September 3, 2013

Honorable Brian C. Walsh
Presiding Judge
Santa Clara County Superior Court
191 North First Street
San Jose, CA 95113

Dear Judge Walsh:

Subject: Response to the Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury Report: “Our School Districts Do Not Need Zeros”


Grand Jury Finding 1

CABS shift large, compounding interest cost to future taxpayers and will inevitably compound the burdens school districts face in operating effective schools for the students in the future.

District Response to Finding 1

The District agrees with the finding. The Lakeside Joint School District intends to comply with all State and Federal regulations regarding the issuance of bonds and CABS. The district has no plans to issue CAB bonds in the foreseeable future.

Grand Jury Recommendation 1

Each school district in Santa Clara County should adopt a Board policy and any administrative regulation indicating its intent to comply with the moratorium called for by the State Treasurer and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.
District Response to Recommendation 1

The District agrees with the response submitted by Superintendent Diana G. Abbati, ED.D., Los Gatos Elementary School District, dated August 13, 2013 as adopts the following as the District's response:

"The recommendation as presented will not be implemented because it is not warranted as a matter for Board policy or administrative regulation. Board policies are written statements adopted by the Board, which communicate the guidelines within which the Superintendent or designee and staff may take discretionary action. ... [T]he issuance of bonds is not a discretionary action of the Superintendent or his/her designee or staff but must always be approved by the Board. The purpose of administrative regulations is to "carry out the intentions expressed in Governing Board policy" and must be "consistent with state and federal law and regulations, Board policy and negotiated employee contracts." Thus, neither Board policy nor administrative regulation is the appropriate forum for expression of support for the recommended moratorium. In addition, the District will continue to monitor Assembly Bill 182 as a matter of compliance."

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth A. Bozzo
Superintendent/Principal

Cc: Steven P. McPherson, Foreperson, 2012-2013 Civil Grand Jury