

Proposed School Consolidation

August 21, 2023

The purpose of this communication is to provide information about the District's future use of its school site facilities.

California is experiencing a decline in its population. In Orange County, the student population has declined by 55,000 since 2011-12. Orange County is projected to decline by another 27,000 by 2026-27. The Anaheim Union High School District (AUHSD) has lost approximately 4,900 students since 2011-12. Also, future AUHSD enrollment through 2026-27 is projected to decline by another 3,900 students. From 2011-12 through 2026-27, AUHSD will have lost approximately 8,900 students.

To explore this phenomenon, the District established a School Efficiency Committee to serve in an advisory role to the Superintendent and the Board of Trustees. The purpose of the School Efficiency Committee is to evaluate and determine with a student-centric focus the most efficient ways to continue to operate the District's school site facilities in an environment with significant declining enrollment. In collaboration with an outside consulting firm (EH&A/MGT), the School Efficiency Committee evaluated numerous options regarding school consolidations, including transportation impacts, transition issues, enrollment capacity implications, portable and permanent classroom counts, and alternative use of school site facilities.

The School Efficiency Committee met eight times from December 2022 to April 2023 and developed a recommendation for the future use of school site facilities. The proposed recommendation would affect Hope School, Orangeview Junior High School, and Western High School. This recommendation is scheduled to be presented to the Board of Trustees at a Special Board Meeting on August 31, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. with the purpose of also seeking community input. **At this point, no decisions have been made.**

The District will establish a webpage on its website with detailed information and a list of Frequently Asked Questions.