NEVADA COUNTY COMMITTEE
ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION
January 23, 2014 6:00 p.m.

Library, Williams Ranch School
14804 Pleasant Valley Road, Penn Valley, CA 95946

PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA
Chair: Bruce Boyd

1. Meeting called to order
2. Establish quorum
3. Introductions
4. Open Public Forum: Recognition of members of the audience wishing to address any topic item not on the agenda may do so at this time. After being recognized by the County Committee Chair, please identify yourself. Each person wishing to address the Committee shall be given 5 minutes to do so. Please limit your comments to subjects within the purview of this committee.
5. Close Public Forum
6. Presentation by Consolidation Vision Committee
7. Clarification and Questions from the County Committee
8. Open Public Hearing ..........................................................page 1 - 33
   At this time members of the public may address the County Committee on School District Organization on the topic of the Consolidation of the Ready Springs Union Elementary School District and the Pleasant Valley Elementary School District.
   Please complete a request to speak form and present it to the Chair.
   The speaker shall state their name and place of residence.
   The Chair may limit time allotted for each speaker.
   Reference: E.C. 35145.5; 72121.5
9. Close Public Hearing
10. Next Meeting Date:
   February 5, 2014 5:30 PM CCOSDO Mtg. NCSOS, Houser Room, 112 Nevada City Hwy, Nevada City

11. Adjournment

This agenda was posted at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting at the following locations: Nevada County Superintendent of Schools office, 112 Nevada City Highway, Nevada City, CA; Ready Springs School, 10862 Spenceville Rd., Penn Valley, CA; and Williams Ranch School, 14804 Pleasant Valley Rd., Penn Valley, CA.

This meeting will be recorded and Public Hearing documents are available to the public for viewing at the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools Office located at 112 Nevada City Highway, Nevada City, CA 95959.

Posted: January 10, 2014

January 23, 2014 CCOSDO Meeting Agenda
NEVADA COUNTY
COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION
112 Nevada City Highway
Nevada City, CA  95959

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE
READY SPRINGS UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE
PLEASANT VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT


For a copy of the description of the Petition to Consolidate, please contact Samie White at swhite@nevco.k12.ca.us or call (530) 478-6400 x203

Posted this 10th day of January, 2014 at the following locations:
Nevada County Superintendent of Schools office, 112 Nevada City Highway, Nevada City, CA; Ready Springs School, 10862 Spenceville Rd., Penn Valley, CA; and Williams Ranch School, 14804 Pleasant Valley Rd., Penn Valley, CA.

This meeting will be recorded and Public Hearing documents are available to the public for viewing at the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools Office at 112 Nevada City Highway, Nevada City, CA  95959.

Holly Hermansen
Superintendent of Schools
Nevada County

COMMITTEE
ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION
112 Nevada City Highway
Nevada City, CA 95959
(530)478-6400

PUBLIC HEARING DOCUMENTS

Public Hearing for the Consideration of the Consolidation of the Ready Springs Union Elementary School District and the Pleasant Valley Elementary School District

January 8, 2014 at 6:00 PM: Ready Springs Union Elementary School District School Library
January 9, 2014 at 6:00 PM: Pleasant Valley Elementary School District Williams Ranch School Library

In accordance with Education Code 35705.5:

A Description of the Petition:

1. Petition submitted by Pleasant Valley Elementary School District and Ready Springs Union Elementary School District (Attachment 1)

2. The rights of the employees in the affected districts to continued employment:

   Ed Code 35555: The reorganization of any school district or districts shall not affect the classification of certificated employees. All certificated employees become employees of the new district.

   Ed Code 35556(a): The reorganization of any school district, or districts, shall not affect the rights of persons employed in positions not requiring certification qualifications to retain the salary, leaves, and other benefits which they would have had if the reorganization had not occurred. All classified employees become employees of the new district.

3. Revenue limit per unit of average daily attendance for each affected district and the effect of the petition, if approved, on such revenue limit. (Attachment 2).

4. The new district, if approved, will not be governed by the provisions of a city charter, but will be governed by general law.

5. The governing board of the new district, if approved, will have 5 members.
6. A description of the territory or districts in which the election, if any, will be held: A waiver request has been submitted by the two school boards to the State Board of Education to waive the election. Upon approval of the state board, there will be no election held. If the waiver is not approved by the State Board of Education and an election is held, that election shall be held in the two affected school districts.

7. In compliance with the California Voting Rights Act, both boards have reviewed the demographics of the two districts and have not found a significant enough variance in demographics to require establishment of trustee areas. However, the Pleasant Valley Elementary School District and the Ready Springs Union Elementary School District Consolidation Vision Committee reported that they believe that five member board with two from each current district trustee area and one at-large would bring the most qualified and diverse candidates.

8. All property and obligations of the existing districts will become the property and obligations of the new district, if approved.

9. The first governing board of the new district, if approved, will be elected in March 2015 pursuant to Education Code 35103. However, with the permission of the Nevada County Elections Office, a waiver may be submitted to the State Board of Education to have the election consolidated with the November 2014 general election. The terms of the board members shall, except as otherwise provided, be for four years and staggered so that as nearly as practicable one-half of the members shall be elected in each odd-numbered year (Ed Code 35012). The governing board of a district formed in an even-numbered year may adopt a resolution that will provide that the majority of the members of the governing board who received the highest number of votes in the first election of governing board members for the district must serve until the first Friday in December of the third odd-numbered year succeeding that first election, and the other members’ terms must expire on the first Friday in December of the second odd-numbered year succeeding the first election. The resolution must be adopted on or before March 15th of the second odd-numbered year succeeding the first election of the governing board (Ed Code 35558[b]).
October 16, 2013

Holly Hermansen  
Nevada County Superintendent of Schools  
112 Nevada City Highway  
Nevada City, CA. 95959

Re: Petition to Reorganize the Ready Springs Union Elementary School District and the Pleasant Valley Elementary School District into a Consolidated School District

Dear Superintendent Hermansen:

At the October 8, 2013 Pleasant Valley Elementary School District Board Meeting, the Board unanimously voted to submit a petition to consolidate the Pleasant Valley Elementary School District with the Ready Springs Union Elementary School District. On October 9, 2013 the Ready Springs Union Elementary School District Board voted four to zero (one member was absent) to submit the petition. Attached you will find the following back-up items:

Consolidation Action Documents

- Agenda for October 8, 2013 PVESD Board Meeting  
- Resolution #13-27: In the Matter of the District’s Consent of the Petition to Consolidate with the Ready Springs Union Elementary School District  
- Agenda for October 9, 2013 RSUESD Board Meeting  
- Resolution #1314-04: In the Matter of the District’s Consent of the Petition to Consolidate with the Pleasant Valley Elementary School District  
- Description of the Petition to Reorganize the Ready Springs Union Elementary School District and the Pleasant Valley Elementary School District into a Consolidated School District

Minutes from PVESD Board Meetings during the 2011-2012, 2012-2013, and 2013-2014 school years with sections highlighted in yellow that pertain to consolidation discussions

- June 12, 2012  
- August 14, 2012  
- October 9, 2012  
- November 1, 2012 – Joint Meeting  
- November 13, 2012  
- December 11, 2012  
- January 15, 2013  
- January 22, 2013 – Joint Meeting
February 12, 2013
March 12, 2013
April 9, 2013
April 29, 2013 – Joint Meeting
May 14, 2013
June 11, 2013
August 13, 2013
August 27, 2013 – Joint Meeting – Town Hall
August 29, 2013 – Joint Meeting – Town Hall
September 9, 2013 – Joint Meeting – Town Hall – 8:30 AM
September 9, 2013 – Joint Meeting – Town Hall – 6:30 PM
September 10, 2013
October 8, 2013 – Minutes to be forwarded after Board approval at next meeting

Minutes from RSUESD Board Meetings during the 2011-2012, 2012-2013, and 2013-2014 school years with sections highlighted in yellow that pertain to consolidation discussions:

- June 26, 2012
- August 7, 2012
- September 4, 2012
- October 2, 2012
- November 1, 2012 – Joint Meeting
- December 4, 2012
- January 17, 2013
- January 22, 2013 – Joint Meeting
- February 5, 2013
- March 5, 2013
- April 2, 2013
- April 29, 2013 – Joint Meeting
- May 7, 2013
- June 18, 2013
- August 6, 2013
- August 27, 2013 – Joint Meeting – Town Hall
- August 29, 2013 – Joint Meeting – Town Hall
- September 3, 2013
- September 9, 2013 – Joint Meeting – Town Hall – 8:30 AM
- September 9, 2013 – Joint Meeting – Town Hall – 6:30 PM
- October 1, 2013 – Minutes to be forwarded after Board approval at next meeting
- October 9, 2013 – Minutes to be forwarded after Board approval at next meeting

Minutes/Agenda from the Joint Consolidation Vision Committee Meeting:

- May 21, 2013 - Minutes
- June 11, 2013 - Minutes
- August 8, 2013 - Minutes
- August 29, 2013 – Agenda
- Consolidation Recommendation from Meeting Held September 26, 2013
Handouts and Presentations from Joint Meetings

- November 1, 2012
  - District Collaboration – Presentation by Sandoval, Bivens, Corker, Currier
- January 22, 2013
  - Consolidation Discussion – Presentation by Donna Fitting
  - The Process of School District Reorganization – Presentation by Holly Hermansen
  - District Comparison – Presentation by Laura Estey
  - Consolidation Research Overview – Hermansen and Sandoval
  - Sample Timeline
- April 29, 2013
  - District Efficiency, Effectiveness, and Sustainability – Presentation by Sandoval
- August 2013
  - Joint Meeting/Town Hall Presentations
- September 2013
  - Board Meeting Information regarding Financials – Presentation by Donna Fitting

Grand Jury Response, Studies and Information

- Joint District Response to Grand Jury’s Schools Efficiency Report – August 2012

Miscellaneous Correspondence

- Letter from Peter Minett, President, PVTA
- Effects of Reorganization on Union and Non-Union Classified School Employees, David Girard Attorney at Law – September 2013
- Letter from Ready Springs Classified Staff – October 4, 2013
- Letter Regarding Board Approval of Petition – to Staff from Sandoval – October 10, 2013
- Letter Regarding Board Approval of Petition – to Families from Sandoval – October 10, 2013
- Press Release – October 11, 2013
- Sampling of other press releases and flyers regarding joint meetings and discussions

Shared Management Team Background

- Proposal – 2004-05 school year
- 2013-14 Shared Staff
- Current Staff Chart

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Debby Sandoval
Superintendent, Ready Springs Union Elementary School District
Superintendent, Pleasant Valley Elementary School District
The Governing Board of the Pleasant Valley Elementary School District will hold a regular meeting **TUESDAY,** October 8, 2013, in the Williams Ranch School COLT Library. Times are approximate. Order of items may be adjusted.

**Approximate Times**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>OPEN SESSION in District Office Conference Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>OPEN SESSION in Williams Ranch School COLT Library</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OPEN SESSION in District Office Conference Room**

1. Establish Quorum
2. Public Comment regarding Items on the Closed Session Agenda
3. Adjourn to Closed Session

**CLOSED SESSION in District Office Conference Room**

   Agency Negotiators: Pleasant Valley ESD
   Employee Organization: Pleasant Valley Teachers’ Association
2. Conference with Labor Negotiator
   Agency Negotiators: Pleasant Valley ESD
   Employee Organization: Pleasant Valley Classified Association, Chapter 769
3. Conference with Legal Counsel (Government Code 54956.9(b)
   Anticipated Litigation: Confidential Student Issue
4. Adjourn Back to Open Session

**OPEN SESSION in Williams Ranch School COLT Library**

1. CALL meeting to order, establish quorum and salute the flag.

1a. APPROVE agenda as presented. Discussion/Action

1b. **Formal Recognition** of 2013 Retirees: Donna Currier, Maureen O’Brien, Melinda Rodriguez, Steve Tucker and Jean Wright

1c. **Formal Recognition** of “Twenty Year Employees” – Terri Johannsen, Tim Grebe, Lana Hansen and Becky Trimeleoni

1d. **Formal Recognition** of “Thirty Year Employee” – Nancy Crews

1e. Public Comments Regarding Items not on the Agenda - This is an opportunity for members of the public to comment on any item that does not appear on this agenda. Short answers may be given to questions, but no prolonged discussion occurs nor may action be taken. If a member of the public has comment on an item that does appear on the agenda, they will be given an opportunity for brief comment once the item has been introduced after which, the Board will conduct their discussion. **Per Board Bylaw 9323** individual speakers shall be allowed three (3) minutes to address the Board on each agenda or nonagenda item. The Board shall limit the total time for public input on each item to twenty (20) minutes.
2. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE: (Exhibit #2)
   A. Staff Reports
      1. Ms. Corker, Principal Williams Ranch & Pleasant Valley Schools
         a. Employee Evaluation Process
      2. Ms. Clarabut, Director of Special Education
      3. Ms. Trimeloni, Technology Report (Included in Packet)
      4. Ms. Estey, Monthly Budget Update
      5. Ms. Sandoval, Superintendent
         a. Current Enrollment Projections
         b. Upcoming Dates
         c. Williams Uniform Complaint – 1st Quarter 2013/14 – NO CLAIMS
         d. Miscellaneous and Future Agenda Items
      6. Mr. Pearson, Facilities

   B. Parent Teacher Club – PVS/WRS
   C. School Site Council – PVS/WRS
   D. Pleasant Valley Teachers’ Association
   E. Pleasant Valley Classified Association, CSEA #769
   F. Correspondence: None

3. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS (Exhibit #3)
   A. Proposal for Additional District Support Staff for this School Year
   B. Consolidation Analysis, Report from Consolidation Vision Committee
      2. Consider Approval of Resolution 13-28: In the Matter of the District’s Waiver Request to the State Board of Education to waive the effective date provision as well as the election of the consolidation
   D. REVISED PUBLIC DISCLOSURE: 2013/14 contract negotiations with the Pleasant Valley Teacher’s Association
   E. REVISED PUBLIC DISCLOSURE: 2013/14 contract negotiations with Pleasant Valley Classified CSEA Chapter #769
   F. Formal ratification of contract negotiations and salary schedules for Business Service Technician and Confidential Classified for 2013/14.
   G. Formal ratification of contract negotiations and salary schedule for Administrative for 2013/14 (Principal of 2 Sites) and revision to Item 8. Fringe Benefits of the Principal’s Contract to state actual District Benefit cap for Principal will be noted on the Administrative Salary Schedule (rather than tied to Certificated Employees).
   H. Formal ratification of contract negotiations and Revision to Superintendents contract Item 3. Salary and Item 8. Fringe Benefits of the Superintendent’s Contract to state actual District Benefit Cap for Superintendent (rather than health benefits same as granted to other certificated employees of the District.)
   I. Consider Approval of replacement of heat pump - WRS Room 18 to be performed by IES (Indoor Environmental Services)
4. **CONSENT AGENDA, Discussion/Action, (Exhibit #4)**

These items are expected to be routine and non-controversial. The Board will act upon them at one time without discussion unless a trustee or citizen requests that an item be removed for discussion and separate consideration. In that case, the designated item(s) will be considered following approval of the remaining items.

A. **Current Bills, Warrants Dated:** 9/1/13 - 9/27/13
B. **Minutes of Special Board Meetings of September 9, 2013 (a.m. and p.m.)**
   Regular Board Meeting of September 10, 2013 and Special Board Meeting of September 26, 2013
C. **Donations:** None
D. **Personnel Assignment Order – 1314-05**
E. **Approval of Preschool Director – Classified Non Bargaining Unit Position Salary Schedule**
   (required by Nevada County Supt of Schools to have an actual salary schedule in place)
F. **Classified Salary Schedule – Add days worked per request of Nevada Co. Supt. of Schools**
G. **Certificated Salary Schedule – Add days, hours worked, district benefit cap per Nevada Co. Supt of Schools**
H. **Classified Non Bargaining Unit (Noon Lunch/Crossing Guard) Salary Schedule – Add days worked per request of Nevada Co. Supt. of Schools**
I. **Approve “Teacher in Charge” for Williams Ranch School: Beth Baker with Darla Draper as backup**

5. **DISCUSSION ONLY ITEMS (Exhibit #5)**
A. First Reading: August 2013 Revision Index: Board Policies & Administrative Regulations

6. **REPORTS:** Board (Exhibit #6)
A. **Board Member Reports/Correspondence**
   1. Nevada County School Boards Association
      a. Teacher of the Year Dinner - October 3; 2013
B. **Roots and Wings**

7. **Report** on tonight’s Closed Session and action taken, if any.

8. **Adjourn** meeting or adjourn to previously agendized CLOSED SESSION, if necessary.

9. **Adjourn** to Open Session, if necessary

10. **ADJOURN**

**Next Regular Board Meeting Scheduled for November 12, 2013**
BEFORE THE GOVERNING BOARD
OF THE
PLEASANT VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
NEVADA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION In the Matter of the District’s Consent of the Petition to Consolidate with the Ready Springs Union Elementary School District

WHEREAS, the Pleasant Valley Elementary School District Board of Trustees and Ready Springs Union Elementary School District Board of Trustees and associated staff and members of the public, have embarked on a strategic visioning process designed to elicit input from the community with the objective of identifying the critical pros and cons of a consolidated district; and

WHEREAS, the recommendation from the Consolidation Vision Committee is to proceed with the process of submitting a petition to the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools to consolidate the districts of Pleasant Valley Elementary and Ready Springs Union Elementary;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of the Pleasant Valley Elementary School District hereby consent to the Petition to Reorganize the Ready Springs Union Elementary School District and the Pleasant Valley Elementary School District into a Consolidated School District and to forward this petition to the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools with a goal of the new district beginning July 1, 2014.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board of the Pleasant Valley Elementary School District this 8th day of October 2013, by the following vote:

AYES: VanVaeas, Bagnon, Bronson, Facciana, Skrukrud, Eckerling
NAYS: none
ABSENT: none
ABSTAIN: none

Teresa Eckerling, President

Tina M.R. Skrukrud, Clerk of the Board
***Agenda - SPECIAL Board Meeting October 9, 2013***

The Governing Board of the Ready Springs Union Elementary School District will hold a SPECIAL meeting **Wednesday, October 9, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.** in the Ready Springs School Library.

**OPEN SESSION**

2:30 p.m.

1. CALL meeting to order, establish quorum and salute the flag.

   A. APPROVE agenda as presented. Discussion/Action

   B. Public Comments Regarding Items not on the Agenda - This is an opportunity for members of the public to comment on any item that does not appear on this agenda. Short answers may be given to questions, but no prolonged discussion occurs nor may action be taken. If a member of the public has comments on an item that does appear on the agenda, they will be given an opportunity for brief comment once the item has been introduced after which, the Board will conduct their discussion.

2. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS (Exhibit #2)

   A. Consider Approval of Resolution 1314-04: In the Matter of the District’s Consent of the Petition to Consolidate with the Pleasant Valley Elementary School District

   B. Consider Approval of Resolution 1314-05: In the Matter of the District’s Waiver Request to the State Board of Education to waive the effective date provision as well as the election of the consolidation

3. ADJOURN

**Next Regular Board Meeting Scheduled for November 5, 2013**
BEFORE THE GOVERNING BOARD
OF THE
READY SPRINGS UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
NEVADA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION In the Matter ) RESOLUTION #1314-04
of the District’s Consent of )
the Petition to Consolidate )
with the Pleasant Valley )
Elementary School District )

WHEREAS, the Ready Springs Union Elementary School District Board of Trustees and Pleasant Valley Elementary School District Board of Trustees and associated staff and members of the public, have embarked on a strategic visioning process designed to elicit input from the community with the objective of identifying the critical pros and cons of a consolidated district; and

WHEREAS, the recommendation from the Consolidation Vision Committee is to proceed with the process of submitting a petition to the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools to consolidate the districts of Ready Springs Union Elementary and Pleasant Valley Elementary:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of the Ready Springs Union Elementary School District hereby consent to the Petition to Reorganize the Ready Springs Union Elementary School District and the Pleasant Valley Elementary School District into a Consolidated School District and to forward this petition to the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools with a goal of the new district beginning July 1, 2014.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board of the Ready Springs Union Elementary School District this 9th day of October 2013, by the following vote:

AYES:  Worth, Moen, Driver, Wilcox
NAYS:  none
ABSENT: Loucks
ABSTAIN: none

Amanda Wilcox, President

Debra Worth, Clerk of the Board
Description of the Petition to Reorganize

THE READY SPRINGS UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT AND
THE PLEASANT VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
INTO
A CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT

SUMMARY

Subsequent to the decision to move toward placing the question of consolidation on a
District Board Agenda, the Consolidation Vision Committee, in partnership with the Ready
Springs Union Elementary School District and Pleasant Valley Elementary School District
staff and boards of trustees, embarked on a strategic visioning process designed to elicit
input from the community with the objective of identifying the critical pros and cons of a
consolidated district. In summary, based on the recommendation from the Committee, the
Boards have decided to submit the Petition to Reorganize to the Nevada County
Superintendent of Schools.

Pursuant to Education Code section 35700, the governing boards of the Ready Springs Union
Elementary School District and the Pleasant Valley Elementary School District (the affected
school districts) have petitioned the Nevada County Committee on School District
Organization to study the proposed consolidation of the Ready Springs Union Elementary
School District and the Pleasant Valley Elementary School District.

The boundary of the reorganized elementary district would include all the territory
currently within the Ready Springs Union Elementary School District and the Pleasant
Valley Elementary School District boundaries.

REASON FOR THE PROPOSED REORGANIZATION

The Ready Springs Union Elementary School District and the Pleasant Valley Elementary
School District are both kindergarten through eighth grade school districts serving students
living in the greater Penn Valley area. Ready Springs UESD also sponsors a K-12 independent
study charter school. Both districts send their eighth grade graduates to the Nevada Union
High School District. The campuses of both school districts are located within the communities
of Penn Valley, Smartsville, Rough & Ready, and unincorporated neighboring areas and are
within seven miles of each other.

In developing options for shared services, the administrative staffs of the two districts, as well as
the governing boards, have met to consider the potential benefits of consolidation and agree that
it would be in the best long-term interests of the districts and their students. Additionally, the
proposed reorganization would consolidate the boundaries of two elementary districts that serve
students within the same communities. Currently, the boundary line between the Ready Springs
Union Elementary District and the Pleasant Valley Elementary School District divides these
communities, creating a situation in which close neighbors send their children to different
school districts.

Per Education Code 35753 (a) a determination must be made that the following conditions are
substantially met prior to the approval of a proposal to reorganize a school district(s). Those
conditions apply to the resulting district as well. Below are listed the specified conditions. In
bold, following each condition, the determination and reasoning for it is given.

(1) The reorganized districts will be adequate in terms of number of pupils enrolled.

   The new unified district will combine the numbers of students currently enrolled in
Ready Springs Union Elementary School District (RSUESD) and Pleasant Valley
Elementary School District (PVESD). That number is estimated to be
approximately 760. Condition met.

(2) The districts are each organized on the basis of a substantial community identity.

   The boundaries of RSUESD and PVESD are neighboring and therefore the new
unified district will have the same community identity. Condition met.

(3) The proposal will result in an equitable division of property and facilities of the original
district or districts.

   This is a consolidation proposal and all property and facilities of the two previous
districts will be owned by the new consolidated district. Condition met.

(4) The reorganization of the districts will preserve each affected district's ability to educate
students in an integrated environment and will not promote racial or ethnic discrimination
or segregation.

   Combining these districts will not change the racial makeup of the enrolled students
nor will it cause any segregation of ethnic groups served. The action will not, in and
of itself, eliminate any sections or class offerings or cause any combination classes to
be created. Condition met.

(5) Any increase in costs to the state as a result of the proposed reorganization will be
insignificant and otherwise incidental to the reorganization.
Due to the implementation of the LCFF, there are not significant increased costs to the state. Condition met.

(6) The proposed reorganization will continue to promote sound education performance and will not significantly disrupt the educational program in the districts affected by the proposed reorganization.

The consolidated district will be better positioned to articulate curriculum, provide common teacher in-service, network across grade levels within subject matter, and apply common strategies to improve student performance. No disruption to the educational program is foreseen as the current class configuration will not be changed as a result of consolidation. Condition met.

(7) Any increase in school facilities costs as a result of the proposed reorganization will be insignificant and otherwise incidental to the reorganization.

The proposal does not create a need for new facilities. Condition met.

(8) The proposed reorganization is primarily designed for purposes other than to significantly increase property values.

The proposal seeks to focus more dollars on educating students and eliminate duplicative administrative functions. There is no connection to property values or changes in attendance boundaries. Condition met.

(9) The proposed reorganization will continue to promote sound fiscal management and not cause a substantial negative effect on the fiscal status of the proposed reorganization.

The proposal seeks to focus more dollars on educating students and eliminate duplicative administrative functions. Condition met.

(10) Any other criteria as the board may, by regulation, prescribe.

There are no other criteria prescribed by the board. Condition met.
October 23, 2013

Holly Hermansen
Nevada County Superintendent of Schools
112 Nevada City Highway
Nevada City, CA 95959

Re: Additional Documents Related to Consolidation Petition

Dear Superintendent Hermansen:

Attached are the following documents which may be useful to you in your conversations with the County Committee on District Organization:

- Signature page of petition which includes the signature of Pleasant Valley ESD Board President, Teresa Eckerling
- Minutes from the Consolidation Vision Committee Meeting held August 29, 2013
- Minutes (Draft) from the Consolidation Vision Committee Meeting held September 26, 2013
- Final Report from the 2013 Consolidation Vision Committee as approved in August 2013

Next week the following meetings will be held:
- October 30, 2013: Consolidation Vision Committee to approve election waiver
- October 31, 2013: RSUESD Board Meeting to approve election waiver
- November 1, 2013: PVESD Board Meeting to approve election waiver

Please let me know if you have any questions or if there is any additional information that is needed.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Debby Sandoval
Superintendent, Ready Springs Union Elementary School District
Superintendent, Pleasant Valley Elementary School District
Due to the implementation of the LCFF, there are not significant increased costs to the state. Condition met.

(6) The proposed reorganization will continue to promote sound education performance and will not significantly disrupt the educational program in the districts affected by the proposed reorganization.

The consolidated district will be better positioned to articulate curriculum, provide common teacher in-service, network across grade levels within subject matter, and apply common strategies to improve student performance. No disruption to the educational program is foreseen as the current class configuration will not be changed as a result of consolidation. Condition met.

(7) Any increase in school facilities costs as a result of the proposed reorganization will be insignificant and otherwise incidental to the reorganization.

The proposal does not create a need for new facilities. Condition met.

(8) The proposed reorganization is primarily designed for purposes other than to significantly increase property values.

The proposal seeks to focus more dollars on educating students and eliminate duplicative administrative functions. There is no connection to property values or changes in attendance boundaries. Condition met.

(9) The proposed reorganization will continue to promote sound fiscal management and not cause a substantial negative effect on the fiscal status of the proposed reorganization.

The proposal seeks to focus more dollars on educating students and eliminate duplicative administrative functions. Condition met.

(10) Any other criteria as the board may, by regulation, prescribe.

There are no other criteria prescribed by the board. Condition met.
READY SPRINGS AND PLEASANT VALLEY DISTRICTS
DISTRICT CONSOLIDATION VISION COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting Held
August 29, 2013 – 3:00 P.M.
Williams Ranch StaffRoom

1. Call Meeting to Order and Establish Quorum
The meeting was called to order by Debby Sandoval at 3 PM. Those present included:

**PVESD**
Lisa McClelland – Classified
Carolyn Bronson – Board
Peter Minette – Teacher
Nicole Van Vacas Gagnon – Board
Teena Corker – Principal

**RSUESD**
Jessica Boucher – Vantage Point Teacher
Rob Moen – Board
Debra Worth – Board
Thomas Bivens – Principal
Anne Perdue – Teacher
Chrissy McKeown – Teacher

**Shared Admin**
Debby Sandoval – Superintendent
Laura Estey – Business Manager
Ken Pearson – Maintenance Supervisor
Stephanie Ellis – Administrative Assistant

1a. Approve Agenda as presented

Thomas Bivens moved and Carolyn Bronson seconded approving the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Public Comment Regarding Items on the Agenda

There was no general public comment.

3. Discussion/Action

A. Approval of Minutes
   1. Meeting Held June 11, 2013
   2. Meeting Held August 8, 2013

Rob Moen moved and Nicole Van Vacas Gagnon moved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on June 11, 2013 and the meeting held on August 8, 2013. Motion passed unanimously.
B. Update from Town Hall Meetings on August 27 and August 29, 2013

The draft minutes from both of these meetings were reviewed by the committee.

C. Latest Financial Information
   1. School Services of California
   2. Nevada County Superintendent of Schools Office
      
      This information is being finalized and will be presented to the Boards at their September meetings.

   3. Staffing Needed to Sustain Shared Management If Consolidation Does Not Occur

The above items were shared and a discussion ensued. Carolyn shared some articles she had reviewed from the American Association of School Administrators and the Legislative Analyst’s Office (LAO) Report on Consolidation. Debby said that she would review these articles and mentioned that the LAO report had been shared with staff and both boards during earlier consolidation discussions. Debra mentioned that the map included in the committee draft report needed some adjustments.

Anne stated that the Ready Springs teachers don’t want to be pushed. Chrissy said that they need timelines for contract negotiations such as: determining the insurance carrier in a way that makes it equitable between the districts, not just a vote that means that PV outnumbers the voice of RS.

Peter said that everyone should be as well or better than they are currently. He said that the transfer language should take the better of the two district contracts.

Nicole stressed that the boards need to know if staff is comfortable with the concept of consolidation.

Stephanie confirmed that there is no “early out penalty” with SIG.

Chrissy and Anne requested that insurance information needs to be presented in an unbiased way. They don’t want to be forced to pay more than they are now. They want to be able to look at all options.

The PV Classified Association is hosting a joint district meeting on September 24th.
D. Review of Consolidation Timeline
   This was reviewed.

E. Draft Preliminary Committee Report
   This was reviewed and Debby took notes on the suggestions.

F. Draft Petition on Consolidation
   This is on hold for the moment.

G. Review Petition Process

H. Classified Employee Status Under Consolidation
   The Districts are seeking legal information regarding this.

I. PVTA Letter of Support
   This letter was shared.

4. Closing Comments and Next Steps

5. Adjourn Meeting
   The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 PM.

Next Committee Meeting Scheduled: To Be Determined
READY SPRINGS AND PLEASANT VALLEY DISTRICTS
DISTRICT CONSOLIDATION VISION COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting Held
September 26, 2013 – 3:00 P.M.
Ready Springs School Library

1. Call Meeting to Order and Establish Quorum
The meeting was called to order by Laura Estey at 3 PM. Those present
Included:

**PVESD**
Teena Coker – Principal
Nicole Van V asbestos Gagnon-Bd/Parent
Carolyn Bronson – Board
Lisa McClelland - Classified

**RSUESD**
Thomas Bivens - Principal
Anne Perdue – Teacher
Chissy McKeown – Teacher
Rob Moen – Board/Parent
Debra Worth - Board

**Shared Admin**
Laura Estey – Business Manager

1a. Approve Agenda as presented
Debra Worth moved and Carolyn Bronson seconded approving the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Public Comment Regarding Items on the Agenda
There was no general public comment.

3. Discussion/Action

A. Approval of Minutes – Meeting Held August 29, 2013
Nicole moved and Debra seconded to approve the minutes of the meeting held August 29, 2013. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Update from Town Hall Meetings on September 9, 2013
Information was shared. There was very little public present.

C. Latest Financial Information
Laura reviewed other potential revenue changes. Rob doesn't think we are ever going to get a perfect complete financial picture since it is always so fluid.

D. Review of Consolidation Timeline

Reviewed.

E. Draft Preliminary Committee Report

Revisions were recommended by the committee in August. Due to the implementation of the LCFF this school year, there is very little that can be added to the financial section.

F. Opinion from Attorney Regarding CSEA Union in Consolidated District

Letter reviewed.

G. Update from the Classified meeting on Tuesday

Lisa shared information.

H. Discussion on Ready Springs Basic Aid status and funding uncertainties

Laura shared the information that was presented at the September Board Meetings.

I. Information for Regular October board Meetings

Although there were still unknowns and some concerns, the consensus of the Committee was to move forward with the consolidation process. Carolyn needed to leave before a vote was taken. The Vision Committee voted, without opposition, to recommend that each school board vote to submit the petition to the County Superintendent of Schools.

4. Closing Comments and Next Steps

5. Adjourn Meeting

Ms. Estey adjourned the meeting at 6:50 PM.

Next Committee Meeting Scheduled: To be determined
Pleasant Valley Elementary School District and Ready Springs Union Elementary School District Consolidation Vision Committee

Background:

In 1993 and again in 2012, the Nevada County Grand Jury reported that the unification of all ten school districts would result in substantial savings and that the current shared management team in Ready Springs Union Elementary School District (RSUESD) and Pleasant Valley Elementary School District (PVESD) is not sustainable with the already lean staffing and increasing work loads. Nevada County has ten school districts (nine elementary and one high school).

In the Penn Valley, Rough and Ready, Lake Wildwood, and Smartsville regions of the county there are two elementary school districts – Ready Springs Union Elementary School District (289 students) and Pleasant Valley Elementary School District (462 students) [data as of August 26, 2013]. In discussion with the County Superintendent of Schools, both district governing boards agreed to hold several public joint board study sessions and, in April 2013, to establish a Consolidation Vision Committee to investigate consolidation and its effects. The Boards wanted to investigate consolidation as a creative solution to avoid increasing administration costs, thereby maintaining a healthy balance between administration expense and student services.

Consolidation Vision Committee:

The Consolidation Vision Committee, comprised of 18 volunteer members and two advisors from the County Office, began its research in May and concludes with this final report. The Committee has held public meetings and met each month at rotating school sites. The Committee is comprised of diverse individuals who represent specific segments of the community. Each district board of trustees appointed school administrators, school staff members, trustee representatives, and parent and community representatives. Jim Shroyer, former superintendent for each district, served as chair of the Consolidation Vision Committee. Committee members are:

- **School Administrator**
  - Ready Springs: Thomas Bivens
  - Pleasant Valley: Teena Corker
  - County Schools: Tim Grebe

- **School Staff Members**
  - Ready Springs: Roshan Mazhar
  - Pleasant Valley: Anne Perdue
  - County Schools: Ken Pearson

- **Parent Representatives**
  - Ready Springs: Jessie Boucher
  - Pleasant Valley: Chrissey McKeown
  - County Schools: Nicole Van Vacas Gagnon

- **Trustee Representatives**
  - Ready Springs: Rob Moen
  - Pleasant Valley: Debra Worth
  - County Schools: Carolyn Bronson

- **Community and Shared Staff Representatives**
  - Ready Springs: Jim Shroyer
  - Pleasant Valley: Laura Estey
  - County Schools: Karen Chizek

- **Committee Secretary**
  - Ready Springs: Debra Sandovel, Superintendent
  - Pleasant Valley: Tim Grebe
  - County Schools: Lisa McClelland

Consolidation Process:

The consolidation of school districts is an in-depth process which was devised by the legislature to ensure that public participation is addressed. The consolidation of school districts may be initiated by one of two methods. The most common method is through a majority vote of each of the affected school district governing boards. The other method is through the petition process of residents in the district. Following either method a series of public hearings is held and usually a vote of the residents of each district is conducted. The election would generally occur at a General Election with an impartial analysis of the consolidation provided by County Counsel. A majority of voters in both districts would need to approve the consolidation.

Another route for consolidation, if there is overall community support, is for the Boards to submit a petition to the County Committee on School District Organization (CCOSDO) for approval and request a waiver of the election from the State Board of Education (SBE).

**Committee Comment:** Election and legal costs incurred would be covered by the two districts involved. Following the waiver process would save some election costs.
Overview of the Consolidated District:

Under a Ready Springs-Pleasant Valley consolidated district there would be one elected governing board and one superintendent with principals over Ready Springs/Vantage Point and Pleasant Valley/Williams Ranch. The one district would have three school sites (Williams Ranch, Pleasant Valley, and Ready Springs/Vantage Point). The Committee suggests that the best possible use of the facilities would be as they are now: Williams Ranch a K-3 school, Pleasant Valley a 4-8 school, and Ready Springs a K-8 school. The Charter School/Home program would be located on the Ready Springs campus. The new district would essentially maintain the existing personnel, facilities, and transportation system, but have only one district administration which would reduce tasks that are currently recreated for each district.

Consolidation Vision Committee:

Members of the Consolidation Vision Committee addressed specific topic areas and how the consolidation might affect them. The Committee explored the positive and negative sides to consolidation. The Committee held four community meetings and prepared a preliminary report which. The Committee has attempted to address the issues and concerns expressed by staff and parents regarding consolidation. The following represents a brief synopsis of each area.

Personnel and Staffing:

Ten years ago, the districts developed a shared management plan which streamlined administration, instruction, and operations by reducing some staff positions while increasing the responsibilities of the shared staff. Currently shared by both districts are the superintendent, administrative assistant, business manager, business services techs (2), special ed/support services director and secretary, psychologist, speech clinician, nurse, maintenance/operations supervisor, one custodian with an emphasis on grounds, and a technology support person. There is also some shared staff related to two specialized classes that serve students from both districts.

As enrollment has declined and state funding decreased, more positions were eliminated (i.e. Director of Curriculum and instruction, Principal) and those responsibilities transferred to current staff. Mandated federal and state reporting requirements have increased.

State law requires that a district maintain one salary schedule for certificated employees and one for classified employees. Since each district has its own salary schedule this would mean, under consolidation, that one salary schedule must be created. In order to create this salary schedule, management (superintendent and board of new district) would have to negotiate with the unions that represent the classified and certificated employees of the newly created unified district.

It must be noted, however, that under state law a consolidation of school districts may not result in the reduction of classified school employees, during the first two years of the consolidation. Furthermore, in a consolidation, state law also denotes that in order to form one pay scale for all employees, both district salary scales are melded together using the highest pay of either scale to determine the new rate paid.

Under former law, the State would have provided what was referred to as the salary and benefit adjustment based on the difference between the average salaries and benefits of certificated and classified employees of the two districts. The Nevada County Superintendent of Schools financial department estimated this to be approximately $35,000. However, with the State's shift to the Local Control Funding Formula, this revenue adjustment from the State has been eliminated.

Committee Comment: Consolidation would reduce tasks that are currently recreated for each district without eliminating current staff positions. Without this reduction in work, additional staff will need to be hired.

Curriculum and Programs:

The committee investigated the impact of consolidation upon curriculum and programs. They concluded:

- Core Curriculum: There are different textbooks and materials used in the two districts for the same grade level. The implementation of the Common Core State Standards will allow the consolidated district to have a uniform and well-designed curriculum.

- Staff Development: Having more grade level experts in one district increases the cross-pollination of ideas found in larger districts without lessening autonomy.

(continued)
Curriculum and Programs:
- Home School/Charter School: Presently, Ready Springs maintains a K-12 independent study charter school program while Pleasant Valley has a small home school program. Under consolidation, the charter and home school programs might expand and offer a greater variety of curricular options to parents and students.
- Field Trips: Very little impact.
- Food Programs: Pleasant Valley and Ready Springs both use Grass Valley School District’s Central Kitchen program for lunch. Ready Springs provides universal breakfast.
- Each district maintains their own set of policies and procedures which leads to a lack of consistency and increased duplication of work.
- Before and After School Programs: These programs will continue as currently offered and funded.
- Preschool: Pleasant Valley has a fee-based preschool. Until this year, Ready Springs had an onsite full day State preschool and Head Start program. This year that program was moved to Nevada City.

Committee Comment:
A consolidated district allows for an enriched environment for students and empowerment of staff.

Governance:
Presently, Ready Springs and Pleasant Valley are each governed by elected five-member boards. A consolidation of the two school districts would create only one elected governing board streamlining administration. If a consolidation was approved by the voters or the County Committee on School District Organization, both of the existing boards would function until a newly elected board of trustees was seated or an interim board is appointed by the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools. It would be the responsibility of the new board to employ a superintendent.

Committee Comment: The two existing school boards would have the decision of determining the type of governance structure. Possibilities of governance include trustees being elected at-large, trustee areas or a combination of the two. The Consolidation Vision Committee believes that a five member board with two from each current district trustee area and one at-large would bring in the most qualified and diverse candidates.

Finance:
PVESD receives State revenue through the newly enacted Local Control Funding Formula while RSUESD is a Basic Aid District and continues to receive funding primarily through property taxes.
- Schools do not receive, as was the case in the past, additional funds for consolidating. Some revenues may increase and some may decrease.
- Small districts such as Ready Springs and Pleasant Valley receive state funds from a source called “Direct Service Districts” (DSD). DSD dollars are used for hiring support services such as nursing and counseling. Ready Springs and Pleasant Valley districts receive these funds because they are each below 900 students. In a consolidated district (760 students) they would not lose this funding source.
- The major impact on expenditures is personnel costs. They comprise nearly 80 percent of the costs of a school district. Due to state laws regarding the placement of existing employees onto a consolidated pay scale, the certificated employees (teachers) and classified employees (secretaries, maintenance staff, etc.) would increase costs by approximately $35,000.
- Consolidation would streamline business services since staff would only manage one set of books instead of two and reduce legal reporting requirements.

Committee Comments:
1. Due to the implementation of the LCFF in July 2013, it is difficult to determine the exact effect on revenues in the future.
2. Certificated and Classified personnel costs of a consolidated district would increase by $35,000.
3. Under consolidation, administrative costs would not decrease. Without consolidation, administrative costs could increase by over $140,000 per year.
4. Each year of consolidation would save the districts an estimated $100,000.
5. Transportation costs would not increase if the present grade and school configurations remain the same.
6. Curriculum and staff development costs will temporarily increase due to Common Core State Standards implementation, not due to consolidation.
7. If the waiver process is utilized, election costs would be minimized. Any legal and election costs would be shared by the districts.
8. It is predicted that Ready Springs will cease being a Basic Aid funded district in the very near future.

Facilities:
RSUESD presently serves 216 students in one K-8 school while PVESD houses 462 students in two schools. Williams Ranch School is a K-3 grade school with 216 students and Pleasant Valley School has 246 4th-8th grade students. Ready Springs also has a K-12 Independent Study Charter School program which is housed at Ready Springs School with 73 students.

The recommended configuration is keeping the current school configurations (as shown in the chart on pg. 2). This configuration was considered the best because it would accomplish some of the positive features which a consolidation would offer; offer the least disruption; and would keep separate identities intact of the two districts through governance by one board.

The facilities discussion also viewed consolidation from the aspect of maintenance and support staff to care for the three facilities. It was concluded that it would be very beneficial to have a consolidated maintenance staff as personnel could be specialized in duties. This would allow for improved preventative maintenance and custodial functions.

Committee Comment: As enrollment changes, a consolidated district allows more flexibility in facilities use without disrupting existing classrooms/schools.

Transportation:
Presently, First Student Transportation Company is our provider for both districts. During the past five years, routes and costs have been reduced. With a consolidated district, the amount of funding currently received would continue

Committee Comment: Based on current information, no change is anticipated.
### PLEASANT VALLEY

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- **Transportation**: 39,413
- **TIIBG**: 63,947
- **Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) Target 13/14**: 3,656,589

| 2012/13 Base Funding | 2,290,990 |
| 2012/13 Categorical Funding | 627,439 |
| **2012/13 Total Base Funding** | **2,918,429** |

| 2013/14 LCFF Target | 3,656,589 |
| 2012/13 Base Funding | 2,918,429 |
| 2013/14 GAP Funding | 738,160 |
| Funded % | 11.78% |
| **Additional GAP Funding in 2013/14** | **86,955** |

- **Economic Recovery Target - 1/8 of $84,958**: 10,620

**2013/14 LCFF funding - Base funding plus GAP funding**: 3,016,004

**LCFF per ADA**: 6,750.54
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Transportation

TIIBG

Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) Target 13/14

2012/13 Base Funding
2012/13 Categorical Funding
2012/13 Fair Share
2012/13 Total Base Funding

2013/14 LCFF Target
2012/13 Base Funding
2013/14 GAP Funding
Funded %
Additional GAP Funding in 2013/14

2013/14 LCFF funding - Base funding plus GAP funding

LCFF per ADA

7,285.90
NEW DISTRICT

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Transportation - PV
Transportation - RS
TIIBG - PV
TIIBG - RS
Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) Target 13/14

2012/13 Base Funding - PV
2012/13 Base Funding - RS
2012/13 Categorical Funding - PV
2012/13 Categorical Funding - RS
2012/13 Fair Share - RS
2012/13 Total Base Funding

2013/14 LCFF Target
2012/13 Base Funding
2013/14 GAP Funding
Funded %
Additional GAP Funding in 2013/14
Economic Recovery Target - PV

2013/14 LCFF funding - Base funding plus GAP funding
TOTAL PV 2013/14
TOTAL RS 2013/14
Combined Old

Difference

LCFF per ADA

6,886.50
Pleasant Valley Teachers Association  
August 11, 2013

TO:    Pleasant Valley Elementary School District Board & Superintendent

RE:    Consolidation with Ready Springs School District

Ladies and Gentlemen:

As you know, many of our teachers have taken an active part in consolidation discussions. While our members still need more information to assess the impacts of consolidation on our pupils and our working conditions, our association is generally strongly supportive of reducing the need for increased District Office support so that our limited resources can be optimally deployed to directly support classrooms.

We appreciate the manner in which this is proceeding, with input from as many stakeholders as care to participate. We know that teachers should play an integral part in the decisions affecting our students and classrooms.

We look forward to pursuing this to the mutual advantage of district office staff, teachers and para-professionals in both districts, other staff members, and of course the children.

Respectfully,

[Signature]

Peter Minett,  
President, PVTA
October 4, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: Consolidation of Ready Springs and Pleasant Valley School Districts, Classified Staff

As decisions are being made about going forward with the consolidation between Ready Springs School District and Pleasant Valley School District, and new information is coming to light, we, the classified staff of Ready Springs find that we have questions and concerns regarding the possible outcomes of the consolidation. These concerns are as follows:

- **Union Status** — we feel that we do not have the opportunity to challenge the existing union that is in place at Pleasant Valley. Joining the union will create a financial hardship for many of our classified staff if additional monies are deducted for union dues. It is also believed by many that our classified staff has functioned very well without union backing and want to continue in the spirit and atmosphere of respectful cooperation.

- **Health Benefits** — change of provider, hourly requirement to obtain benefits (Ready Springs is 4 hours and Pleasant Valley is 6 hours), the ability to waive coverage (currently available with Ready Springs, not Pleasant Valley).

- **Wages/Salary** — it is understood that Pleasant Valley classified have a lower pay scale and will therefore receive a "raise" to level up to our current pay scale and we will remain the same.

It is understood that a change needs to occur to keep our districts viable, yet we do not want to enter into a situation that could create hardship or dissention for either current district.

Respectfully,

(see attached signatures)
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