



PROPOSED TERRITORY TRANSFER FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

On September 7, 2016, a petition, which proposes to transfer territory from Glendale Unified School District (GUSD) to La Cañada Unified School District (LCUSD), was presented to the Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization. The petition was submitted by a community group calling themselves “Unite LCF.”

Below you will find answers to frequently asked questions regarding the County Committee process and possible future outcomes of the proposed territory transfer.

GUSD ENROLLMENT DATA

How many students living in the proposed territory transfer area currently attend GUSD schools?

As of August 2016, there were approximately 356 students living in the proposed territory transfer area attending GUSD schools.

Can students living in the proposed territory transfer area choose to attend GUSD or LCUSD schools?

GUSD approves releases for students living in the proposed territory transfer area to transfer to LCUSD schools. These students must also obtain a permit from LCUSD before they may officially transfer.

How many students living in the proposed territory transfer area request releases to attend LCUSD schools?

The following represents the number of students living in the proposed territory transfer area who have requested and been granted a release from GUSD to attend LCUSD schools over the past five years.

2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17*
3	22	21	68	33

**As of 8/31/2016*

Why does GUSD release students from the proposed territory transfer area to attend LCUSD schools?

By honoring requests from families living in the proposed territory transfer area to send their children to LCUSD schools, GUSD hopes to mitigate the upheaval of a forced transfer for the families who choose to continue attending GUSD schools. Both GUSD and LCUSD have very high performing schools that are meeting the social and emotional needs of our students.

PROPOSAL PROCESS

What are the next steps now that the territory transfer petition has been preliminarily approved?

In May 2017, the County Committee voted, against County Committee staff recommendation, to preliminarily approve the territory transfer petition pending a CEQA review. In January 2018, the County Committee selected environmental services consultant Terry Hayes and Associates to complete the CEQA review for the proposed territory transfer. At the completion of the study, the County Committee



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will take its final vote on the territory transfer petition. After the County Committee makes their final vote, GUSD or the petitioners may appeal to the California State Board of Education (SBE). If the SBE votes to deny the transfer petition, residents living in the proposed territory transfer area will remain in the GUSD. If the SBE votes to approve the transfer petition, the decision will go to a community election with voting area determined by the LA County Committee.

For a more detailed timeline, visit the “Proposed Territory Transfer” information page on the GUSD website and click on the “Territory Transfer Timeline” link.

What happens if the territory transfer petition is approved?

If, after the appeal and election process, the proposed transfer is ultimately approved, then students living in the proposed territory transfer area will be transferred from GUSD to LCUSD schools. LCUSD may approve a release for students living in the proposed territory transfer area to remain in GUSD schools. These students must also obtain a permit from GUSD prior to the transfer.

DISTRICT CAPACITY AND ENROLLMENT

How would a transfer of students living in the proposed territory transfer area affect GUSD?

If the territory transfer is approved, the following GUSD schools will see a decline in enrollment: Mountain Avenue Elementary School, Rosemont Middle School, and Crescenta Valley High School.

If the proposed territory transfer is approved, would there be an impact to the GUSD Unrestricted General Fund?

If the proposed territory transfer is approved, the GUSD Unrestricted General Fund would lose up to \$2.86 million in Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) State revenue due to lower Average Daily Attendance (ADA), which would affect all GUSD schools and services to students. The estimated revenue loss is based on state per-pupil funding, which GUSD would lose if up to 356 students from the proposed territory transfer area are transferred to LCUSD.

If the proposed territory transfer is approved, would GUSD receive any compensation to minimize the financial impact?

No. If the proposed territory transfer is approved, GUSD would lose up to \$2.86 million in LCFF State revenue. The district would not be compensated for this loss.

If the proposed territory transfer is approved, would Mountain Avenue Elementary School close?

GUSD does not plan to close any schools regardless of whether or not students living in the proposed territory transfer area are transferred out of the District. Should the transfer occur, GUSD would consider several possibilities to boost enrollment at La Crescenta schools, including making boundaries at certain schools “permissible.” This would mean the parents in those areas could choose which school they wanted their children to attend. No students would be forced to change schools.



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If the proposed territory transfer is approved, would Mountain Avenue Elementary School stakeholders be allowed to provide input as to the future plans for the school?

Yes. GUSD is committed to receiving stakeholder input on all issues related to our schools.

If the proposed territory transfer is approved, when would the students be transferred?

After the County Committee makes their final vote, GUSD or the petitioners may appeal to the California State Board of Education (SBE). If the SBE votes to approve the transfer petition, the decision will go to a community election with voting area determined by the LA County Committee. If, after the appeal and election process, the proposed transfer is ultimately approved, then students living in the proposed territory transfer area will be transferred from GUSD to LCUSD schools at the beginning of the following school year.

If the proposed territory transfer is approved, would students living in the territory transfer area have the option to attend GUSD schools?

If the proposed transfer is approved, students living in the territory transfer area would have the option of applying for a release from LCUSD and a waiver to attend GUSD schools. Students would need to receive permission from both districts before enrolling at GUSD schools.

If the proposed territory transfer is approved, how would the transfer affect students receiving special education services that live in the proposed territory transfer area?

A territory transfer would have no effect on students receiving special education services. Students receiving special education services would not transfer to LCUSD. GUSD and LCUSD participate in a joint Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) wherein GUSD provides special education services to students residing in LCUSD and GUSD.

What if the proposed territory transfer is approved, but LCUSD is unable to accommodate students from the proposed territory transfer area?

This question should be directed to LCUSD.

If the proposed territory transfer is approved, what LCUSD school would students living in the proposed territory transfer area attend?

This question should be directed to LCUSD.

If the proposed territory transfer is approved, would there be any impact on LCUSD's students who are attending GUSD schools on permit?

Currently, nine students from LCUSD who live outside of the proposed territory transfer area attend GUSD schools on permit. These students would not be affected regardless of whether or not the proposed territory transfer is approved.



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OTHER QUESTIONS

Have GUSD and LCUSD negotiated a proposed territory transfer area transfer in the past?

GUSD and LCUSD have discussed options for the proposed territory transfer area over the past three years, but no mutually beneficial solution could be found. At this point, GUSD does not plan to participate in any further negotiations that might result in moving students from the proposed territory transfer area out of our district. For a more detailed history of the proposed territory transfer area, visit the "Proposed Territory Transfer" information page on the GUSD website and click on the "Territory Transfer History" link.

Is it true that residents in the proposed territory transfer area have requested a territory transfer in the past and been unsuccessful? What, if anything, has changed to imply that the petition will be successful now?

Since the 1960s, residents living in the proposed territory transfer area have unsuccessfully petitioned for a territory transfer three times. We do not believe that there is any new educational reason, or any other new reason, that would support this fourth transfer petition to succeed now.

If the proposed territory transfer is approved, would GUSD retain ownership and control of the pedestrian bridge and Pickens Canyon drop-off area?

Yes. The petitioners have excluded the transfer of GUSD property from their petition.

How would a transfer of students living in the proposed territory transfer area affect GUSD's relationship with LCUSD?

GUSD and LCUSD enjoy a positive and constructive relationship that has led to a number of mutually beneficial shared initiatives, including lobbying efforts as members of the Five Star Education Coalition, a joint Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA), collaborative professional development efforts, and crisis counseling support for our students. Regardless of the outcome of the proposed transfer petition, GUSD is confident that this positive relationship will continue.