students are impacted by the transfer.

✓ Potentially Satisfied

2

Substantial Community Identity

Criterion: Logical community boundaries

ESD Analysis: The "Etiwanda Heights" name creates identity confusion. ESD contends community identity ties to Etiwanda — not Alta Loma. This is ESD's primary objection.

✗ NOT MET

3

Equitable Division of Property

Criterion: Fair division of assets & liabilities

ESD Analysis: No existing facilities in the territory. GO Bond impact is less than 5% of Assessed Valuation — considered minimal.

✓ Potentially Satisfied

4

No Discrimination or Segregation

Criterion: No demographic imbalance created

ESD Analysis: No anticipated demographic impact. The area is currently undeveloped with no enrolled student population in the territory.

✓ Potentially Satisfied

5

No Substantial Increase in State Costs

Criterion: No added burden to the State

ESD Analysis: No increase in State costs is projected from the transfer of this undeveloped territory.

✓ Potentially Satisfied

9 Statutory Criteria — Preliminary Analysis (2 of 2)

2 of 2

6

Sound Educational Program

Criterion: Maintain high-quality programs

ESD Analysis: Both ESD and ALSD are high-performing districts with comparable programs. ESD has additional programs available to students.

✓ Possibly Satisfied

7

No Substantial Increase in School Housing Costs

Criterion: Avoid added facility costs

ESD Analysis: Transfer avoids ESD's need to build a new school (~\$110M–\$125M cost). ALSD has existing capacity to absorb projected students.

✓ Potentially Satisfied

8

Not for Property Value Gain

Criterion: Not primarily for private/financial gain

ESD Analysis: Developer (Rancho Etiwanda, LLC) may benefit financially.

✗ NOT MET

9

Fiscal Management & Status

Criterion: Protect fiscal health of both districts

ESD Analysis: ~\$934K annual net ADA funding loss after expenses.

✗ NOT MET

ESD Position: 6 of 9 criteria potentially satisfied | Criteria #2, #8, #9 are NOT MET | ESD urges careful consideration before any approval

Projected Fiscal & Facility Impacts

Territory transfer would result in long-term financial consequences for ESD

~1,500

Students

Reduction in future enrollment

\$38M+

Facilities Budget

Future facilities funding lost

~\$50M

State Building Fund

State school facility funds eliminated

~\$16M

Annual ADA Loss

Loss of Average Daily Attendance funding per year

~\$3.8B

Assessed Valuation

Long-term loss affecting current & future General Obligation bonds

Loss of Future School Site



The transfer would result in the LOSS of a school site that has been specifically identified and dedicated by the San Bernardino County Flood Control District.

- The site was planned and dedicated for future educational use to serve the long-term growth of the area
- This school site is critical for ESD's ability to house students as the territory develops
- Loss of this site cannot simply be replaced — suitable land becomes scarcer as development progresses
- Transfer would force the district to find alternative solutions for student facilities at great difficulty and cost

Boundary & Operational Concerns

100+ Year Boundary

The district boundary was established over 100 years ago. The area has always been — and is expected to be — within the Etiwanda School District. Overturning a century-old boundary sets a troubling precedent.

Irregular Boundary Problems

An irregular boundary would create substantial difficulties for school attendance area identification, student assignment, bus routing and transportation logistics.

Community Identity (Unmet Criterion)

Of the 9 statutory criteria, Community Identity is one of the criterion ESD identifies as NOT being met. The community in this territory has a strong, established identity with ESD.

Attendance Area Confusion

Families, real estate agents, and city planners rely on clear boundary lines. An irregular boundary creates lasting confusion and operational burden for both districts.

ESD Suggested Boundary: A Clean Rectangle

CURRENT PROPOSAL

ESD OPPOSES X



OPTION 1 - BLUE BOUNDARY

ESD Preferred



OPTION 2 - GREEN BOUNDARY

ESD Suggested



ESD District Position

ESD INITIALLY OPPOSES

- To protect long-term interests of current and future ESD students
- Loss of ~1,500 future students cannot be taken lightly
- Cumulative fiscal impact exceeds \$100M when all funding streams considered
- Loss of dedicated school site is irreplaceable
- Urges careful and thorough consideration before approving this large territory change

OPEN TO DISCUSSION

- ESD is willing to continue cooperative discussions with all parties
- Any further discussion must address funding support for ESD's losses
- Boundary clarification must be part of any negotiated solution
- District seeks a fair, equitable resolution that protects all students
- We ask the Committee to act with careful deliberation on this major change