

**SUNNYVALE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
INTENTION TO TRANSITION GOVERNING BOARD ELECTIONS  
FROM AT-LARGE TO BY-TRUSTEE AREA ELECTIONS**

**RESOLUTION NO. #R21- 04**

**WHEREAS**, the Sunnyvale School District ("District") is governed by a five member Board of Education ("Board");

**WHEREAS**, members of the Board are elected "at large," in which each member of the Board is elected by the registered voters of the entire District;

**WHEREAS**, upon application to the Santa Clara County Committee on School District Organization, the election of Board members may be transitioned from "at large" to "by-trustee area" elections:

**WHEREAS**, the California Voting Rights Act (Elec. Code, §§ 14025 et seq.)("CVRA") prohibits the use of "at large" elections where their 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 school districts and other local agencies in Santa Clara County have recently changed, or are in the process of changing, their elections in light of the CVRA and the threat of litigation;

**WHEREAS**, the District will retain an experienced demographer to work with its legal counsel and staff to develop proposed trustee area boundaries;

**WHEREAS**, the transition to by-trustee area elections will not affect the terms of any Board members.

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Board of Education of the Sunnyvale School District 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 transition from at-large to by-trustee area elections.

**Section 3.** The Board seeks public input on the trustee area boundaries and will employ the following steps and estimated timeline to facilitate this transition:

September 2021:	Pre-Map Public Hearings
October – November 2021:	Develop Trustee Area Maps with Public Input & Associated Public Hearings
December 2021:	Final Public Hearing & Adoption of Trustee Area Maps

This estimated timeline may be augmented or adjusted by the District as necessary. These steps will be followed by submittal of the proposed transition for final approval by the Santa Clara County Committee on School District Organization.

**Section 4.** District staff is authorized to work with the demographer retained by the District and its legal counsel and execute any documents necessary to carry out the intent of this Resolution.

The foregoing Resolution was passed and adopted at a meeting of the Board of Education on September 2, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: 5

NOES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

**SUNNYVALE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

By: Michelle Maginot  
Michelle Maginot,  
Board President

ATTEST:

By: Michael Gallagher 9-2-2021  
Michael Gallagher, Ed.D.,  
Secretary to the Board