

**Santa Cruz City Schools**  
**Resolution # 19-18-19**  
**CRITERIA FOR**  
**DEVELOPING TRUSTEE-AREA BOUNDARIES**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education (“Board”) of Santa Cruz City Schools (“District”) is elected under an “at-large” election system where trustees are elected by voters of the entire District; and

**WHEREAS**, at its Wednesday, January 16, 2019 meeting, the Board adopted Resolution Number 14-18-19, declaring its intent to transition from at-large elections to by-trustee area elections, where each trustee must reside within a designated trustee-area boundary, and is elected only by the voters in that trustee-area; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Elections Code, section 10010, subdivision (a)(1), the Board held public hearings on February 6, 2019 and February 20, 2019, to gather public input regarding potential trustee-area boundaries; and

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Voting Rights Act (42 U.S.C. section 1973) prohibits the use of any voting qualification, or prerequisite to voting, or standard, practice, or procedure, in a manner which results in a denial or abridgement of the right of any citizen of the United States to vote on account of race or color; and

**WHEREAS**, federal law and the Equal Protection Clause require that each trustee-area be equal in population; however, deviations (less than five percent [5%] greater than or less than the ideal, for a total of ten percent [10%] deviation) are presumptively constitutional under the Equal Protection Clause where required to meet an official criteria; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has instructed its demographer and District staff to develop draft maps to identify trustee-areas that fully comply with legal requirements; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board wishes to provide official criteria for any needed deviations from the general rule of equal population; and

**WHEREAS**, the draft maps will be used by the Board to study the possible change to by-trustee area elections, and to inform and solicit further input from the public.

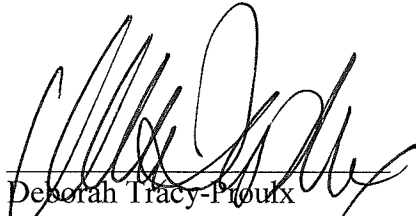
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Education of Santa Cruz City Schools hereby resolves as follows:


1. The above recitals are correct and true.
2. The Board hereby adopts the following criteria, identified in the attached Exhibit A, to guide the demographer and District staff in the development of draft maps and in relation to any necessary deviations as described above.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Education of SANTA CRUZ CITY SCHOOLS, at a regular meeting of the Board of Education held February 20, 2019, by the following vote:

AYES:          7    
NOES:          0    
ABSTAIN:      0    
ABSENT:       0  

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing resolution was duly and regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by the members of the Board of Education of Santa Cruz City Schools, at a public meeting of said Board held on February 20, 2019.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Desorah Tracy-Proulx  
President, Board of Education

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kris Munro  
Clerk, Board of Education

## Exhibit A

### Criteria to Guide the Establishment of Trustee-Areas

*All items designated below by a shaded-in box shall be included. Criteria numbers 1-3 are legally mandated, and therefore have been automatically shaded-in.*

- 1. The boundaries of the trustee-areas shall be established so that the trustee-areas are at least as nearly equal in population as required by law.
- 2. The boundaries of the trustee-areas shall not be gerrymandered in violation of the principles established by the United States Supreme Court in *Shaw v. Reno*, 509 U.S. 630 (1993), and other applicable law.
- 3. The boundaries of the trustee-areas shall be established so that the trustee-areas do not result in a denial or abridgement of the right of any citizen to vote on account of race or color as provided in Section 2 of the federal Voting Rights Act.
- 4. The boundaries of the trustee-areas shall be compact, insofar as practicable.
- 5. The boundaries of the trustee-areas shall be created to contain contiguous territory, insofar as practicable.
- 6. The boundaries of the trustee-areas shall observe communities of interest, such as the District's underlying elementary and high school attendance areas, rural or urban populations, municipalities, social interests, agricultural, industrial or service industry interests, and the like, insofar as practicable.
- 7. The boundaries of the trustee-areas may take into account visible features, such as topography and geography, including mountains, flat land, forest lands, man-made geographical features such as highways and canals, etc., insofar as practicable.
- 8. The boundaries of the trustee-areas may consider avoiding pairing two or more incumbents in a single trustee-area, to the extent legally allowable.
- 9. The boundaries of the trustee-areas shall comply with such other factors which become known during the redistricting process and are formally adopted by the Board.
- 10. To support individual trustees with maintaining a focus on the needs of the district as a whole, each school attendance area shall include at least two trustee-areas, and trustee - areas will incorporate more than one school attendance area. (Recommendation from Unions in Public Hearing #1)