



West Contra Costa Unified School District School Consolidation/Closure Review Final Report

**Prepared by:
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**West Contra Costa Unified School District
Board of Education
Richmond, California**

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Section 1.0: Introduction

Project Description and Objectives

In 2008, the West Contra Costa Unified School District (“WCCUSD”) determined there was a need to review the number of school facilities the district operates to address issues including declining enrollment, funding reductions, facility utilization, and program equity. In order to ensure a thorough analysis prior to making decisions regarding school closures, the district developed criteria, examined school capacities and enrollments, reviewed program needs, examined facility condition data and studied the projected demographics of each community, and held numerous public meetings to receive input from the WCCUSD community. In addition to developing alternative solutions themselves, the Board asked that an outside review of the information take place. This report is the result of that outside review conducted by MGT of America, Inc (“MGT”).

1	2	3	4
Far below threshold, elementary below 350, middle below 800, high schools below 1000	Far below threshold, elementary >350 but <450; middle schools >800 but <900 and high schools >1000 but < 1200	At or Above Threshold; elementary >450 <600; All middle< minimum high schools >1200 <1500	Far Above Threshold; elementary >600; All middle< minimum high schools >1500
MGT Data/Methodology: Enrollment data was taken from CBEDS 2008 09 data as reported on the District School Matrices.			

3. **Low Capacity Utilization** Site enrollment, current and projected, below optimal utilization will be one criterion for consolidation/closure. Schools considered for consolidation will be ranked using enrollment as a percent of student capacity of the facility.

1	2	3	4
Utilization < 60%	Utilization >60% <		

5.

7. **Geographic Equity** To the degree possible, consolidation/closure proposals will allow the district to operate schools/programs to serve the geographic areas of the district. Equity considerations include the distance from school, geographical limitations and safe paths to schools.

1	2	3	4
Closing this school would not impact geographic program equity and would only minimally add to the distances that students travel to school.	Closing this school would have a moderate impact on program equity and overall would add a moderate amount of walking distance to school.	Closing this school would have a larger impact on program equity and would add significantly to walking distance.	Closing this school would result in key programs or levels not being accessible in one geographic area of the district and/or would add significant walking distance.

MGT Data/Methodology: Geographic equity was determined through an examination of district maps and on site review.

8. **Academic Performance** Academic performance, including API scores and API growth, will be criteria in the consolidation/closure process. The faculty/staff of a high performing school that was closed could replace or augment the staff at a low performing school that remained open (subject to statute and collective bargaining agreement limitations). These decisions for school reconstitution would follow (or come at a time after) the decision of which school would be closed.

1	2	3	4
API scores <600 and 6 year growth <40	API scores >600 <700 and 6 year growth >40 <70	API scores >700 <750 and 6 year growth >70 <90	API scores >800 and 6 year growth >90

MGT Data/Methodology: API

Exhibit 2 1
West Contra Costa

Section 3.0: Conclusions and Recommendations

School Closure Recommendations

The process for determining the closure recommendations began with an examination of the scenarios that

Exhibit 3 1
West Contra Costa Unified School District
School Closure Recommendations
(continued)

Recommended School to Close	Current Enrollment	Projected Enrollment	Number of Students to Migrate	School to Receive Students
Kennedy HS	923	796		
			262	De Anza HS
			200	El Cerrito HS

Exhibit 3 3
 West Contra Costa Unified School District
 Resulting Utilization
 Middle Schools

Middle/Junior High School	Grade Levels Served	Modernized or Started Modernization	High School Family	2008 09 Enrollment*	High School
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