

Summary of Related Experience and References

Reorganization Studies Conducted in California by MAP

Year: 1991

Jurisdiction: Grant Joint Union High School District and its feeder elementary districts

Contracting Organization: Sacramento County Committee on School District Organization

Study Conclusions:

MAP, at the request of the client, prepared five organizational alternatives:

- 1) A single unified school district with the current Grant High School District boundaries;
- 2) A North-South strategy;
- 3) A three-district strategy
- 4) A community plan strategy, with district boundaries aligned along areas of identifiable community interest; and
- 5) A district autonomy strategy, employing boundaries of the current elementary school districts.

Final Results:

MAP developed a plan which combined features of (3) and (4). This plan was adopted by the County Committee and approved by the State Board of Education. However, an amendment to the plan added by the State Board was judged by a Superior Court judge to be beyond the scope of the State Board's authority and the election was never held.

Year: 1991

Jurisdiction: Tamalpais Union High School District and Related Elementary School Districts

Contracting Organization: Marin County Committee on School District Organization

Study Conclusions:

MAP recommended that the Tamalpais Union High School District and its ten related elementary school districts be reorganized into three unified K-12 districts, each anchored by one of three comprehensive high schools.

Final Results:

The Committee elected to take no action.

Year: 1992

Jurisdiction: Stanislaus County

Contracting Organization: Stanislaus County Superintendent of Schools

Study Conclusions:

MAP was asked to conduct a feasibility study of possible unification alternatives for the area encompassed by Oakdale Joint Union High and Hughson Union High. MAP recommended that Waterford Elementary be allowed to split away from Oakdale and become its own district pending local approval of a bond issue to build a high school. MAP also recommended that Riverbank become a separate unified school district.

Final Results:

Waterford and Riverbank have successfully formed their own districts and Oakdale Joint Union High and Elementary Districts have now unified. MAP was asked to do a separate study for Hughson – see below.

Year: 1993

Jurisdiction: Eastern Shasta County

Contracting Organization: A group of nine small elementary districts in Shasta County employed MAP to conduct a unification feasibility study.

Study Conclusions:

MAP recommended that no attempt to unify be taken since the proposed district would not have the assessed value or other sources of revenue sufficient to build a high school.

Final Results:

The districts discontinued their efforts to unify.

Year: 1993
Jurisdiction: Warner Union School District area
Contracting Organization: San Diego County Office of Education

Study Conclusions:

The San Diego County Office of Education employed MAP to conduct the unification study required by statute prior to a unification proposal going forward to the State Board of Education. MAP recommended against unification, based on the size of the district and its lack of an educational plan for its proposed small high school. MAP recommended alternative strategies short of unification, which would have required significantly greater coordination with the county office and the high school district in which Warner is situated.

Final Results:

The Warner petition was approved by the County Board, the State Board and by the local electorate and it is now a Unified School District.

Year: 1994
Jurisdiction: Folsom-Cordova Unified School District
Contracting Organization: The Board of Trustees of the Folsom-Cordova Unified School District

Study Conclusions:

MAP recommended that the proposal to divide the district into two separate unified school districts (one in Folsom, the other in Cordova) go forward and that the election be held in the entire area encompassed by the existing Unified School District.

Final Results:

MAP recommendations were accepted by the State Board of Education. The election was held but was rejected by the voters, losing overwhelmingly in Cordova and winning in Folsom. The district remained unified but discussion about possible deunification are continuing.

Year: 1995

Jurisdiction: San Joaquin County

Contracting Organization: The Board of Trustees of Tracy Elementary, Tracy High and the San Joaquin County Superintendent of Schools

Study Conclusions:

MAP concluded that the Tracy Elementary District and Tracy High School District should become unified and that the other feeder schools in the area be permitted to maintain their status as elementary districts.

Final Results:

MAP recommendations were accepted by the County Committee and the State Board of Education. The election was held and passed overwhelmingly. Tracy is now unified.

Year: 1996

Jurisdiction: Stanislaus County

Contracting Organization: The Stanislaus County Superintendent of Schools

Study Conclusions:

MAP recommended that Turlock High and Turlock Elementary districts form a unified district with the feeder districts Keyes and Chatom permitted to continue their status as elementary districts.

Final Results:

Keyes and Chatom supported the recommendation but plans to unify have been put on hold pending resolution of the Turlock's severe school housing problems.

Year: 1996

Jurisdiction: Stanislaus County

Contracting Organization: The Stanislaus County Superintendent of Schools

Study Conclusions:

MAP recommended that Hughson High and Hughson Elementary districts form a unified district with other feeder districts being permitted to continue their status as elementary districts.

Final Results:

The unification was successful.

Year: 1997

Jurisdiction: Madera County

Contracting Organization: Castle and Cook, Inc.

Study Conclusions:

MAP was asked by the clients to explore the feasibility of the deunification of the Webster Elementary School portion of the Madera Unified School District, to advise the citizens in the community on how to proceed and to guide their efforts toward forming a separate district.

Final Results:

The new district was formed and became effective for all purposes, July 1, 1999.

Year: 1998

Jurisdiction: San Joaquin County

Contracting Organization: San Joaquin Superintendent of Schools

Study Conclusions:

MAP concluded that for financial equity, and racial and ethnic diversity reasons, the proposal from the Lodi Unified school District Governing Board to divide the district into two separate districts no be approved.

Final Results:

The MAP recommendations were unanimously approved by the San Joaquin County Committee on School District Organization.

Reorganization Studies Conducted in Other States:

Year: 1996

Jurisdiction: The Nevada State Legislature

Contracting Organization: The Nevada State Legislature

Study Conclusions:

MAP provided a set of options for the Legislature's consideration for each of Nevada's 7 counties. It should be noted that state policymakers' principle concern in this study was Las Vegas (Clark County,) an area experiencing tremendous, and continuing, growth. For Clark County, MAP provided three boundary change models, but recommended that several other alternatives be pursued prior to taking the relatively radical step of reorganizing. MAP also made recommendations in this report about proposals and provided criteria by which to assess whether reorganization should take place.

Final Results:

No immediate action was taken on Clark County reorganization. However, recommendations regarding other portions of the state and some specific legislative proposals are still under consideration.

Reorganization Studies Currently in Progress

Year: 2003

Jurisdiction: City of Hercules and West Contra Costa Unified School District

Contracting Organization: City of Hercules

Study Conclusions:

MAP recommends a new unified school district to be comprised of the City of Hercules and existing John Swett Unified school district.

Final Results:

Hercules and John Swett Unified are pursuing creature of your school district.

Year: 2003 to present

Jurisdiction: City of Lakewood and four unified school districts operating in Lakewood City limits

Contracting Organization: City of Lakewood.

Study Conclusions: Project still in progress.