



Perris Elementary School District Superintendent's Attendance Area Advisory Committee Report December 10, 2015

Introduction

The Perris Elementary School District (District) established a Superintendent's Attendance Area Advisory Committee (Committee) to review, discuss, consider and recommend options on new attendance area boundaries. The Committee was established in anticipation of the District opening its newest school in the fall of 2016, Clearwater Elementary, located at 1640 Murrieta Road in Perris.

The district employed the services of Eric Hall and Associates (EHA) to establish a process for sound decision making, information gathering and to serve as a liaison with Davis Demographics and Planning (DDP). The District employed the services of DDP to assist in researching student data, documenting schools of residence and schools of attendance for District students and to project student enrollment by school for current and potential scenarios for committee consideration.

Committee Membership and Meetings

The District established a committee consisting of a wide variety of members of the school community including school administrators, parents, certificated and classified employees and district office administrators; in addition to serving on the Committee also served as a resource for the Committee as well. A broad variety of school community members are included in this process including representative for each school in the District. *The list of Committee members can be found as an exhibit to this report.*



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The Committee met on October 19, November 17 and December 1, 2015, to review data, considered issues relative to the establishment of new attendance areas, review scenarios and provide recommendations. *Agendas of these meetings are attached as exhibits to this report.*

The committee established ground rules for conducting its business and facilitated deliberations and established criteria for evaluating options. *The Ground Rules and Criteria are attached as exhibits to this report.*

The Committee discussed the criteria that should be utilized to review and consider scenarios and options for attendance zone changes. *These criteria identified and utilized by the Committee is included as an exhibit to this report and includes:*

- *Safety:* The Committee considered walking distances, traffic patterns, availability of sidewalks and the safety and location of railway and major street crossings
- *Balance in Enrollment:* The Committee considered current school enrollments and attendance areas (*see current school attendance areas in exhibit*) and projections of enrollment, current school capacities and maintaining capacity for Clearwater Elementary School enrollment growth and attract resident students from current inter District Transfers to Val Verde School District
- *Maintaining Specialized Programs:* The Committee expressed interest to maintain District programs such as Railway Elementary School magnet program, Innovative Horizons Charter School and the planned Clearwater Elementary School STEM program
- *Other Consideration:* The Committee considered arrival and dismissal times and Parent and Student Railway crossing location and the need for continued educational programs

Committee members were thoughtful, dedicated and committed in their work researching scenarios, discussing impacts, providing for the best available options for consideration.

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Scenarios and Options Considered

DDP conducted research and worked closely with EHA and the District in presenting options for consideration that meet the established Criteria. The Committee's interests and desires and the District Administration concerns and needs were also taken into consideration. An in-depth analysis of various study areas, current and projected student enrollment and an analysis of student's residence and school of attendance was discussed and utilized in the Committee deliberations as well. *A school attendance matrix can be found as an attachment to this report.* The Committee considered the student's home address, their school of residence and their school of attendance. The Committee discovered that approximately 25% of the District's students are attending a school other than their school of residence. The high percentage of students that are able to attend schools outside their school attendance area speaks very strongly for the district's successful efforts to establish specialized programs and reflects the District's strong desire to accommodate parental choice in their children's school of attendance.

Note: All options considered include a revision in attendance zones to reflect current District practice and the founding documents for the Innovative Horizons Charter School. The Committee recommends and all options considered include the elimination of a specific attendance area for Innovative Horizons Charter School as reflected on outdated District attendance maps. The Committee recommends that the District's attendance area maps be revised to reflect the Charter School as a District wide school of choice without a specific attendance area. The Committee recommends that the attendance area maps be revised to reflect the reality and practice of a District wide attendance area for Innovative Horizons. All scenarios presented for consideration have redrawn attendance areas reflecting this area now designated for Enchanted Hills and Palms Elementary Schools.

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The Scenarios considered at the Committee's November 17 meeting are found in the exhibits and include:

- Scenario 1, "Capacity"
- Scenario 2, "More Clearwater"
- Scenario 3, "Safety First"
- Scenario 4, "The Combination"
- Scenario 5, "The Redlands"

Scenarios considered at the Committee's December 1 meeting are found in the exhibits and include:

- Scenario 1A, "Capacity"
- Scenario 2A, "More Clearwater"
- Scenario 5, "Redlands"
- Scenario, 5A
- Scenario, 5B

The Committee consideration, study, review, discussion and deliberations included individual and group votes and preferences expressed using a facilitated Committee consensus approach. Committee members expressed their preference using a discussion and their preference expressed in a "thumbs up" or "thumbs down" vote. The facilitator also used a "pair and share" approach whereby members discussed options in small groups with reporting out on their concerns and preferences to the committee. Among the nine separate options reviewed and considered by the Committee, the top three options for consideration were ranked in priority order. The Committee worked to provide options that although ranked by preference all three are suitable options acceptable by the committee that the committee stated they "could live with" as a District selected scenario.

The following scenarios were considered to be the top choices are ranked in priority order as recommended by the Committee:

1. Scenario 5
2. Scenario 5A
3. Scenario 1A



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Summary and Additional Considerations

The Committee also discussed considerations and concerns for District consideration. These recommendations as identified by the Committee are as follows:

- Early parental and community notification on attendance area changes
- Early student registration process to determine student's preferences
- "Grandfather" current school of enrollment for students to allow for the least amount of disruption and changes as possible especially for upper grade students who have attended their school of choice for several years
- Communicate and collaborate with The City of Perris and continue discussions regarding additional safety considerations in roadway, cross walks and parent drop off areas to facilitate safety of students, parents and the community
- Communicate and collaborate with The Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) for continued discussions and additional safety precautions on railway crossing and parental and student education
- Consider adjusting school start times within the District and facilitate dialogue with RCTC for consideration of adjusting train schedules as a safety feature

The priorities presented by the committee for superintendent consideration are all viable from the committee's perspective. In other words, the committee members felt they could live with any of the final three scenarios discussed.

EH&A understands the significance of a deliberative process for important decision making and appreciates the opportunity to assist the District in facilitating attendance area zone recommendations. We hope that we added value in establishing a structure for consideration of a wide variety of information and encouraging participation to enable the District to consider all perspectives and detailed information in making sound attendance area decisions that will withstand the test of time.



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Boundary Committee Members

Innovative Horizons Charter School	Scott Poncy	Asst. Principal
Innovative Horizons Charter School	Alma Gonzalez	Clerk Typist
Innovative Horizons Charter School	Anel Medina	Parent
Perris Elementary/Park Avenue	Eric Rivera	Principal
Park Avenue	Kristin Briggs	Secretary
Park Avenue	Monica Vaquero	Parent
Sky View	Sandy Wilson	Secretary
Sky View	Sharill Cortez	Asst. Principal
Sky View	Sharmisa Taylor Torres	Parent
Palms	Maria Lawe	Asst. Principal
Palms	Rebekah Turner-Robinson	Parent/Staff
Palms	Joyce Smith	Teacher
Palms	Lola Aguiluz	Parent
Railway	Maggie Ortega	Secretary
Sky View	Felipa Jimenez	Teacher
Sky View	Julianne Russell	Teacher
Perris Elementary	Michelle Holmes	Teacher
Perris Elementary	Kathy Wagner	Teacher
PETA	Sharon Breyer	Assoc Pres
CSEA	Ana Magana	Assoc Pres
Student Services	Kathy Montoya	Student Services Clerk
Attendance	Michelle Crawford	Data Quality Technician
Human Resources	Rob French	Director of Human Resources
Superintendent	Vince Ponce	Superintendent
Facilities	Will Wiley	Director of Facilities
Business	Veronica Ocegueda	Secretary/Parent
Business	Tina Daigneault	Chief Business Official
Eric Hall & Associates	Eric Hall	
Davis Demographics	Greg Davis	
Davis Demographics	Isaac Johnson	
Davis Demographics	Adrian Lopez	