



SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 11.1

Meeting Date: February 17, 2022

Subject: Approve Trustee Area Redistricting – Hearing Regarding Proposed Trustee Area Maps and Adoption of Resolution Approving Adjustments to the Boundaries of the District’s Trustee Areas Pursuant to Education Code Section 5019.5.

- Information Item Only
- Approval on Consent Agenda
- Conference (for discussion only)
- Conference/First Reading (Action Anticipated: _____)
- Conference/Action
- Action
- Public Hearing

Division: Legal Department

Recommendation: Adoption of resolution approving adjustments to District’s trustee areas.

Background/Rationale: The law requires that trustee areas be population balanced using the 2020 Census Data. Legal Counsel and a demographer will assist the District in this redistricting process, including drafting and revising maps for consideration by the public and the Trustees.

The District has held three community meetings regarding redistricting on November 30, 2021 (for Trustee Areas 2, 4, and 7); December 6, 2021 (for Trustee Areas 2 and 3); and December 8, 2021 (for Trustee Areas 1, 5, and 6). This is the sixth Board meeting, wherein the Board will adopt a resolution approving adjustments to the boundaries of the District’s trustee areas. The District has shared information regarding this matter with the public through various mediums, including robocalls, e-connections, the District website, and social posts.

Financial Considerations: Costs associated with hiring professional demographers, SchoolWorks, Inc., for analysis.

LCAP Goal(s): Board governance.

Documents Attached:

1. Executive Summary
2. Resolution No. 3249

Estimated Time of Presentation: 15 minutes
Submitted by: Alexa Rincon, Legal Analyst I
Approved by: Jorge A. Aguilar, Superintendent

Board of Education Executive Summary

Legal Department

Trustee Area Redistricting – Hearing Regarding Proposed Trustee Area Maps and Adoption of Resolution Approving Adjustments to the Boundaries of the District’s Trustee Areas Pursuant to Education Code Section 5019.5.

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I. Overview/History of Department or Program

Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD) completed the process to transition from at-large to by-trustee area elections following voter approval in November 2006. SCUSD has seven (7) trustee areas. Each of the trustees is required to reside within a defined trustee area and each trustee is elected only by voters in that trustee area. This type of voting is referred to as by-trustee area or by-district voting.

Every ten years, after the U.S. Census data is released, school districts are required to evaluate whether their current trustee areas have approximately equal populations using the new census data. The variation in total population among trustee areas cannot exceed 10%. If the total peak variation is less than 10%, no changes are needed. If the total peak variation exceeds 10%, trustee area boundaries need to be adjusted. This process is referred to as *redistricting*. Trustee areas must be made as equal in population as possible and practicable to provide equal access to political representation consistent with the one person, one vote constitutional principle.

The redistricting process is governed by the U.S. Constitution, federal law, and California law. Please note that redistricting applies to voting areas only and does not impact school attendance boundaries.

SCUSD hired professional demographers, SchoolWorks, Inc., to draft and revise maps for consideration by the public and the Trustees. Proposed “revised maps” will ensure appropriate population balance and will incorporate feedback received by the Trustees and the community. Members of the public will be able to provide input about boundaries, as well as possible revisions of maps, assuming new maps will be required.

The districting process will be transparent, and everyone will have the opportunity to provide their input on the proposed revised maps. The Board of Trustees will adopt a resolution establishing election district boundaries by February 28, 2022, the deadline established by law. After adoption of a new map, it will be sent to the County Superintendent of Schools and the County Registrar of Voters. The County Registrars of Voters will then adjust precinct boundaries before the filing deadline for the November 2022 trustee election. The new map will be used for the first time for the November 2022 election, when three SCUSD trustees will stand for election.

The proposed timeline, below, includes multiple Board meetings and dedicated time for community input to meet statutory deadlines for map adjustments following the delayed release of 2020 Census Data. These deadlines and the procedures outlined below are subject to change.

Board of Education Executive Summary



Legal Department

Trustee Area Redistricting – Hearing Regarding Proposed Trustee Area Maps and Adoption of Resolution Approving Adjustments to the Boundaries of the District’s Trustee Areas Pursuant to Education Code Section 5019.5.

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Trustees, Trustee areas, and terms of office:

- Area 1: Lisa Murawski (2022)
- Area 2: Leticia Garcia (2022)
- Area 3: Christina Pritchett (2024)
- Area 4: Jamee Villa (2024)
- Area 5: Chinua Rhodes (2024)
- Area 6: Darrel Woo (2022)
- Area 7: Lavinia Phillips (2024)

Proposed Timeline*

- **October 21, 2021:** Board Meeting No. 1. Announce Redistricting Issue to Board/Community, along with a proposed timeline for completion of the process.
- **November 4, 2021:** Board meeting No. 2. Full demographic presentation, including 3 map options.
- **November 5-11, 2021:** Community meetings (in-person and virtual).
- **November 18, 2021:** Board meeting No. 3. Staff presents a summary of community input. Demographer presentation.
- **November 30, 2021:** Community meeting. Demographer presentation.
- **December 6 and 8, 2021:** Community meeting. Demographer presentation.
- **December 16, 2021:** Board meeting No. 4. Review summary of community input.
- January 13, 2022: Board meeting No. 5. Demographer presentation.
- **February 3, 2022:** Board meeting No. 5. Demographer presentation.
- **February 17, 2022: Board meeting No. 6. Adoption of map. Upon adoption of map, send notice to the County Superintendent and the County Registrar of Voters with the adopted resolution and map.**
- **February 28, 2022:** Deadline for adoption of a new map. (Education Code section 5019.5)
- **July 6, 2022:** Deadline for the Registrar to implement the new maps.
- **November 8, 2022.** Initial election of trustees using the new map approved by the board. (3 trustees up for election).
- **November 5, 2024.** Second election of trustees using the new map approved by the board. (4 trustees up for election).

* These deadlines and the procedures outlined above are subject to change.

III. Budget:

Costs associated with hiring professional demographers, SchoolWorks, Inc., for analysis.

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IV. Goals, Objectives and Measures:

Pursuant to District Board Bylaw 9005 (Governance Standards), the Board “believes that its primary responsibility is to act in the best interests of every student in the district. The Board also has major commitments to parents, guardians, all members of the community, employees, the state of California, laws pertaining to public education, and established policies of the district. To maximize Board effectiveness and public confidence in district governance, Board Members are expected to govern responsibly and hold themselves to the highest standards of ethical conduct.” As such, the goal is for the District to evaluate whether its current trustee areas have approximately equal populations using the new census data and determine whether the redistricting process is required by the U.S. Constitution, federal law, and California law. If the redistricting process is necessary, everyone will have the opportunity to provide their input on the proposed revised maps.

V. Major Initiatives:

This redistricting process is necessary because the law requires that trustee areas be population balanced using the 2020 Census Data.

VI. Results:

The new trustee areas will be in effect for November 2022 elections. The deadline for adoption of revised districting maps (February 28, 2022) allows time for county Registrars of Voters to adjust precinct boundaries before the filing deadline for the November election.

VII. Lessons Learned/Next Steps:

SCUSD hired professional demographers, SchoolWorks, Inc., to draft and revise maps for consideration by the public and the Trustees. Proposed “revised maps” will ensure appropriate population balance and will incorporate feedback received by the Trustees and the community. Members of the public will be able to provide input about boundaries, as well as possible revisions of maps, assuming new maps will be required. Indeed, the District has held three community meetings regarding redistricting on November 30, 2021 (for Trustee Areas 2, 4, and 7); December 6, 2021 (for Trustee Areas 2 and 3); and December 8, 2021 (for Trustee Areas 1, 5, and 6). This is the sixth Board meeting. The Board will adopt a resolution approving adjustments to the boundaries of the District’s trustee areas. The District has shared information regarding this matter through various mediums, including robocalls, e-connections, the District website, and social posts.

**SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
RESOLUTION No. 3249 APPROVING ADJUSTMENTS TO THE BOUNDARIES OF
THE DISTRICT'S TRUSTEE AREAS PURSUANT TO EDUCATION CODE
SECTION 5019.5**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees (“Board”) of the Sacramento City Unified School District (“District”) transitioned from an at-large to a by-trustee area election system in 2006;

WHEREAS, a “by-trustee area” election system is one in which each trustee resides within one of seven (7) trustee areas and each trustee is elected only by the registered voters of the trustee area they represent;

WHEREAS, following each decennial federal census, school districts that utilize by-trustee area elections must adjust trustee area boundaries as necessary to meet the population criteria set forth in Education Code section 5019.5, subdivision (a);

WHEREAS, Education Code section 5019.5, subdivision (b), provides that the boundaries of the trustee areas shall be adjusted by the Board, in accordance with subdivision (a), before the first day of March of the year following the year in which the results of each decennial census are released;

WHEREAS, SchoolWorks, Inc., (“Demographer”), a demographic consulting firm experienced in districting issues and requirements, was retained to assist the District to prepare trustee area redistricting plans for the Board’s and public’s consideration;

WHEREAS, the Board has conferred with and received guidance and advice from Demographer regarding the current demographic population in the territory of the Board’s jurisdiction, based on the official 2020 Census results, and concerning the procedures and policy criteria governing redistricting;

WHEREAS, on October 21, 2021, initial information about the redistricting process was presented to the Board and the community was made aware of the District’s need for a map update and the proposed timeline for its accomplishment, and the Board agreed that the District’s trustee areas will be adjusted;

WHEREAS, the District created a dedicated webpage to ensure transparency and posted relevant information on the District’s website, including background information about the redistricting process, frequently asked questions, each of the Demographer’s presentations, the map options, a summary of input from the community forums, and other information about the redistricting process and periodically updated the website;

WHEREAS, the availability of these maps and the District’s public hearings to receive input on the maps was shared in Districtwide communications, board agenda postings, social media platforms and the District’s website and map options were made available to the public in advance of public hearings to review the maps. The District’s website utilizes translation services

so documents were accessible in multiple languages, and interpreters were available for virtual meetings to enhance community involvement and participation;

WHEREAS, on November 4, 2021, the Board conducted a duly noticed public meeting to study the present trustee areas and the population changes in the District's trustee areas as set forth in the United States Census of 2020 and the Demographer presented the Board with three (3) map adjustment options, labeled Maps A, B and C;

WHEREAS, the District notified the public of community redistricting forums through multiple mediums, including postings on Facebook, at least four separate emails sent directly to District families, and through the District's website;

WHEREAS, at a duly noticed public meeting on November 18, 2021, the Board studied the map options, received additional community input, and elected to provide additional public forums for community input;

WHEREAS, the District conducted a virtual community forum on November 30, 2021 in trustee areas 2, 4 and 7 to gather input from the public on the proposed maps and all other relevant redistricting criteria.

WHEREAS, the District conducted a virtual community forum on December 6, 2021 in trustee areas 2 and 3 to gather input from the public on the proposed maps and all other relevant redistricting criteria.

WHEREAS, the District conducted a virtual community forum on December 8, 2021 in trustee areas 1, 5 and 6 to gather input from the public on the proposed maps and all other relevant redistricting criteria.

WHEREAS, the input from the community meetings was summarized and presented to the Board at a duly noticed public meeting on December 16, 2021. In addition, the Board studied the map options on December 16, 2021, and the location of trustee areas with respect to school attendance boundaries and requested the District administration to seek additional input from the community. At the December 16, 2021, board meeting, the Board also requested the Demographer to develop additional map options;

WHEREAS, on January 13, 2022, the Board conducted a public hearing to review Maps A, B and C, as well two (2) additional maps created by the demographer in response to the Board's request. The new maps were labeled Maps D and E.

WHEREAS, on February 3, 2022, the Board conducted a public hearing to review all five (5) of the proposed maps;

WHEREAS, on February 17, 2022, the Board conducted its final public hearing to review all five (5) of the proposed maps and provided the public with an additional opportunity for input;

WHEREAS, the Board has considered all testimony, input and comments received from the public on the proposed redistricting plans and criteria;

WHEREAS, the population in the proposed trustee areas of each draft trustee area redistricting plan is reasonably equal, in compliance with legal requirements; and

WHEREAS, each draft trustee area redistricting plan provides for a single-member, by trustee area electoral system, that complies with the California Voting Rights Act (Elec. Code, § 14025 *et seq.*) and Section 2 of the Federal Voting Rights Act (42 U.S.C. § 1973).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Sacramento City Unified School District hereby resolves as follows:

1. The above recitals are correct and true.
2. The Board hereby adopts as its redistricting Plan, Map ____ (please select one option from Maps A-E), attached hereto as Appendix A and incorporated herein by reference, as its trustee area redistricting plan pursuant to Education Code section 5019.5 and other relevant provisions of law.
3. The approved Plan is based on the 2020 decennial Census and complies with relevant law.
4. The District Superintendent or his designee, in conjunction with the Demographer, is hereby authorized and directed to send a copy of this Resolution to the Sacramento County Superintendent of Schools, and to work with the Sacramento County Elections Office and Registrar of Voters to conduct any additional acts necessary to complete the redistricting process in a timely fashion to permit implementation of these trustee areas in connection with the election to be held on November 8, 2022, including, without limitation, minor adjustments to the adopted map as may be necessary for its implementation.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Trustees of the SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, at a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees held on February 17, 2022, by the following vote:

Ayes: _____
Noes: _____
Absent: _____
Abstain: _____

ATTESTED TO:

Christina Pritchett
President of the Board of Education

Jorge A. Aguilar
Superintendent

Appendix A