BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE WASHINGTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. 1819-08

RESOLUTION ADOPTING TRUSTEE AREA BOUNDARY MAP AND ELECTION SEQUENCE FOR ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION; SUBMITTING PROPOSAL TO THE YOLO COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION TO ESTABLISH BY-TRUSTEE AREA ELECTIONS

WHEREAS, the Washington Unified 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, the District is committed to structures that most effectively involve all community members in the democratic process of 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, on March 5, 2018, the District received a letter from attorney Scott Rafferty on behalf of the Latino Information and Resource Network, the Broderick Area Homeowners' Association, Maria Grijalva, Edward Castorena, and Sandra Miranda, alleging that the District's current at-large election system violates the CVRA as it "dilutes minority electoral influence in the election of board members to the [District]...;"

WHEREAS, upon application to the Yolo County Committee on School District Organization ("County Committee"), the election of Board members may be transitioned from "at large" to "by-trustee area" elections;

WHEREAS, following discussion of the CVRA and the District's current at-large elections the Board adopted Resolution No. 1718-22, which indicated that the Board intended "to make the transition from at-large to by-trustee area elections in a deliberate and thoughtful manner which provides sufficient time for the Board and community to develop the trustee area boundaries" with implementation following the 2018 election;

WHEREAS, the District retained an experienced demographer to work with its legal counsel and staff to develop proposed trustee area boundary maps;

WHEREAS, four proposed trustee area boundary maps (Green, Orange, Purple, Yellow) were developed during the process and posted for public review on the District's website;

WHEREAS, all proposed trustee area boundary maps incorporate the use of a single-member by-trustee area election system;

WHEREAS, the populations of the trustee areas in all of the proposed trustee area boundary maps are substantially equal in population and are drawn to be compact and to contain cohesive, contiguous territory to the extent possible in compliance with legal requirements;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Elections Code section 10010 the District held six public hearings on potential trustee area boundary maps; two public hearings prior to the drafting of any maps (June 14 and June 28, 2018), three public hearings at which public comment was sought on draft maps (July 19, August 23, and September 13, 2018), and a final public hearing at the meeting at which this resolution is considered (September 27, 2018);

WHEREAS, the District posted information about the process and all draft maps on a dedicated page on its website;

WHEREAS, the District hosted committee forums at the Southport Cafeteria and Bryte Café on June 20, August 22, September 5, and September 19, 2018, at which is received public comment on the proposed trustee area boundary maps;

WHEREAS, the Board has considered all public comment on the maps and elections sequence it received;

WHEREAS, the Board seeks to adopt a specific trustee area boundary map and election sequence for implementation following the 2018 election for Board members;

WHEREAS, the Board may request, at a later date, that the State Board of Education waive the provisions of the Education Code requiring voter approval of this proposal at a special election.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Washington Unified School District that:

- 1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct.
- 2. That the Board adopts the trustee area boundary map attached hereto as "Exhibit A" (also known as the "_GREEN_" map) and believes that its adoption would serve the public interest of the District's residents and voters.
- 3. That each Board member shall continue to serve their current terms.
- 4. That the trustee areas from which Board members shall be elected in November 2020, and every four years thereafter, are Areas 2, 3, and 4.
- 5. That the trustee areas from which Board members shall be elected in November 2022, and every four years thereafter, are Areas 1 and 5.
- 6. That this resolution shall serve as the District's proposal to the County Committee. The Board hereby requests that the County Committee approve the establishment of the trustee area boundaries indicated on Exhibit A pursuant to Education Code section 5019, subdivision (c)(1) and establish by-trustee area elections for election of members of the Board pursuant to Education Code section 5030, subdivision (b).
- 7. That the trustee area boundaries and by-trustee area elections take effect upon approval and following the November 2018 elections.
- 8. That the Superintendent and/or her designee are hereby directed to take all necessary steps to:

- (1) submit this resolution to the County Committee pursuant to Education Code section 5019;
- (2) notify the responsible county officials of the Board's determination and provide whatever assistance may be required to implement the Board's direction for future election of Board members; and,
- (3) take any action and/or execute any documents which are necessary to carry out, give effect to, and comply with the terms and intent of this resolution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Washington Unified School District Board of Education and at a meeting held on September 27, 2018, by the following vote:

AYES: 3

NOES: -

ABSTAIN: 1 (WONG)

ABSENT:

President, Board of Education

Clerk, Board of Education

Vide President, Board of Education

Trustee, Board of Education