

**SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Resolution**

**In Opposition to the Unification Petition Submitted to LACOE by the Malibu City Council**

On Dec 17, 2015, this school board unanimously resolved its desire for the co-existence of a Santa Monica Unified School District and a Malibu Unified School District as two excellent school districts serving their respective communities and providing the best educational opportunities for their respective students, as long as it can be accomplished in a manner that does not have a negative impact on the financial condition of the remaining Santa Monica Unified School District.

**WHEREAS**, the Malibu City Council adopted a resolution on September 15, 2015, to authorize transmission of a petition for unification of a Malibu Unified School District to the Los Angeles County Superintendent (LACOE), but did not send the resolution to LACOE at that time; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 31, 2017, the City of Malibu's City Manager transmitted the Malibu City Council's September 15, 2015, resolution to LACOE's Committee on School District Organization; and

**WHEREAS**, the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education has a fiduciary responsibility to the entire District and has been diligently looking for a pathway to unification that ensures that there would not be a substantial negative effect on the fiscal condition of either the remaining Santa Monica Unified School District (SMUSD) or the newly created Malibu Unified School District (MUSD) and is continuing that pursuit; and

**WHEREAS**, the Malibu City Council's resolution authorizing transmission of the petition for unification does not address the negative fiscal impacts to SMUSD, as described in reports submitted by the Malibu Unification Negotiations Committee and School Services of California; and

**WHEREAS**, on November 27, 2017, the Malibu City Council took action to request that LACOE schedule its first hearings for consideration of the petition for unification after mid-February, 2018 pursuant to the School Board request, and also requested that its unification petition dated September 15, 2015, "be revised to consider a reasonable financial proposal for an orderly transition period, and consider adding a 'by district voting' component." The City Council's requests were submitted to LACOE's Committee on School District Organization on or about November 29, 2017.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education opposes the Malibu City Council's petition for unification, adopted by the Malibu City Council on September 15, 2015, and submitted to LACOE on August 31, 2017.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education opposes the financial proposal amending the Malibu City Council's petition as approved by the City Council on November 27, 2017, since it is not adequate to address the impacts on a newly constituted SMUSD. School Services of California's financial analysis is currently still underway.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education reserves its right to address, in detail, whether each of the conditions for unification set forth in California Education Code Section 35753 are met by the petition.


**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education directs the Superintendent to forward this resolution to the Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization for its consideration when deliberating on the Malibu City Council's petition for unification.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of December 2017 by the following vote:

AYES: 6  
NOES: 1  
ABSTAIN: 0  
ABSENT: 0



Dr. Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein, Board President



Dr. Ben Drati, Superintendent