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## Judge Rejects Bullis Charter School's Third Attempt to Dismiss District Cross Complaint Seeking Examination Of Bullis Admissions And Fundraising Practices

LOS ALTOS, CA – Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge Carol Overton has denied a third attempt by Bullis Charter School ("BCS") to dismiss the Los Altos School District's cross complaint that calls for judicial examination of Bullis admissions and fundraising practices.

Judge Overton denied BCS' Motion for Judgment on the Pleadings, which sought to dismiss the District's cross complaint. As a result, the District will be able to pursue its cross complaint, which asks the Court to determine how BCS' fundraising and admissions practices impact the District's obligations to allocate public school facilities fairly under Proposition 39. The District's cross complaint asks the court for clarity on how BCS admissions practices and other behaviors might affect the District's facilities obligations.

Judge Patricia M. Lucas has previously rejected two attempts by Bullis to dismiss the case. As part of the Court's regular judge rotations, Judge Carol Overton recently took over responsibility for this case and now she has also rejected their requests. Judge Lucas ruled that the District had brought the cross-complaint on behalf of the general public, that the public's interest would be served by judicial examination of those issues, and the District had presented evidence that showed a probability that it would prevail on its cross complaint

In denying BCS' motion, Judge Overton rejected BCS' argument that the District was obligated to bring its claims regarding BCS' admission practices and donation expectations to the Santa Clara County Board of Education, the charter school's authorizing agency, before pursuing those claims in court.

"BCS has suffered a third strike from a second judge. By now, it should be clear that the Court believes that the District should be allowed to pursue the argument in its cross complaint," said LASD Board President Doug Smith. He continued: "I look forward to receiving clarity from the courts on this entire issue, as it has been a controversy in our community since BCS's inception."

Los Altos School District operates seven elementary and two junior high schools and is a toprated school district in the State of California. LASD serves 4500 K-8 students from portions of Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Mountain View and Palo Alto. All nine schools in the district have been California Distinguished Schools and/or National Blue Ribbon Schools. LASD is

nationally recognized for its innovations in education and its awards including the first district to create blended learning mathematics environments utilizing Khan Academy.

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