

ISSAQUAH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 411
RESOLUTION 1186
Request for Change of School District Boundaries

WHEREAS, RCW 28A.315.195 allows for citizens and a school district board to petition for a change in school district boundaries; and

WHEREAS, on April 19, 2022 the Puget Sound Educational Service District (PSESD) notified the Issaquah School District and the Renton School District of receipt of a petition proposing to transfer territory; and

WHEREAS, on May 11, 2022 the PSESD notified the Issaquah School District and the Renton School District of receipt of King County’s verification of the validity of the aforementioned petition; and

WHEREAS, RCW 28A.315.199(a) requires the boards of directors of the districts affected by a petition to transfer territory to enter into negotiations concerning the petition, with each board represented in the negotiation by at least one member; and

WHEREAS, WAC 392-340-207 requires the school district board of directors to adopt at a public meeting a written resolution indicating whether the board approves or disapproves the negotiated recommendation on the proposed transfer of territory; and

WHEREAS, the rationale for the recommendation and decision is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Issaquah School District No. 411 does hereby deny the proposed transfer of territory from the Renton School District No. 403 to the Issaquah School District No. 411; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Puget Sound Educational Service District be notified of this action and requested to make notification to appropriate governing bodies.

Dated this ___ day of June, 2022.

President

Director

Director

Director

Director

Attest:

Ron Thiele, Secretary

Exhibit A

Recommendation and Rationale for Denial of Request by Petition by Certain Registered Voters for Transfer of Territory from the Renton School District to the Issaquah School District (Petition dated April 4, 2022; validation received from PSESD May 11, 2022)

Pursuant to RCW 28A.315.199 and WAC 392-340-207, representatives of the boards of directors of each affected school districts, along with each district's superintendent, met to review and discuss the above-referenced citizen-petition for the transfer of territory from Renton School District (RSD) to Issaquah School District (ISD). Following discussion and negotiation, a consensus was reached to recommend denial for the proposed transfer of territory.

Date of Meeting: June 17, 2022 (held virtually via Zoom)

Attendees:

Ron Thiele, ISD Superintendent
Anne Moore, ISD Board President
Marnie Maraldo, ISD Board Director
Damien Pattenaude, RSD Superintendent
Shelby Scovel, RSD Board Director

Agreed Recommendation: After discussion, negotiation, and review, the ISD and RSD representatives agreed to recommend to each of their respective school boards that each deny the request.

Rationale for Recommended Denial:

- ISD continues to have capacity constraints and, as a result, is not presently accepting out-of-district transfers (except from ISD employees).
- Allowing the transfer of one portion of a neighborhood has the potential to create precedent for future requests, which would be an unsustainable impact on the two district systems.
- The petitioners' statement of reason that RSD families would have access to pre-K services closer in ISD's Briarwood Elementary School would only be true if families qualified for low-income programming, as the Briarwood program (Early Childhood Education & Assistance Program) is limited to low-income families.
- Distances to area schools are relatively similar in each district.
- If granted, the transfer would create a portion of the ISD that would be surrounded on three sides by the RSD. A transfer of a portion of the neighborhood would create an inefficient service island.
- If granted, it would be detrimental to the RSD and RSD taxpayers given the transfer of assessed valuation and RSD's existing debt obligations.