

**OAK PARK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
5801 E. CONIFER STREET
OAK PARK, CALIFORNIA 91377
(818) 735-3206**

ADDENDUM - AGENDA #806

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, June 9, 2009

TIME: **4:30** ~~5:00~~ p.m. Closed Session

Please Note Earlier Start Time

6:00 p.m. Open Session

PLACE: Oak Park High School
Presentation Room-G9
899 Kanan Road
Oak Park, CA 91377

OPEN SESSION

CONSENT AGENDA

C.1.j. Approve Acceptance of Donations

ACTION

C.4. BOARD

- c. Approve Resolution #09-17 In Support of SB 680**
- d. Review/Discuss 2009 Grand Jury Report Response**

Date: June 4, 2009

Anthony W. Knight, Ed.D.
Superintendent and Secretary to the
Board of Education

TO: MEMBERS, BOARD OF EDUCATION
FROM: DR. ANTHONY W. KNIGHT, SUPERINTENDENT
DATE: JUNE 9, 2009
SUBJECT: C.1.j APPROVE ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS

CONSENT

ISSUE: Shall the Board acknowledge and accept donations made to the Oak Park Unified School District?

BACKGROUND: The following donations have been made to the District:

<u>Site</u>	<u>Gift/Donor</u>	<u>Est. Value</u>
OPHS	Kelly McGugan - Cash donation toward Connect-Ed	\$1,500.00

RECOMMENDATION: Accept the donations with thanks.

Prepared by: Martin Klauss, Assistant Superintendent, Business and Administrative Services

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony W. Knight, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Board Action: On motion of _____, seconded by _____, the Board of Education:

VOTE:	AYES	NOES	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Iceland	_____	_____	_____	_____
Laifman	_____	_____	_____	_____
Panec	_____	_____	_____	_____
Rees	_____	_____	_____	_____
Vinson	_____	_____	_____	_____
Student Rep	_____	_____	_____	_____

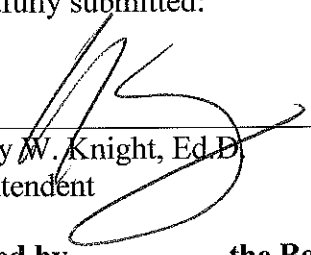
TO: MEMBERS, BOARD OF EDUCATION
FROM: DR. ANTHONY W. KNIGHT, SUPERINTENDENT
DATE: JUNE 9, 2009
SUBJECT: C.4.c. APPROVE RESOLUTION #09-17 – IN SUPPORT SB 680
ACTION

ISSUE: Shall the Board of Education approve Resolution #09-17 – In Support of Senate Bill 680?

STATEMENT: Senate Bill 680 will renew the California District of Choice program which allows over 800 students to attend Oak Park Unified School District.

RECOMMENDATION:
Approve Resolution #09-17 In Support of SB680.

Respectfully submitted:



Anthony W. Knight, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Board Action: On motion of _____, seconded by _____, the Board of Education:

VOTE:	AYES	NOES	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Iceland	_____	_____	_____	_____
Laifman	_____	_____	_____	_____
Panec	_____	_____	_____	_____
Rees	_____	_____	_____	_____
Vinson	_____	_____	_____	_____
Student Rep	_____	_____	_____	_____

OAK PARK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Resolution #09-17 - In Support of SB 680

WHEREAS, without viable public school choice, children, particularly in low-income communities, are locked into zip-code assigned schools; and

WHEREAS, the California District of Choice program empowers families of all incomes and ethnicities to pick a public school that best meets the needs of their child; and

WHEREAS, the Districts' of Choice API scores often exceed those of their neighboring districts by 50 points or more; and

WHEREAS, one size does not fit all in public education many Districts of Choice offer unique enrichment programs that are not available to children in their home districts; and

WHEREAS, the Oak Park Unified School District has been a district of choice since 2004; and

WHEREAS, over 800 students attend Oak Park Unified School District as District of Choice students; and

WHEREAS, if the District of Choice Law is allowed to expire this year, approximately 800 students would be forced to leave their schools, sending them back to their zip code assigned schools, unfamiliar to them and not serving their specific needs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Oak Park Unified School District urges the California Legislature and Governor Schwarzenegger to honor the choice of students and their parents to attend schools in the district of their choice and approve Senate Bill 680 (Romero).

PASS AND ADOPTED this 9th day of June, 2009

Ayes: _____ Noes: _____ Abstentions: _____ Absent: _____

SIGNED AND APPROVED:

President, Board of Education

Clerk, Board of Education

TO: MEMBERS, BOARD OF EDUCATION
FROM: DR. ANTHONY W. KNIGHT, SUPERINTENDENT
DATE: JUNE 9, 2009
SUBJECT: C.4.d REVIEW/DISCUSS 2009 GRAND JURY REPORT RESPONSE

ACTION

ISSUE: Shall the Board review/discuss Grand Jury Report response?

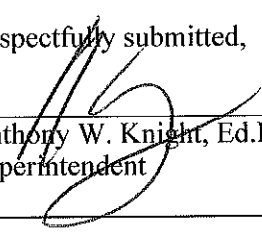
BACKGROUND: On May 13, 2009, the Ventura County 2008-2009 Grand Jury Report entitled "School District Administration: Is the Cost Too High?" was delivered to all school districts throughout Ventura County. We have been asked to respond within 60 days to this report. Attached is a draft response to this report.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve Response to the Grand Jury Report
2. Amend and approve the Response to the Grand Jury Report
3. Do not approve the Response to the Grand Jury Report

RECOMMENDATION: At the Board's discretion.

Respectfully submitted,

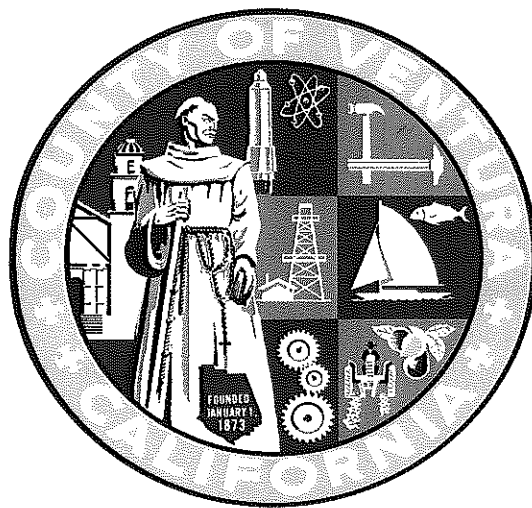


Anthony W. Knight, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Board Action: On motion of _____, seconded by _____, the Board of Education:

VOTE:	AYES	NOES	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Iceland	_____	_____	_____	_____
Laifman	_____	_____	_____	_____
Panec	_____	_____	_____	_____
Rees	_____	_____	_____	_____
Vinson	_____	_____	_____	_____
Student Rep	_____	_____	_____	_____

Ventura County Grand Jury 2008 - 2009



Final Report

School District Administration: Is the Cost Too High?

**Date Issued
May 18, 2009**

School District Administration: Is the Cost Too High?

Summary

With recent State budget problems and their impact on the funding of our schools, the 2008-2009 Ventura County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) decided to open an investigation into the cost of administering our public schools, which is approximately \$128,000,000 per year. The Grand Jury decided to narrow the investigation to the 20 public school **districts'** (Districts) administrative costs **and not** the cost of **individual schools** in Ventura County.

Most of the Districts are comprised of:

- a school board/trustees consisting of at least three to five members
- a superintendent
- assistant superintendents
- directors
- administrative/special services staff

Furthermore, there is the added expense of operating each district office and other administrative facilities. Most of the Districts also have support departments such as Information & Technology, Facilities, Purchasing, and Transportation which add to the cost of operating individual districts.

The Grand Jury concludes that by consolidation/unification¹ of some of the Districts, and by using the Ventura County Office of Education (VCOE) to centralize some services and departments, significant savings could be achieved. These savings could be used for the funding of teachers and educational programs at individual schools.

The Grand Jury recommends that the VCOE, Districts, and the Ventura County Committee on School District Organization (VCCSDO) should investigate ways to consolidate or unify some of the 20 Districts with the potential to save millions of dollars in administrative costs. Some suggestions are as follows:

- consolidate/unify Briggs Elementary, Fillmore Unified School District, Mupu Elementary, Santa Paula Elementary, Santa Paula Union High, and Santa Clara Elementary
- consolidate Ojai Unified and Ventura Unified
- consolidate/unify Hueneme Elementary, Ocean View Elementary, Oxnard Elementary, Oxnard Union High, and Rio Elementary
- consolidate/unify Mesa Union Elementary, Pleasant Valley Elementary, and Somis Union Elementary

¹ Consolidation is the combining of two or more elementary or high school districts with adjoining borders to form a single district.

Unification is the joining together of all, or part of, an elementary school district (grades K-8) with a high school district (grades 9-12) to form a new district encompassing grades K-12.

- consolidate Conejo Valley Unified, Oak Park Unified
- - consolidate Moorpark Unified, Simi Valley Unified

Other consolidations or unifications could be used to achieve similar savings.

The Grand Jury also recommends that the VCOE look into ways of centralizing services and departments such as Information & Technology, Purchasing, Facilities, and Transportation to help control and lower costs for all public school districts and the VCOE.

Background

Ventura County was formed in 1873 and as the county expanded, school districts were formed to serve the educational needs of county residents. Over the years 20 school districts emerged. Most of the Districts are comprised of:

- a school board/trustees consisting of at least three to five members
- a superintendent
- assistant superintendents
- directors
- administrative/special services staff

Most of the Districts also have support departments such as Information and Technology, Facilities, Purchasing, and Transportation which add to the cost of operating the district.

In addition, the State has mandated that each county form an Office of Education to oversee the disbursal of funds, ensure the application of state mandated programs, and apply uniform standards of training and certification of teachers. The VCOE Educational Services Branch provides an array of training, support and resources for educators, staff, and officials throughout the county. The VCOE also ensures that Districts comply with State legal requirements and educational goals, identify emerging educational needs, and develop and disseminate sound and responsive educational practices and programs.

The VCCSDO studies and makes recommendations in the areas of:

- organization and reorganizations of school districts
- transfer of territory between and/or among school districts
- number of trustees and the manner by which they are elected

The funding of each of the Districts is determined at the State level using the Average Daily Attendance (ADA) of each student which is part of the formula to redistribute tax revenues and California State Lottery monies. (Att-01)

On November 1, 2008, the 2008-2009 school year enrollment for the Districts was 137,513 and for the VCOE schools was 2,800. (Att-03)

Methodology

The Grand Jury requested information from all Districts and the VCOE concerning the personnel and related cost of administering their districts. The information requested included:

- listing of all positions working for, or charged to the district office
- salaries, non-salary compensation, and benefits
- print-out of added costs charged to the administration of the districts for the fiscal years 2006-2007 and 2007-2008
- financial data and pupil enrollment for 2006-2007 and 2007-2008

The Grand Jury requested information from the VCOE regarding:

- school district unification process
- Ventura County Committee on School District Organization

The Grand Jury also conducted interviews of VCOE staff.

Findings

Ventura County Public Schools

F-01. Ventura County has 203 schools comprised of 131 Elementary Schools, 28 Junior High/Middle Schools, 20 High Schools, 17 Alternative Schools, and 7 Charter Schools in the 20 public school districts: (Att-02)

- 11 Elementary - kindergarten through eighth grade
- 7 Unified – kindergarten through twelfth grade
- 2 High School – ninth through twelfth grade

F-02. As of November 2008, in the Districts there are a total of: (Att-03)

- 96 School Board Members/Trustees
- 20 Superintendents
- 36 Assistant Superintendents
- 27 Administrators
- 116 Directors
- 42 Managers/Supervisors
- 1,391 support staff assigned to the district offices

Ventura County School Districts by Geographical Area**Northeast County**

F-03. In the **Briggs Elementary School District** there are: (Att-03)

- 2 schools
- 457 students for 2008-2009 school year
- 5 Trustees (compensation not reported)
- 1 Superintendent at approximately \$173,000
- 4 support staff at a total of approximately \$125,000
- non-salary compensation and benefits of approximately \$60,000
- miscellaneous expenses of approximately \$205,000
- approximate cost of administration per student (exclusive of Trustee compensation) is \$1,233 or 14.1% of the General Fund Revenues of \$8,723 per year per student ADA

F-04. In the **Fillmore Unified School District** there are: (Att-03)

- 7 schools
- 3,762 students for 2008-2009 school year
- 5 School Board Members at a total of approximately \$31,000
- 1 Superintendent at approximately \$178,000
- 3 Assistant Superintendents at a total of approximately \$363,000
- 5 Directors at approximately \$447,000
- 2 Managers/Supervisors at a total of approximately \$117,000
- 46 support staff at a total of approximately \$2,000,000
- non-salary compensation and benefits of approximately \$1,200,000
- miscellaneous expenses of approximately \$490,000
- approximate cost of administration per student is \$1,277 or 14.3% of the General Fund Revenues of \$8,944 per year per student ADA

F-05. In the **Mupu Elementary School District** there are: (Att-03)

- 1 school
- 127 students for 2008-2009 school year
- 3 Trustees (compensation not reported)
- 1 Superintendent/Principal at approximately \$21,000
- 1 support staff at roughly \$36,000
- non-salary compensation and benefits of approximately \$20,000
- miscellaneous expenses of approximately \$58,000
- approximate cost of administration per student (exclusive of Trustee compensation) is \$1,066 or 12.5% of the General Fund Revenues of \$8,508 per year per student ADA

F-06. In the Santa Clara Elementary School District there are: (Att-03)

- 1 school
- 55 students for 2008-2009 school year
- 3 Trustees (compensation not reported)
- 1 Superintendent//Principal at approximately \$34,000
- 1 support staff at approximately \$4,000
- non-salary compensation and benefits of approximately \$10,000
- miscellaneous expenses of approximately \$51,000
- approximate cost of administration per student (exclusive of Trustee compensation) is \$1,811 or 16.9% of the General Fund Revenues of \$10,725 per year per student ADA

F-07. In the Santa Paula Elementary School District there are: (Att-03)

- 7 schools
- 3,699 students for 2008-2009 school year
- 5 Trustees at a total of approximately \$48,000
- 1 Superintendent at approximately \$160,000
- 2 Assistant Superintendents at a total of approximately \$245,000
- 6 Directors at a total of approximately \$550,000
- 1 Administrator at approximately \$78,000
- 36 support staff at a total of approximately \$1,600,000
- non-salary compensation and benefits of approximately \$855,000
- miscellaneous expenses of approximately \$800,000
- approximate cost of administration per student is \$1,153 or 12% of the General Fund Revenues of \$9,578 per year per student ADA

F-08. In the Santa Paula Union High School District there are: (Att-03)

- 2 schools
- 1,661 students for 2008-2009 school year
- 5 Trustees at a total of approximately \$55,000
- 1 Superintendent at approximately \$190,000
- 1 Assistant Superintendent at approximately \$115,000
- 2 Directors at a total of approximately \$180,000
- 5 Managers/Supervisors at a total of approximately \$290,000
- 8 support staff at a total of approximately \$470,000
- non-salary compensation and benefits of approximately \$420,000
- miscellaneous expenses of approximately \$200,000
- approximate cost of administration per student is \$1,159 or 12.5% of the General Fund Revenues of \$9,296 per year per student ADA

Southeast County

F-09. In the **Conejo Valley Unified School District** there are: (Att-03)

- 29 schools
- 22,097 students for 2008-2009 school year
- 5 Board Members at a total of approximately \$82,000
- 1 Superintendent at approximately \$183,000
- 3 Assistant Superintendents at a total of approximately \$435,000
- 16 Directors at approximately a total of \$1,660,000
- 10 Managers/Supervisors at a total of approximately \$670,000
- 136 support staff at a total of approximately \$7,380,000
- non-salary compensation and benefits of approximately \$2,040,000
- miscellaneous expenses of approximately \$1,700,000
- approximate cost of administration per student is \$643 or 8% of the General Fund Revenues of \$8,042 per year per student ADA

F-10. In the **Oak Park Unified School District** there are: (Att-03)

- 7 schools
- 3,620 students for 2008-2009 school year
- 5 School Board Members (not compensated)
- 1 Superintendent at approximately \$165,000
- 2 Assistant Superintendents at a total of approximately \$259,000
- 6 Directors at a total of approximately \$545,000
- 23 support staff at a total of approximately \$1,000,000
- non-salary compensation and benefits of approximately \$450,000
- miscellaneous expenses of approximately \$710,000
- approximate cost of administration per student is \$880 or 10.9% of the General Fund Revenues of \$8,088 per year per student ADA

Southwest

F-11. In the **Hueneme Elementary School District** there are: (Att-03)

- 11 schools
- 7,988 students for 2008-2009 school year
- 5 Trustees at a total of approximately \$68,000
- 1 Superintendent at approximately \$185,000
- 2 Assistant Superintendents at a total of approximately \$255,000
- 8 Directors at a total of approximately \$815,000
- 69 support staff at a total of approximately \$3,700,000
- non-salary compensation and benefits of approximately \$1,800,000
- miscellaneous expenses of approximately \$610,000

- approximate cost of administration per student is \$926 or 10.8% of the General Fund Revenues of \$8,528 per year per student ADA

F-12. In the Ocean View Elementary School District there are: (Att-03)

- 4 schools
- 2,510 students for 2008-2009 school year
- 5 Governing Board Members at a total of approximately \$34,000
- 1 Superintendent at approximately \$146,000
- 3 Assistant Superintendents at a total of approximately \$350,000
- 2 Directors at a total of approximately \$180,000
- 5 Managers/Supervisors at a total of approximately \$300,000
- 36 support staff at a total of approximately \$1,300,000
- non-salary compensation and benefits of approximately \$800,000
- miscellaneous expenses of approximately \$497,000
- approximate cost of administration per student is \$1,316 or 14.4% of the General Fund Revenues of \$9,133 per year per student ADA

F-13. In the Oxnard Elementary School District there are: (Att-03)

- 20 schools
- 14,792 students for 2008-2009 school year
- 5 Trustees at approximately (compensation not reported)
- 1 Superintendent at approximately \$235,000
- 3 Assistant Superintendents at a total of approximately \$335,000
- 11 Administrators at a total of approximately \$1,055,000
- 5 Directors at a total of approximately \$410,000
- 1 Manager/Supervisor at approximately \$58,000
- 100 support staff at a total of approximately \$4,500,000
- non-salary compensation and benefits of approximately \$3,200,000
- miscellaneous expenses of approximately \$3,545,000
- approximate cost of administration per student (exclusive of Trustee compensation) is \$826 or 9.5% of the General Fund Revenues of \$8,638 per year per student ADA

F-14. In the Oxnard Union High School District there are: (Att-03)

- 9 schools
- 16,478 students for 2008-2009 school year
- 5 Trustees at a total of approximately \$70,000
- 1 Superintendent at approximately \$210,000
- 3 Assistant Superintendents at a total of approximately \$415,000
- 12 Directors at a total of approximately \$1,340,000

- 2 Managers/Supervisors at a total of approximately \$145,000
- 71 support staff at a total of approximately \$3,700,000
- non-salary compensation and benefits of approximately \$2,160,000
- miscellaneous expenses of approximately \$1,800,000
- approximate cost of administration per student is \$597 or 6.6% of the General Fund Revenues of \$9,045 per year per student ADA

F-15. In the Rio Elementary School District there are: (Att-03)

- 8 schools
- 4,150 students for 2008-2009 school year
- 5 Trustees at a total of approximately \$12,000
- 1 Superintendent at approximately \$192,000
- 3 Assistant Superintendents at a total of approximately \$370,000
- 4 Directors at a total of approximately \$383,000
- 1 Manager/Supervisor at approximately \$66,000
- 60 support staff at a total of approximately \$2,000,000
- non-salary compensation and benefits of approximately \$620,000
- miscellaneous expenses of approximately \$1,675,000
- approximate cost of administration per student is \$1,286 or 15.5% of the General Fund Revenues of \$8,275 per year per student ADA

Central County

F-16. In the Pleasant Valley Elementary School District there are: (Att-03)

- 13 schools
- 6,509 students for 2008-2009 school year
- 5 Trustees at a total of approximately \$55,000
- 1 Superintendent at approximately \$205,000
- 2 Assistant Superintendents at a total of approximately \$274,000
- 6 Directors at a total of approximately \$673,000
- 3 Managers/Supervisors at a total of approximately \$198,000
- 63 support staff at a total of approximately \$3,150,000
- non-salary compensation and benefits of approximately \$1,375,000
- miscellaneous expenses of approximately \$1,125,000
- approximate cost of administration per student is \$1,085 or 13.8% of the General Fund Revenues of \$7,829 per year per student ADA

F-17. In the Mesa Union Elementary School District there are: (Att-03)

- 2 schools
- 580 students for 2008-2009 school year

- 5 Trustees (compensation not reported)
- 1 Superintendent at approximately \$168,000
- 5 support staff at a total of approximately \$155,000
- non-salary compensation and benefits of approximately \$90,000
- miscellaneous expenses of approximately \$200,000
- approximate cost of administration per student (exclusive of Trustee compensation) is \$1,059 or 11.7% of the General Fund Revenues of \$9,045 per year per student ADA

F-18. In the **Somis Union Elementary School District** there are: (Att-03)

- 2 schools
- 310 students for 2008-2009 school year
- 5 Trustees (compensation not reported)
- 1 Superintendent/Principal at approximately \$32,000
- 5 support staff at a total of approximately \$150,000
- non-salary compensation and benefits of approximately \$75,000
- miscellaneous expenses of approximately \$195,000
- approximate cost of administration per student (exclusive of Trustee compensation) is \$1,450 or 16.8% of the General Fund Revenues of \$8,617 per year per student ADA

East County

F-19. In the **Simi Valley Unified School District** there are: (Att-03)

- 29 schools
- 20,885 students for 2008-2009 school year
- 5 School Board Members at a total of approximately \$96,000
- 1 Superintendent at approximately \$256,000
- 2 Assistant Superintendents at a total of approximately \$340,000
- 10 Administrators at a total of approximately \$712,000
- 11 Directors at a total of approximately \$1,100,000
- 1 Manager/Supervisor at approximately \$52,000
- 150 support staff at a total of approximately \$11,700,000
- non-salary compensation and benefits of approximately \$6,200,000
- miscellaneous expenses of approximately \$1,600,000
- approximate cost of administration per student is \$1,022 or 13.6% of the General Fund Revenues of \$7,513 per year per student ADA

F-20. In the **Moorpark Unified School District** there are: (Att-03)

- 11 schools
- 7,317 students for 2008-2009 school year
- 5 School Board Members at a total of approximately \$75,000

- 1 Superintendent at approximately \$160,000
- 3 Assistant Superintendents at a total of approximately \$365,000
- 9 Directors at a total of approximately \$770,000
- 5 Managers/Supervisors at a total of approximately \$312,000
- 32 support staff at a total of approximately \$1,460,000
- non-salary compensation and benefits of approximately \$700,000
- miscellaneous expenses of approximately \$560,000
- approximate cost of administration per student is \$506 or 6.2% of the General Fund Revenues of \$8,162 per year per student ADA

Northwest County

F-21. In the **Ventura Unified School District** there are: (Att-03)

- 29 schools
- 17,428 students for 2008-2009 school year
- 5 School Board Members at a total of approximately \$67,000
- 1 Superintendent at approximately \$204,000
- 3 Assistant Superintendents at a total of approximately \$430,000
- 5 Administrators at a total of approximately \$500,000
- 19 Directors at a total of approximately \$1,600,000
- 6 Managers/Supervisors at a total of approximately \$374,000
- 270 support staff at a total of approximately \$11,000,000
- non-salary compensation and benefits of approximately \$5,260,000
- miscellaneous expenses of approximately \$1,825,000
- approximate cost of administration per student is \$1,191 or 14.3% of the General Fund Revenues of \$8,322 per year per student ADA

F-22. In the **Ojai Unified School District** there are: (Att-03)

- 9 schools
- 3,088 students for 2008-2009 school year
- 5 School Board Members at a total of approximately \$55,000
- 1 Superintendent at approximately \$153,000
- 1 Assistant Superintendent at approximately, 120,000
- 5 Directors at a total of approximately \$445,000
- 1 Manager/Supervisor at approximately \$70,000
- 38 support staff at a total of approximately \$1,800,000
- non-salary compensation and benefits of approximately \$970,000
- miscellaneous expenses of approximately \$375,000
- approximate cost of administration per student is \$1,285 or 14.3% of the General Fund Revenues of \$8,948 per year per student ADA

F-23. The following is a summary of the total district cost, enrollment, and cost per student.

District Cost Comparisons

Districts	Total Cost	Enrollment 08/09	Cost per Student
Briggs Elementary	\$563,333	457	\$1,233
Conejo Valley Unified	14,212,468	22,097	643
Fillmore Unified	4,805,695	3,762	1,277
Hueneme Elementary	7,397,731	7,988	926
Mesa Union Elementary	614,088	580	1,059
Moorpark Unified	4,408,461	7,317	602
Mupu Elementary	135,413	127	1,066
Oak Park Unified	3,185,537	3,620	880
Ocean View Elementary	3,302,452	2,510	1,316
Ojai Unified	3,967,717	3,088	1,285
Oxnard Elementary	13,305,697	14,792	900
Oxnard Union High	9,829,651	16,478	597
Pleasant Valley Elementary	7,060,848	6,509	1,085
Rio Elementary	5,336,653	4,150	1,286
Santa Clara Elementary	99,613	55	1,811
Santa Paula Elementary	4,344,789	3,699	1,175
Santa Paula Union High	1,924,541	1,661	1,159
Simi Valley Unified	22,047,909	20,885	1,056
Somis Union Elementary	449,411	310	1,450
Ventura Unified	21,248,215	17,428	1,219
Total for all Districts	\$128,240,222	137,513	
Average cost per student for all Districts			\$933

Ventura County Office of Education (VCOE)

F-24. In the **VCOE** there are: (Att-03)

- 5 special needs schools – kindergarten through twelfth grade
- 15 special day-class programs on public school sites
- 2,800 students for 2008-2009 school year
- 5 Trustees at \$55,000
- 1 Superintendent at approximately \$210,000
- 4 Assistant Superintendents at a total of approximately \$625,000
- 20 Directors at a total of approximately \$2,300,000
- 23 Managers/Supervisors at a total of approximately \$2,000,000
- 140 support staff at a total of approximately \$6,800,000
- non-salary compensation and benefits of approximately \$3,500,000
- cost per VCOE student is not relevant to this study

F-25. The VCOE operates many support departments such as Information & Technology, Facilities, Purchasing, and Transportation; some of the Districts utilize these services.

F-26. The VCCSDO makes recommendations on organization and reorganizations of school districts, the transfer of territory between and/or among school districts, the number of trustees, and the manner by which they are elected. (Att-06)

Conclusions

C-01. The cost of administering Ventura County's 20 public school districts is approximately \$128,240,000: (Att-03) (F-01 through F-22)

- average administrative cost as reported is \$933 per year per student
- there are over 240 administrators at a cost of approximately \$24,000,000 per year, not counting benefits and non-salary compensation
- there are 1,400 support staff at a cost of approximately \$57,000,000 per year, not counting benefits and non-salary compensation
- total non-salary compensation and medical benefits are approximately \$31,457,000
- miscellaneous cost of materials, supplies, travel and conferences, staff development, dues and memberships, rentals and leases, professional consultants, audit, business service authority, employment fees, legal services, postage, miscellaneous insurance, etc. is approximately \$18,250,000 per year
- total cost of the sixty reported school board members and trustees is approximately \$760,000 per year including benefits and non-

salary compensation (exclusive of non-reported Trustee compensation)

- C-02.** Unification/consolidation of some of the County's 20 public school districts could significantly reduce administrative costs which, in turn, could be used to maintain classroom programs and teachers. (Att-07) (F-01 through F-22)
- C-03.** Combining some District support functions at the VCOE could reduce the cost of operating Districts. (F-23, F-24)

Recommendations

- R-01.** The Grand Jury recommends that the VCOE, the Districts, and the VCCSDO should investigate ways to consolidate or unify some of the 20 public school districts with the potential to save millions of dollars in administrative costs. Some suggestions are as follows: (C-01, C-02)
- consolidate/unify Briggs Elementary, Mupu Elementary, Santa Paula Elementary, Santa Paula Union High, and Santa Clara Elementary
 - consolidate Ojai Unified and Ventura Unified
 - consolidate/unify Hueneme Elementary, Ocean View Elementary, Oxnard Elementary, Oxnard Union High, and Rio Elementary
 - consolidate/unify Mesa Union Elementary, Pleasant Valley Elementary, and Somis Union Elementary
 - consolidate Conejo Valley Unified and Oak Park Unified
 - consolidate Moorpark Unified and Simi Valley Unified

Different consolidations or unifications could achieve similar savings.

- R-02** The Grand Jury recommends that the VCOE should coordinate efforts with individual districts to consolidate support services, such as, Information and Technology, Purchasing, Facilities, and Transportation to help reduce costs for all of the Districts and the VCOE. (C-03)

Responses

Responses Required From:

Ventura County Superintendent of Schools (R-01, R-02)
Ventura County Board of Education (R-01, R-02)
Board of Trustees Briggs Elementary School District (R-01, R-02)
Board of Education Conejo Valley Unified School District (R-01, R-02)
Board of Education Fillmore Unified School District (R-01, R-02)
Board of Trustees Hueneme Elementary School District (R-01, R-02)
Board of Trustees Mesa Union Elementary School District (R-01, R-02)
Board of Education Moorpark Unified School District (R-01, R-02)
Board of Education Oak Park Unified School District (R-01, R-02)

Governing Board Ocean View Elementary School District (R-01, R-02)
Board of Education Ojai Unified School District (R-01, R-02)
Board of Trustees Oxnard Elementary School District (R-01, R-02)
Board of Trustees Oxnard Union High School District (R-01, R-02)
Board of Trustees Pleasant Valley Elementary (R-01, R-02)
Board of Trustees Rio Elementary School District (R-01, R-02)
Board of Trustees Santa Clara Elementary School District (R-01, R-02)
Board of Trustees Santa Paula Elementary School District (R-01, R-02)
Board of Trustees Santa Paula Union High School District (R-01, R-02)
Board of Education Simi Valley Unified School District (R-01, R-02)
Board of Trustees Somis Union Elementary School District (R-01, R-02)
Board of Education Ventura Unified School District (R-01, R-02)

Responses Requested From:

Ventura County Committee on School District Organization (R-01)

Attachments

- Att-01.** Average Daily Attendance Definition
- Att-02.** List of Ventura County Public Schools
- Att-03.** Summary of Responses Received from all School Districts and the VCOE
- Att-04.** Ventura County School Districts Map
- Att-05.** Potential Consolidations/Unifications Map
- Att-06.** Information on the Ventura County Committee on School District Organization
- Att-07.** Potential Administrative Cost Savings from the Recommended Consolidations/Unifications

RESPONSE TO THE GRAND JURY REPORT

School District Administration: Is the Cost Too High?

R-01

DISAGREE

The Oak Park Unified School District disagrees with finding R-01 as it pertains to the suggested consolidation of the Oak Park Unified School District and the Conejo Valley Unified School District. Some of the reasons we disagree are as follows:

- The Oak Park Unified School District is one of the most successful public school districts in California and the nation. All of our schools are California Distinguished Schools and four are nationally recognized. Our API scores are the highest of any unified or K-12 district in the County.
- The Oak Park USD is financially sound, recently earning a Aa3 rating by Moody's Investor Services prior to issuance of Measure R and Measure C6 bonds.
- Oak Park USD has one of the smallest administrative structures of any district in the County. We have compared our organizational chart to those of similar sized districts in Los Angeles County and we rank at the bottom in terms of number of administrators and administrator to teacher and administrator to student ratios.
- The Oak Park community has demonstrated that it values its local schools and believes strongly in local control of the schools. This is demonstrated through the recent passage of the Measure C Parcel Tax (82% YES) and the Measure R School Bond (57% YES). There are active and functioning Citizens Oversight Committees for each of these measures.
- The Oak Park community values small schools with individual attention to students. Research shows that smaller schools translate into higher levels of student achievement. Consolidation of school systems often leads to consolidation of schools, making them larger entities. Oak Park USD takes pride in the attention that paid to each student and works to meet the needs of every student, including his or her social and emotional needs.
- Parents in Oak Park schools demonstrate ownership of the schools through active Parent Teacher Organizations, Friends of Oak Park, our educational foundation, and by volunteering on a daily basis. The community of Oak Park does the same, for example, the Oak Park Community Foundation is actively involved to support the schools.

In summary, Oak Park Unified School District values its autonomy and self-determination. Our moral imperatives and goals reflect the values of our community and there is an understanding of accountability to our community for the education of the children of Oak Park.

R-02

AGREE

The Oak Park Unified School District already works closely with the Ventura County Office of Education and other local school districts for support services. These include printing, purchasing, and some special education services. We would like to see more opportunities in the area of special education made available to our students by neighboring districts. We are also looking forward to working with Ventura County in the development of an RFP (Request for Proposals) for potential solar power projects under the ARRA.