

RESOLUTION NO. 03-12-20-31

**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
FOLSOM CORDOVA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Resolution Establishing Intention to Transition to District-Based Elections

WHEREAS, the Board of Education (“Board”) of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District (“District”) is elected “at-large,” meaning that each Board member is elected by voters of the entire District;

WHEREAS, Board members are elected in even-numbered years and serve staggered, four-year terms, such that the next election for two Board members is scheduled for November 2020, with the remaining three Board members scheduled for election in November 2022;

WHEREAS, under the California Voting Rights Act (“CVRA”), at-large elections are impermissible if they result in racially polarized voting. Racially polarized voting is defined as “voting in which there is a difference [...] in the choice of candidates or other electoral choices that are preferred by voters in a protected class, and in the choice of candidates and electoral choices that are preferred by voters in the rest of the electorate.” (Elec. Code, § 14026, subd. (e));

WHEREAS, the District understands the importance of fair and accessible elections, and greatly values the opinions and voices of all members of the District’s community;

WHEREAS, the Board has concluded that it is in the public interest to begin the process to transition from at-large to district-based elections;

NOW THEREFORE, the Governing Board of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District hereby resolves as follows:

1. The above recitals are correct and true.
2. The District shall commence the process of transitioning to district-based elections, in full compliance with all appropriate procedures and policies provided in law, including but not limited to Education Code sections 5019, 5030, and 33050, et seq., and Elections Code sections 10010 and 14025, et seq., with the intention of completing the process within ninety (90) days of this Resolution’s passage. To facilitate this transition, the Superintendent or designee shall:
 - a. Cause to be held at least two public hearings of this Board over a period of no more than thirty (30) days, at which the public is invited to provide input regarding the composition of the districts. Before these hearings, the Superintendent or designee may conduct outreach to the public, including to non-English-speaking communities, to explain the districting process and to encourage public participation.

- b. Thereafter, cause to be drawn draft district maps of the proposed boundaries of the districts.
 - c. Thereafter, cause those draft district maps of the proposed boundaries of the districts to be published and made available for release, and, if members of the Board of the District will be elected in their districts at different times to provide for staggered terms of office, the potential sequence of the elections.
 - d. Thereafter, cause to be held at least two additional hearings of this Board over a period of not more than forty-five (45) days, at which the public is invited to provide input regarding the content of the draft map or maps and the proposed sequence of elections, if applicable. The first version of a draft map shall be published at least seven (7) days before consideration at a hearing. If a draft map is revised at or following a hearing, it shall be published and made available to the public for at least seven (7) days before being adopted.
 - e. Thereafter, once the draft map or maps and the proposed sequence of elections, if applicable, have been approved by this Board, such approval to be effected by a duly enacted Resolution of this Board at a public hearing at which the Board votes to approve or defeat an ordinance establishing district-based elections, the Superintendent or designee shall cause such Resolution to be transmitted to the County Committee for hearing and consideration pursuant to Section 5019 of the Education Code.
3. The Superintendent or designee is directed to engage a demographer, legal counsel, and any other consultant deemed required to assist in the development of proposed district-based election map.
 4. The Superintendent or designee is hereby authorized and directed to take any other actions necessary to effectuate this Resolution.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District, this 12th day of March 2020, by the following vote:

AYES: 5
 NOES: 0
 ABSENT: 0
 ABSTAIN: 0

Signed and approved by me after its passage.

Attest:

David Reid
 David Reid, Clerk

Chris Clark
 Chris Clark, President