

EAST SIDE UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Public Hearing – Proposed Boundary Changes

Proposed Sites: Evergreen Valley, Silver Creek & Mt. Pleasant High Schools

Meeting of July 18, 2006

Evergreen Valley High School - Gymnasium

6:30 p.m.

The following concerns/input were provided by the community:

- Safety is a priority, which is not for some students in the Ruby area.
- Students who live out of the attendance area are here instead of those who live in the area; first come, first serve.
- New development on the hill becomes an option area.
- The District should make sure students are here legally.
- The change will not keep the Cedar Grove students together. Distance and safety is keeping the middle schools together. All those are being violated.
- The current option area, east of Ruby, should be in the Evergreen area. Some of the 869 students should not be here, such as co-residers, etc.
- Property value will be affected.
- What is CFD? Why can't it be violated?

Response: The Superintendent will check with District's Legal Counsel.

- Crossing Ruby is a safety issue; it is a bad situation.
- The option area between Tully and Marvin:
The neighborhood was established 30 years ago. They were promised a new school. The 839 students should be pushed out first. No students who reside outside the boundary area should be attending. The property value will go down. Old neighborhoods are culturally diverse. It is not good to push them out.

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- Three principles have been violated:
 1. Target maximums: Mt. Pleasant 2,100; Evergreen Valley 2,500
Mt. Pleasant has 1,300 now, they can take more. Build more portables. Capacity does not work.
 2. Splitting schools
 3. Splitting neighborhoods
- 600 homes, 60 high school students; it is 200 students. The development at White and Tully has more homes. How does this affect Mt. Pleasant High School? The perception is reality. Mt. Pleasant High School should be made more successful so students don't mind attending there.
- If property value goes down, there will be lawsuits.
- What is the building plan for Mt. Pleasant?

Response: Projects such as painting the gym, performing arts building, special instructional programs.

If this sells, the option area will go to Mt. Pleasant. Leave it as an option area.

- The option area solution is not a solution. Building of homes will continue, which means overcrowding will continue and the option area will get bigger. This might be only a temporary solution. There will be a need for a new school. The District should buy land now while land is cheaper. This solution delays the inevitable. Angry that District will not raise funds for a new high school.
- Lives north of Norwood. This is unfair. The perception is that Evergreen Valley is better than other schools. The problem will continue as additional developments are built. It is not good to force students into an inferior school.
- It is unfair and unsafe. The distance is two miles. Special interests are pushing this. Keep only legal students here. Waited ten years for this school.

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- State funding cannot happen if all schools are not at capacity; look at private funding such as corporations and individuals. Tell developers that after a certain date, students from new developments cannot attend Evergreen Valley. There will be class action lawsuits, which include discrimination. There could be a new bond. Does not think the District is presenting the "real deal."
- Daughter graduated from Evergreen Valley. Son will not be able to attend Evergreen Valley. Demographer is paid to tell party-line. Let the new homes pay for a new school. These current people paid for Evergreen Valley and should not have to leave. There will always be more students coming in.
- No one will want to go to James Lick and they will not want to return to Mt. Pleasant once they have left. We need a new high school. Get land from developers now before it is gone.
- A new school would cost \$160,000 in land; Evergreen cost was \$120,000. The Evergreen Valley cost overrun is \$40 million. \$80 million bond could build a new high school. District is over capacity by 4,000 students. Put more portables here and a new school could be built in two years because there is funding.
- There is a fundamental unfairness on the boundary change. The old Evergreen Valley neighborhood was very diverse. Diversity is critical to education. Moving the boundary would affect/end the diversity. The numbers are being heard, but the feelings of citizens are not. Although they were told the boundary issue was not yet determined, it is felt that it has been determined.
- This issue affects all of District 8. Moving boundaries helps the District's needs, not the needs of the people. They need a high school *now*. They need the high school they were promised.

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- Future student does not want to attend Mt. Pleasant. Current residents do not want to be pushed out by newcomers.
- Did not purchase a home because in two years it would not pertain to Evergreen Valley. Moved from Cupertino expecting a good school. Good schools are in part because of the good families who live here. Hopes for a creative solution.
- The District's website does not match the map presented tonight. Is it for certain that the option area will go to Mt. Pleasant High School?

Response: The Mt. Pleasant Elementary District students will attend Mt. Pleasant High School.

- The change should involve Overfelt and Yerba Buena High Schools. Move Tully Road border so that some students move to Yerba Buena. Make small changes at other places. The option area could stay optional.
- Can the CFD be violated if it is concerning existing homes? Does not think the CFD agreement applies to new development. The documents between the District and the developer should be published on the District's website. If school placement is told upfront, students don't have to go to Evergreen Valley.
- Tully/Norwood resident: Kids are sad, disappointed and angry because they believe they are being treated unfairly. The housing issue is unfair. Please do not change the boundaries.
- There will be 100 Quimby Oaks students who will not be able to attend Evergreen Valley. Look at middle school boundaries when making a decision.
- What CFD violation will be broken when new housing residents are prevented from attending the school within their boundary?

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- Moved into the area; they are eight. If the option is changed from Evergreen Valley, it will be 2.5 miles, which will be from sidewalks to no sidewalks. This is a safety issue. Will there be transportation?
- What will happen to the students affected by the Evergreen Visioning process? What about land banking?

Response: All of this data/information will be taken into account.

- CPA: Who benefits from this? The developers? Buy a home and your child can attend Evergreen Valley High School. Why? Was money exchanged?
- Wants to support the existing residents here. Leave the option area alone. Don't change this policy, especially for the sake of the long-term residents.
- East of Ruby resident has submitted solutions in writing to this proposal. The Ruby/Norwood development is questioned. Believes it was a ranch boundary, not a current boundary line. Note: The Mt. Pleasant residents wanted the East Hills named – not a specific name for Mt. Pleasant residents.
- Thirty year resident feels that Evergreen Valley should have been built fifteen years ago. Supported many bond attempts to relieve the crowding at Mt. Pleasant High School. Performing Arts building should have been built seven years ago. South part of the boundary should feed into Silver Creek and Yerba Buena. The District needs to be creative with boundary solutions. We have been creative before.

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- Twenty-three year resident thanks everyone who has spoken tonight. Not surprised because people who live here, love it here. What makes sense/common sense of moving students from a school they walk to, to one that is farther? Do developers not fund the infrastructure? Developers should fund a school. They have the money. Where is the common sense? Maybe something else is going on?
- Evergreen Valley should include the option area. Wants the question answered as to why bond monies did not allow for a large enough high school for the housing development.
- Mother, taxpayer and homeowner for fifteen years purchased her home because of the new high school. Reasons for not making the boundary change are distance, value of property, prestige of a good education and tax payers. Why are we representing people who do not live here yet? Why do future homeowners have more rights? Move southern boundaries and/or build another high school.
- Thirty year resident agrees with all that has been stated. Lives .9 miles from Evergreen Valley. It makes no sense to move students to a school that is farther. Move students to and out of Silver Creek to make shifts of students in order to make a logical solution.
- Community member has been involved with the District for five years. Is the Bond Oversight Chairperson. \$80 million (4% inflation) five years. It will cost \$120 million to build a new school. It will take ten years to build. The major issue is where do we get the best education for our students? At Andrew Hill there is International Baccalaureate (IB) Program that raises students test scores. Could this happen at Overfelt? Yes.

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- Evergreen resident is not impacted by this today, but believes this change will continue south. Don't put the burden on the parents of rehabilitating the East Side Union High School District schools. Administrators, teachers, staff can do this. As a real estate agent, home was purchased based on the school boundary. Will volunteer time to support parents.
- One and a half year resident who has not children. Paid a lot of money for home. Home value based on this school and the Evergreen School District. Redraw the new development boundaries. What are we doing with the northern option boundary area? Believes that the Board will make the right decision. Home was expensive. Make the right decision or there will be a fight.
- Daughter is starting first grade this fall. Build new schools now for future growth. Congratulations to Evergreen Valley High School because so many students want in. Start looking for long-range solutions. Make schools smaller. Find funding now for our schools.
- Option area resident has three sons in elementary school. Bought home because of Evergreen Valley High School. Is concerned about where sons will go to high school. Lives one mile from Evergreen Valley, three miles from Mt. Pleasant.
- Evergreen Valley School Site Council member has a student who will not attend Evergreen Valley High School for two years. What are we going to do with overcrowding at Silver Creek and Evergreen Valley? Option area is being used as a means to end overcrowding rather than coming up with a real solution. Stop making excuses as to why we can't build a school. Make a decision to build a school.

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- Use lottery as an option for attendance at the high school.
- 600 homes built in Evergreen School District. 1.1 high school students in the last nine years.
- The original boundary in 1996 was White and Tully.
- The boundary change option was made in 1998.