



FILED

SEP 28 2010

DAVID H. YAMASAKI
Chief Executive Officer/Clerk,
Superior Court of CA County of Santa Clara
BY D. ALDYCKI *[Signature]*

September 27, 2010

Honorable Jamie Jacobs-May, Presiding Judge
Santa Clara County Superior Court
191 North First Street
San Jose, CA 95113

RE: Responses to the recommendations and findings included in the 2009-2010 Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury Report, Achieving School District Efficiency through Consolidation

Dear Judge Jacobs,

Regarding the Civil Grand Jury's recommendations and findings related to Achieving School District Efficiency through Consolidation, the Campbell Union School District Governing Board respectfully submits the following responses:

Finding 1

Education and financial benefits can be achieved by consolidation and unification of certain county school districts.

Recommendation 1A

The Boards of Trustees should unify Cambrian School District, Campbell Union School District, Moreland School District, Union School District, and Luther Burbank School District with Campbell Union High School District.

Response:

The Campbell Union School District disagrees with the findings. There may be some financial benefits to consolidating; however the magnitude of the savings is not clearly delineated in the report.

The report did not identify a research –driven purpose for unification that will result in increased student achievement.

There are legal complexities associated with the process that must be considered including, but not limited to:

- The Board of Trustees petition agreement
- Meeting the ten California Ed Code conditions
- The election process and significant costs
- Individual district fiscal solvency disparities
- Charter and non charter status
- Basic Aid and revenue limit districts

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There is generally a difference between salary and compensation of high school, unified, and elementary districts. High school districts offer higher salaries and compensation than both unified and elementary districts. Therefore there would be an increased cost of teacher, classified, and administrative employee salaries and compensation with unifying the suggested districts. This factor could neutralize any cost savings projected by merely consolidating the districts.

Recommendations 1B – 1F do not pertain to the Campbell Union School District Board of Trustees.

If you have questions or need further clarification, please contact Ruth Smith, Assistant to Superintendent at (408) 341-7232.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Danielle M.S. Cohen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Danielle M.S. Cohen
Governing Board President
Campbell Union School District