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**SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

February 22, 2006

Dr. Ira Toibin, Superintendent  
Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District  
3801 Via La Selva  
Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274

**Re: Possible Legislative Action Regarding Eastview**

Dear Dr. Toibin:

This letter follows up recent discussions regarding a bill that Assemblywoman Karnette may introduce proposing the transfer of the Eastview area of Los Angeles Unified School District to Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District. As we have not seen any proposed bill language, L.A. Unified has not yet taken any official position on this proposed transfer. If such a bill is introduced, however, staff anticipates asking the L.A. Unified Board of Education to take a position opposing this proposed transfer of territory.

As we discussed, L.A. Unified staff believes that the current optional attendance plan best serves the needs of families in the Eastview area. Under the current optional attendance plan, parents or guardians in the area are given an opportunity to choose either the neighborhood L.A. Unified school for their children or send their children to a PVP Unified school. We are aware of no difficulties with this current system and understand that PVP Unified considers students from the Eastview area to be full members of their respective school communities.

Any proposed transfer of the Eastview area would raise significant concerns for L.A. Unified. Presently, there are two schools in this area, Dodson and Crestwood Street, which serve the neighborhood and are potential "receiver" schools for several of our traveling student programs. Should these facilities be a part of a transfer to PVP Unified, L.A. Unified would expect to be made whole for the lost of these important assets. We do not have current information on the value of these schools.

We understand that there has been some discussion of proposing a territorial transfer of the Eastview area without the Dodson and Crestwood Street schools, possibly by drawing boundaries around these two facilities. L.A. Unified staff would not support such a transfer. First of all, placing neighborhood schools in one school district but transferring the attendance area to another would force students in the area to travel to school - unless they sought an inter-district permit to attend the L.A. Unified school. The current system, conversely, allows parents to choose to send their children to neighborhood schools.

Dr. Ira Toibin  
Page 2  
February 22, 2006

Additionally, as you may be aware, L.A. Unified has obtained voter approval for four facilities bond measures, supported through the payment of property taxes. We believe any discussion of transfer of territory, in Eastview or elsewhere, would also require discussion of how the liabilities for these bond measures would be allocated between the school districts.

Finally, L.A. Unified believes that the appropriate vehicle for territorial transfers is already established in the reorganization of school district statutes. These statutes require a petition process under which proponents of a change in territory must, among other things, demonstrate the equitable distribution of resources and liabilities between the school districts. Consideration of any territory transfer involving L.A. Unified must also take into account our district's desegregation court order and issues of socioeconomic diversity, among other considerations. (See section 35730.1 of the Education Code) Staff believes it is unlikely that our Board of Education would support any legislative action that circumvents this already established process for the reorganization of school districts.

Thank you for sharing PVP Unified's concerns about the Eastview area. We believe the current optional attendance system to be the most beneficial for families in the Eastview area and look forward to continued cooperation between our school districts.

Please call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

  
Roy Rogers

RR:jm