

**Lakeside Joint School District**


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**FILED**

SEP 28 2010

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

September 22, 2010

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

Re: Responses to Grand Jury Findings and Recommendations on "**Achieving School District Efficiency Through Consolidation,**" and "Looking at Policies Our Schools Use to Find and Place Employees."

Dear Judge Jacobs-May:

As instructed by Foreperson Angie M. Cardoza in her letter of June 24, 2010, please find enclosed the above referenced documents.

If you have any questions do not hesitate to call me at 408/354-2372.

Very truly yours,



Bob Chrisman  
Superintendent/Principal

Enc.

**LAKESIDE JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Response to Grand Jury Findings and Recommendations**  
**“Achieving School District Efficiency Through Consolidation”**  
**September 2010**

**Finding 1**

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

Lakeside Joint School District disagrees with this finding. There **may** be a financial benefit to consolidation of some districts, but an extensive analysis would need to be done in order to determine where there might be efficiencies. Research indicates that as district size increases a greater percentage of funds are spent on needs outside the classroom, e.g., for a single-school district the grounds person can walk around campus. When there are two campuses, the grounds person needs a truck! Lakeside is a high performing school district with a 2010 API of 963. If it's not broken, don't fix it. To date, there is no research to substantiate that there is an educational benefit to consolidation and unification.

**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.*

Not applicable. This recommendation requires further analysis by the respective governing boards of those districts.

**Recommendations 1B**

*The Boards of Trustees should unify Lakeside Joint School District, Loma Prieta Joint Union School District, Los Gatos Union School District and Saratoga Union School District with Los Gatos-Saratoga High School District.*

Lakeside Joint School District disagrees and believes that this is a community decision. Unification has been explored in the west valley on two occasions. Local communities had a unification election in the 1990's which was unsuccessful, and there is no indication that another attempt would garner community support. Unification was especially distasteful to the mountain communities.

**Recommendation 1C**

*The Boards of Trustees should unify Cupertino Union School District and Sunnyvale School District with Fremont Union High School District.*

Not applicable. This recommendation requires further analysis by the respective governing boards of those districts.

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**Recommendation 1D**

*The Boards of Trustees should unify Los Altos School district and Mountain View Whisman School district with Mountain View-Los Altos High School District.*

Not applicable. This recommendation requires further analysis by the respective governing boards of those districts.

**Recommendation 1E**

*The Boards of Trustees should consolidate Alum Rock Union School District and Mount Pleasant School District to form a new elementary/middle school district.*

Not applicable. This recommendation requires further analysis by the respective governing boards of those districts.

**Recommendation 1F**

*The Boards of Trustees should consolidate Berryessa Union School District and Orchard School District to form a new elementary/middle school district.*

Not applicable. This recommendation requires further analysis by the respective governing boards of those districts.