

Santa Ana Unified School District
1601 East Chestnut Avenue
Santa Ana, CA 92701

MINUTES

Special Board Meeting
Santa Ana Board of Education

Monday, December 6, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Board President Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 6:17 p.m.

Board members present were Ms. Torres, Mrs. Amezcua, and Mr. Palacio.

Executive Cabinet members present were Superintendent Almendarez, Dr. Perez, and Mr. Williams.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dr. Rodriguez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING

3.1 California Voting Rights Act

Dr. Rodriguez opened up the meeting to conduct a public hearing for the California Voting Rights Act. He welcomed everyone to the public hearing and explained the order of the agenda. He stated that the purpose of today's public hearing is to provide the community with information regarding the CVRA and to receive public input from the public on the composition of the proposed maps for the five trustee areas that will be created. Dr. Rodriguez mentioned a few major points. The CVRA is a state law, which prohibits at large voting systems that impair the ability of racial or ethnic minorities to elect the candidate of their choice. The CVRA favors district-based election systems in which candidates must reside in a trustee area and only the voters residing in that trustee area vote for those candidates. This means that beginning in 2022, voters in those trustee areas up for election in 2022 will vote for one candidate in their trustee area and the remaining trustees will hold an election in 2024. The change in the election system will not affect school attendance boundaries. Dr. Rodriguez invited Mr. Ronald Wenkart to provide a summary of the process.

CHANGE IN ORDER OF AGENDA

DISCUSSION

5.1 California Voting Rights Act, Criteria for Drafting Trustee Area Boundaries, and Review of the Proposed Maps

Dr. Rodriguez invited the public to review the scenario maps followed by public presentations.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Rodriguez asked if there were any public presentations.

Public speakers addressed District elections by-trustee areas and scenario maps.

Dr. Alvarez joined the meeting at 6:39 p.m.

After hearing public comments, Dr. Rodriguez declared the public hearing closed.

6. REGULAR AGENDA - ACTION ITEM

6.1 Adoption of Resolution No. 21/22-3430 - Recommending that the Orange County Committee on School District Organization Approve and Establish Trustee Areas from which the Santa Ana Unified School District Trustees will be Elected in a By-Trustee Area Election Process

Dr. Rodriguez asked Board members if they would like to make a motion to approve any one of the scenario maps and sequence.

Motion by Ms. Torres, second by Dr. Alvarez, to adopt scenario map number four with the option to sequence trustee areas one, two, and three up for election in 2024 and trustee areas four and five up for election in 2022.

Board members asked questions and provided individual input. Dr. Rodriguez called the question for a vote.

Yes: Dr. Rodriguez, Ms. Torres, Dr. Alvarez

Abstain: Mrs. Amezcua, Mr. Palacio

7. BOARD REPORTS

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Board President Rodriguez adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at the District Office.

ATTEST:


Superintendent

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RESOLUTION NO. 21/22-3340

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
SANTA ANA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT RECOMMENDING
THAT THE ORANGE COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL
DISTRICT ORGANIZATION APPROVE AND ESTABLISH TRUSTEE AREAS
FROM WHICH THE SANTA ANA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT TRUSTEES WILL BE
ELECTED IN A BY-TRUSTEE AREA ELECTION PROCESS**

WHEREAS, the Santa Ana Unified School District (“District”) currently uses an at-large system of electing members of its Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, at-large electoral systems such as the Districts are subject to challenge under the California Voting Rights Act of 2001, codified at sections 14025 - 14032 of the California Elections Code (“CVRA”); and

WHEREAS, by-trustee area electoral systems are not vulnerable to challenge under the CVRA; and

WHEREAS, in a by-trustee area system of election, candidates for the District’s Board of Education (the “Board”) must reside within a specific geographic subarea of the District called a “trustee area” and candidates are elected only by the voters of that trustee area; and

WHEREAS, one method of transitioning from an at-large electoral system to a by trustee area electoral system is for the school district board of education to petition the local county committee on school district organization by resolution to initiate the transition under California Education Code section 5019(c)(1); and

WHEREAS, the Orange County Committee on School District Organization (“Committee”) has indicated that it will consider any recommendation on specific trustee areas made by the District; and

WHEREAS, District staff and consultants have conducted public hearings for map input as required by law, prepared proposed trustee area plans and recommendations (the “Plans”) that were presented to the public at the District’s Board Meetings on September 28, 2021, October 18, 2021 and October 25, 2021, and thereafter posted the Plans on the District’s website for further input; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Elections Code section 10010, the District held properly noticed public hearings regarding the proposed trustee area plans on November 8, 2021, and December 6, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Board has considered all public input and comment on the Plans; and

WHEREAS, the Board has adopted Scenario 4 and hereby recommends Scenario 4 to the Committee for its consideration based upon the findings, analysis and recommendations contained in the report attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit “A”; and

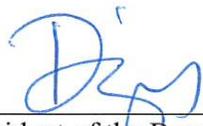
NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Education of the Santa Ana Unified School District as follows:

1. That the above recitals are true and correct.
2. That the Board has adopted Scenario 4 and recommends Scenario 4 to the Committee for consideration and adoption.

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3. That the Superintendent and/or her designee take all actions necessary to notify the Committee of the Board's determination forthwith and provide whatever assistance may be required by the Committee to complete the process.

ADOPTED, SIGNED AND APPROVED this 6th day of December, 2021.



President of the Board of Education of the
Santa Ana Unified School District

I, Alfonso Alvarez, Clerk of the Board of Education of the Santa Ana Unified School District, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Board of Education of said District at a meeting of said Board held on the 6th day of December, 2021, and that it was so adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Rodriguez, Torres, Alvarez

NOES:

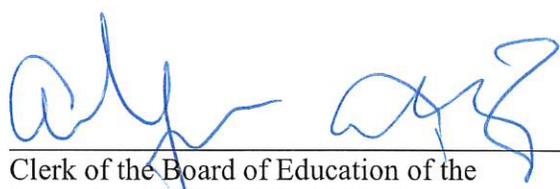
ABSTAIN: Amezcua, Palacio

ABSENT:

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)

) ss.

COUNTY OF ORANGE)



Clerk of the Board of Education of the
Santa Ana Unified School District

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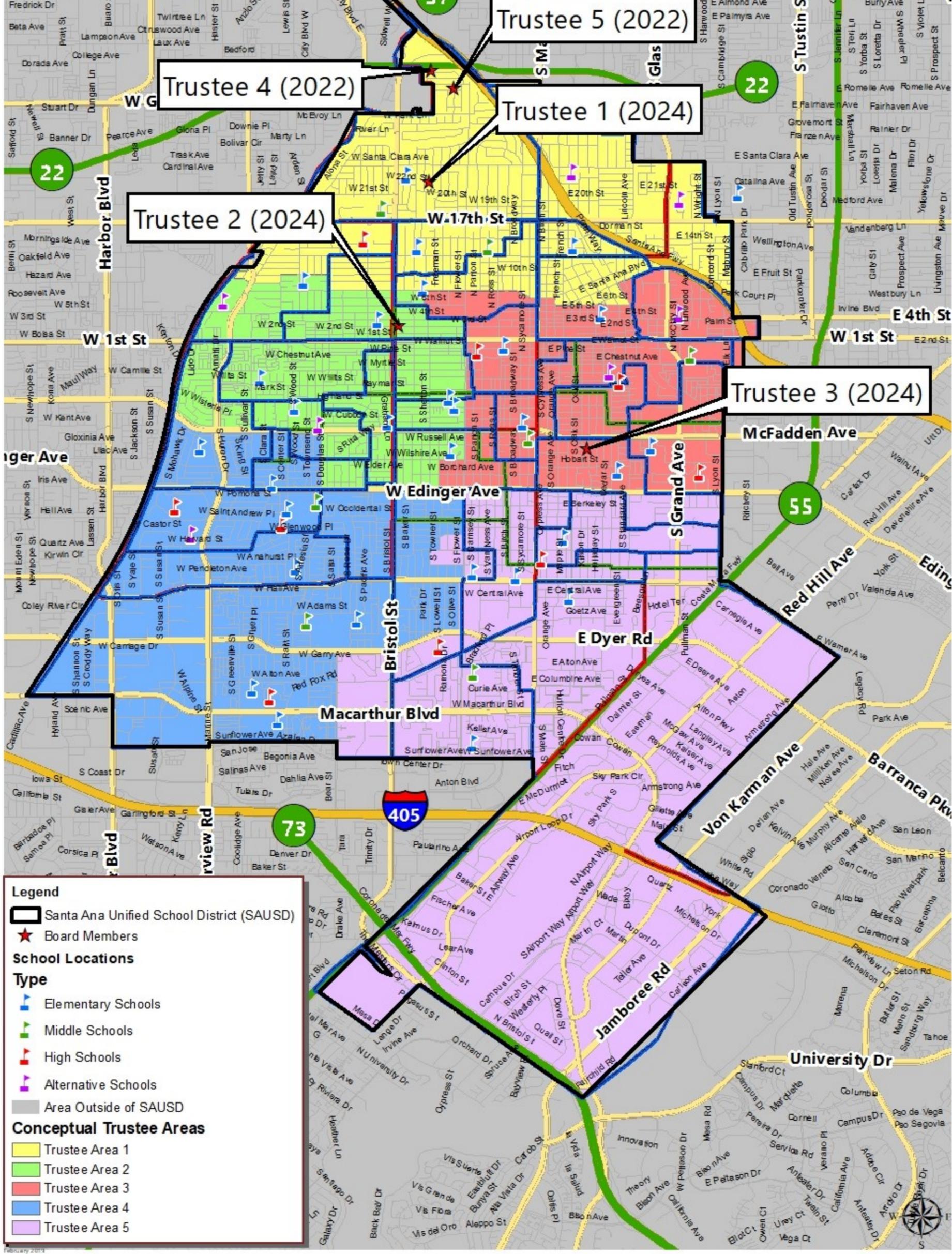
EXHIBIT "A"

APPROVED TRUSTEE AREA MAP

SCHOOL DISTRICT CONCEPTUAL TRUSTEE AREAS - SCENARIO 4

Trustee Area	Total Population (2020 Census)	Variance	Population Age 18 and Over (2020 Census)	Citizen Voting Age Population (2015-2019 Estimate)
Trustee Area 1	47,503	-2.6%	35,201	24,870
Trustee Area 2	50,803	4.2%	36,469	20,612
Trustee Area 3	47,944	-1.7%	35,040	20,290
Trustee Area 4	49,312	1.2%	38,010	28,317
Trustee Area 5	48,186	-1.2%	39,024	28,741
Total	243,748	6.8%	183,744	122,830

Election Sequencing	
Election Year	Area
2022	4,5
2024	1,2,3



Legend

- Santa Ana Unified School District (SAUSD)
- Board Members

School Locations Type

- Elementary Schools
- Middle Schools
- High Schools
- Alternative Schools
- Area Outside of SAUSD

Conceptual Trustee Areas

- Trustee Area 1
- Trustee Area 2
- Trustee Area 3
- Trustee Area 4
- Trustee Area 5

February 2019

SANTA ANA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

CONCEPTUAL TRUSTEE AREAS - SCENARIO 4

Election Sequencing	
Election Year	Area
2022	4,5
2024	1,2,3

Total Population:	243,748	Ideal Population:	48,750	Variance:	6.8%
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Total Population (2020 Census)					
	Trustee Area 1	Trustee Area 2	Trustee Area 3	Trustee Area 4	Trustee Area 5
Population	47,503	50,803	47,944	49,312	48,186
Population Variance	-1,247	2,053	-806	562	-564
	-2.6%	4.2%	-1.7%	1.2%	-1.2%
Hispanic/Latino	78.6%	91.1%	88.7%	75.2%	61.3%
White	13.3%	2.1%	5.6%	8.4%	19.4%
Black/ African American	0.7%	0.8%	0.9%	0.9%	1.7%
American Indian/ Alaska Native	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
Asian	5.2%	4.9%	3.7%	13.6%	14.2%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
Other	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%
Two or More Races	1.5%	0.5%	0.6%	1.2%	2.6%

Population 18 and Over (2020 Census)					
	Trustee Area 1	Trustee Area 2	Trustee Area 3	Trustee Area 4	Trustee Area 5
Population	35,201	36,469	35,040	38,010	39,024
Hispanic/Latino	75.2%	89.7%	86.2%	72.5%	0.0%
White	15.8%	2.5%	7.1%	9.8%	22.2%
Black/ African American	0.9%	1.0%	1.1%	1.0%	1.8%
American Indian/ Alaska Native	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
Asian	6.0%	5.9%	4.4%	15.0%	15.9%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%
Other	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%
Two or More Races	1.5%	0.5%	0.6%	1.0%	2.6%

Citizens by Voting Age Population Estimate (2015-2019)					
	Trustee Area 1	Trustee Area 2	Trustee Area 3	Trustee Area 4	Trustee Area 5
Population	24,870	20,612	20,290	28,317	28,741
Hispanic/Latino	61.2%	83.6%	79.9%	63.3%	53.4%
White	27.7%	3.6%	11.3%	17.5%	29.1%
Black/ African American	1.0%	2.2%	1.0%	1.0%	2.4%
American Indian/ Alaska Native	0.5%	0.1%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%
Asian	8.6%	10.4%	6.8%	16.8%	12.6%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.2%	0.0%	0.5%	0.5%	0.4%
Other	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Two or More Races	0.9%	0.1%	0.3%	0.8%	1.7%