

Before The Board of Education County of Placer, State of California

IN THE MATTER OF: RESOLUTION TO TRANSITION BOARD ELECTIONS FROM MULTI-MEMBER BY- TRUSTEE AREA ELECTIONS TO SINGLE-MEMBER BY-TRUSTEE AREA ELECTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 08-2021-01

WHEREAS, the Placer County Board of Education (“Board”) is governed by a seven member governing board (“Board”);

WHEREAS, the Board members are currently elected from four trustee areas, with three Board members elected from Area 1, two Board members elected from Area 4 and one Board member each elected from Areas 2 and 3;

WHEREAS, the boundaries of the trustee areas were last adjusted after the 2010 census;

WHEREAS, the results of the 2020 census will be released shortly;

WHEREAS, the California Voting Rights Act (Elec. Code, §§ 14025 et seq.) (“CVRA”) prohibits the use of “at large” elections where such use impairs the ability of a protected class to elect candidates of its choice, or its ability to influence the outcome of elections;

WHEREAS, the CVRA allows a plaintiff to file suit over violation of the CVRA and recover his or her attorneys’ fees, if successful;

WHEREAS, to date, no local agency has successfully defended against a CVRA challenge;

WHEREAS, many county boards of education and other local agencies have changed their elections to single-member by-trustee area elections, in light of the CVRA and the threat of litigation;

WHEREAS, the Board recently received a letter, sent on behalf of “Neighborhood Elections Now,” asserting that the Board’s current use of multi-member by-trustee areas subjects it to challenge under the CVRA;

WHEREAS, at this time the Board intends to revise its current trustee area boundaries light of the 2020 census data while also transitioning from the current multi-member by-trustee areas to seven single-member by-trustee areas;

WHEREAS, the Board will retain an experienced demographer to work with its legal counsel and staff to develop seven proposed trustee area boundaries.

NOW THEREFORE, the Placer County Board of Education hereby resolves, determines, and finds the following:

- Section 1. That the foregoing recitals are true.
- Section 2. This Resolution indicates the Board’s intention to revise its current trustee area boundaries in light of the 2020 census data and transition from multi-member by-trustee area elections to single-member by-trustee area elections.
- Section 3. The Board seeks public input on the single-member trustee area boundaries and will work to take all necessary and appropriate actions to allow for implementation of single-member trustee area elections beginning with the 2022 Board elections.
- Section 4. In order to facilitate this process and develop the trustee area boundaries the Board will take the following steps:
- Engage the community as to the trustee area boundaries.
 - Engage District stakeholders as to the trustee area boundaries.

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- Seek proposals from and retain an experienced demographer to assist the District with the process.
- Ask the demographer to provide information about the boundary drawing process to the Board and public at a Board meeting.
- Hold at least two public hearings at Board meetings prior to the drafting of any draft trustee area boundary maps.
- Post all draft trustee area boundary maps on the District's website as they become available.
- Hold at least three public hearings at Board meetings on the draft trustee area boundary maps prior to adoption of any map.

These steps may be augmented or adjusted by the Board as necessary.


Section 5. The Board anticipates that its process will be complete no later than the Board's October 14 meeting.

Section 6. The Placer County Superintendent of Schools and Placer County Office of Education staff are hereby authorized to work with the demographer and its legal counsel and to execute any documents necessary or desirable to carry out the intent of this Resolution.


The foregoing Resolution was passed and adopted at a meeting of the Board on August 12, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: GNILE, GOTO, OLIVER, PATTERSON, TEREKOV, TOMASINI
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: TOKUTOMI

PLACER COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

By: 
David Patterson, Ed.D.
Board President

ATTEST:

By: 
Gayle Garbolino-Mojica,
Placer County Superintendent of Schools

