



School Names Committee Recommendation – Arbor Ranch

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April 7, 2026

EGUSD LEARNING VISION

Every student learning in every classroom, in every subject, every day to prepare college-, career- & life-ready graduates

EGUSD CORE VALUES



FISCAL STEWARDSHIP & OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

All students will benefit from an innovative school system that ensures fiscal stability, safe and well-maintained facilities, and a high-quality workforce.



HIGH-QUALITY CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION & ASSESSMENT

All students will benefit from high-quality classroom curriculum, instruction, and assessment to promote college, career, and life readiness and close achievement and opportunity gaps.



TARGETED SUPPORTS & INTERVENTIONS

All students will benefit from targeted programs and services that leverage their assets, affirm their identities, and address their needs to close achievement, opportunity, and relationship gaps, with a particular emphasis on students who identify as Black/African American, students with disabilities, students in foster care or experiencing homelessness, and students who identify as Native American.



WELLNESS

All students will benefit from an equitable, culturally responsive, physically, and emotionally healthy and safe environment.



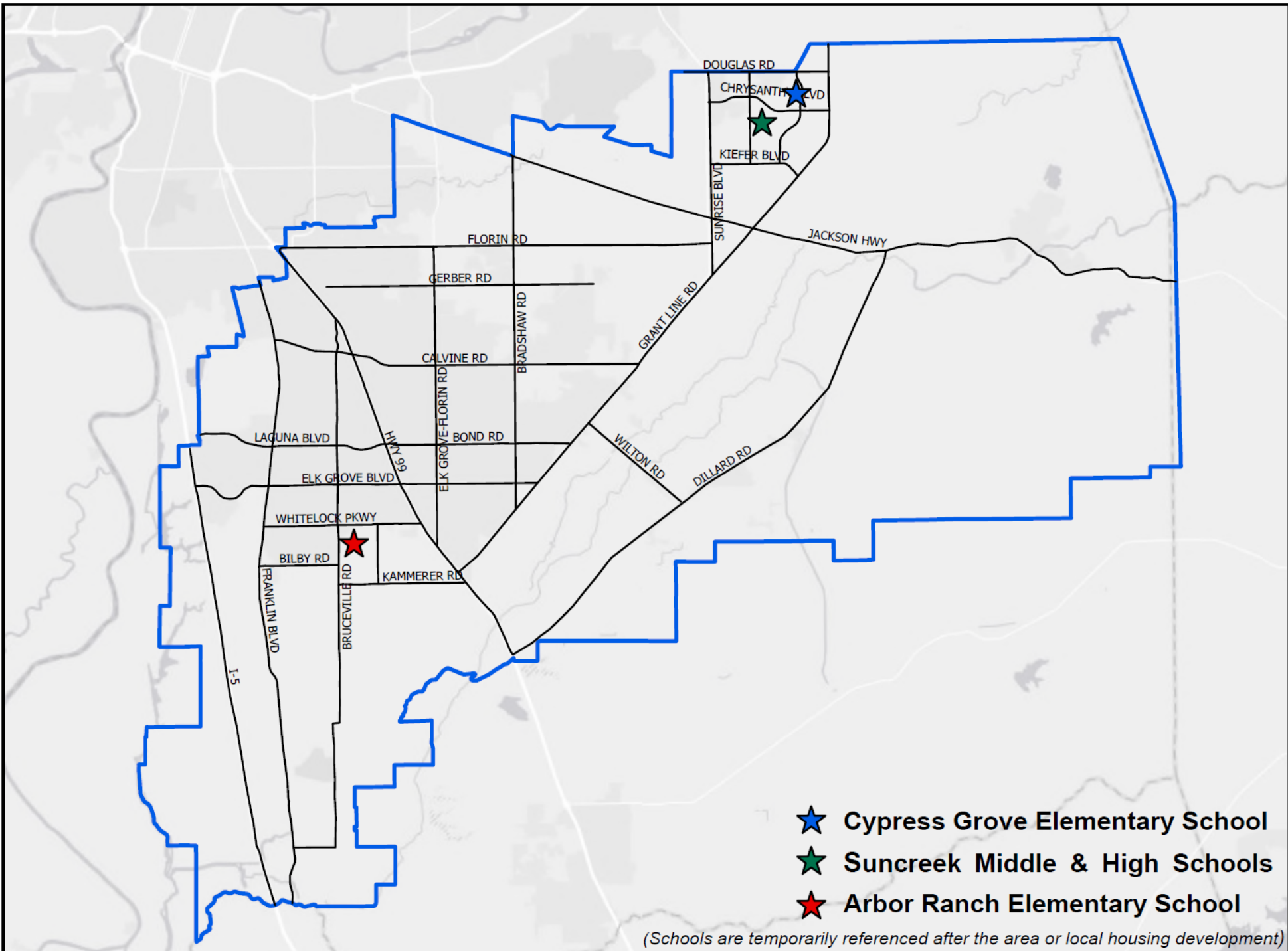
FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

All students will benefit from programs and services designed to inform and engage family and community partners.

PURPOSE



Provide recommendations for "Arbor Ranch" Elementary School located at 8140 Spoonwood Avenue in Elk Grove.



BOARD POLICY 7511: SCHOOL NAMES

Names for new schools shall be selected by the Board of Education from a list of not more than three submitted by a citizens' advisory committee whose members will be selected by the Board.

REGULATION 7511: SCHOOL NAMES

When growth and need dictate, the Board of Education shall establish a committee of not less than four nor more than twenty community members who have an interest and understanding of the history of the community. The committee will request input from members of the community. In pursuing this task, the advisory School Names Committee will use the following criteria:

1. Elementary schools shall be named to reflect the cultural diversity of the district, after persons or places prominent in the history of the area which is now the district, or after persons who have made contributions to education in the district.
2. Middle schools shall be named to reflect the cultural diversity of the district or after persons prominent in education or the history of Northern California or Northern Californians prominent in the nation or world.
3. High schools shall be named after the geographic area in which they are located.
4. Additional criteria may be submitted by the committee to the Board for approval prior to the selection of names.
5. If a community member chooses to gift the school district with land for a new school or makes a substantial contribution for a building or program at a school, the Board may consider recognizing the contribution by naming the school or building after the benefactor.
6. Biographies of all persons whose names are submitted as recommendations for school names shall be kept on file within the district and made available to the public.

MEETING DATES

- May 16, 2025
- June 3, 2025
- July 15, 2025
- August 7, 2025
- August 27, 2025
- October 21, 2025
- Committee was surveyed to narrow the recommended names for Board consideration to one person and one geographic area

David W. Gordon Elementary School

David W. Gordon is the Superintendent of the Sacramento County Office of Education, which directly serves over 30,000 students and supports 13 districts educating more than 235,000 students. He previously led Elk Grove Unified School District from 1995–2004 during a period of major growth and also served as Deputy State Superintendent at the California Department of Education.

A graduate of Brandeis University and Harvard University, he has held significant national and state leadership roles, including appointments to the National Assessment Governing Board and the President’s Commission on Excellence in Special Education. His service on state commissions and local boards—such as the Sierra Health Foundation and Sacramento First 5—reflects his longstanding commitment to education, public service, and community impact.

Poppy Ridge Elementary School

The California poppy became the state flower for good reason—its vivid orange blooms often blanket the landscape each spring. Even as rural areas change, poppies still appear in unexpected places: along roadsides, in vacant lots, and across open fields.

Poppy Ridge Road, connecting Bruceville Road to West Stockton Boulevard near Highway 99, takes its name from the early-1900s Poppy Ridge Dairy, owned by the Newman family. The dairy also has a link to Elk Grove schools: Harriet Eddy—namesake of Harriet Eddy Middle School—was the sister of Mrs. Newman. When Eddy arrived in 1908 to serve as principal of Elk Grove Union High School, she lived with the Newmans. *Paraphrased from writings by Elizabeth Pinkerton for the Elk Grove Unified School District School Names Committee, February 1999.*

NEXT STEPS

- Name Selected
- Groundbreaking – April 8th at 10 a.m.
- Begin new school process
 - Selection of site administration
 - Selection of a mascot
- New Schools considered will start with existing names from the community and School Names Committee

RECOMMENDED ACTION



Staff is asking the Board to consider one of the two recommended names for the "Arbor Ranch" Elementary School.

- David W. Gordon Elementary School
- Poppy Ridge Elementary School