

**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
WASHINGTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

RESOLUTION NO. 1718-22

**RESOLUTION INDICATING INTENT TO TRANSITION
GOVERNING BOARD ELECTIONS
FROM AT-LARGE TO 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, the Board seeks 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.

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. This Resolution indicates the Board's intention to transition from at-large to by-trustee area elections pursuant to Elections Code section 10010, subd. (e)(3)(A).
3. In order to facilitate this transition and determine 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.
 - 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.
- Allow for comments on the maps to be submitted through the District's website.
- Provide sufficient time between revisions to the draft trustee area boundary maps to provide the community with the opportunity to review and comment on the maps.
- Hold at least three public hearings at Board meetings on the draft trustee area boundary maps prior to adoption of any map.
- Organize additional community meetings to review draft trustee area boundary maps and obtain comment regarding same.
- Provide all materials related to the draft trustee area maps in English, Spanish and Russian.

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

4. The Board intends to complete these steps and approve trustee area boundaries no later than the end of 2018 with implementation prior to the 2020 election for Board members.


5. District staff is authorized to work with the District's legal counsel and execute any documents necessary to carry out the intent of this Resolution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Washington Unified School District Board of Education and at a meeting held on April 12, 2018, by the following vote:

AYES: 4 (TRUSTEES: ALCALA, THU-HUONG, CRUZ, KIRBY-GONZALEZ)
NOES: 1 (TRUSTEE PIZZOTTI)

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0



 President, Board of Education



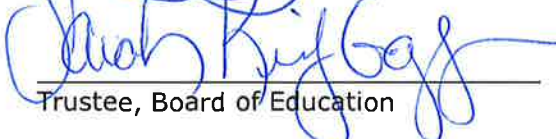
 Vice President, Board of Education



 Clerk, Board of Education



 Trustee, Board of Education



 Trustee, Board of Education