

RESOLUTION NO. 20232024-01

**RESOLUTION OF THE SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION
APPROVING AND ADOPTING FIVE TRUSTEES FOR THE
NEEDLES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, the current makeup of the Needles Unified School District (“District”) Board of Education (“Board”) is comprised of seven (7) governing board members; and

WHEREAS, on October 10, 2023, the Board adopted Resolution No. 23-24-13 titled “Resolution to Petition the County Committee on School District Organization to Decrease the Number of Members of the Governing Board from Seven to Five” initiating the process for the Board to transition from seven (7) to five (5) governing board members; and

WHEREAS, the Board acknowledged two vacancies exist in the currently comprised seven-member Board; and

WHEREAS, the Board found it has seldom been full, with seven (7) members; and

WHEREAS, the Board determined it was in the District’s, Board’s, and community’s best interests to reduce Board membership from seven (7) to five (5); and

WHEREAS, the Board also determined approval of a reduction in Board membership from seven (7) to five (5) will not affect the terms of any of the five (5) sitting Board members, each of whom shall serve their current term; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to implement a five-member-by-trustee area election method in time for the 2024 Board election to ensure compliance with the California Voting Rights Act (Elections Code §§ 14025 et seq.); and

WHEREAS, the District has sought a waiver of portions of Education Code section 5019 from the California State Board of Education, which is currently pending; and

WHEREAS, California Education Code sections 5019(a) and (c)(1) and 5030 authorize the San Bernardino County Committee on School District Organization (“County Committee”), upon application of a school district’s governing board, to change the method of election of governing board members in a school district under its jurisdiction, including reducing the number of trustees from seven (7) to five (5) members; and

WHEREAS, the County Committee held a duly noticed public hearing within the District’s boundaries prior to taking action; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County Committee hereby finds the foregoing recitals to be true and correct; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Committee hereby approves the reduction of Needles Unified School District Board of Education from seven (7) members to five (5) members, contingent upon approval of the Board’s request for waiver of applicable portions of the Education Code that would require a District-wide election to officially convert the District from a seven (7) to five (5) member Board by the State Board of Education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the event the State Board of Education denies the District’s request to waive portions of the Education Code requiring a District-wide election to officially convert the District from a seven (7) to five (5) member Board by the State Board of Education, there will be no action by the County Committee and the District’s request will be denied; and

BE IT FURTHER AND FINALLY RESOLVED that if by resolution the County Committee grants the District’s request to transition to a five (5) member board and the Board’s request to waive portions of the Education Code requiring a District-wide election, the transition to a five (5) person Board shall be effective immediately upon the California State Board of Education granting of the election waiver of portions of Education Code Section 5019.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the County Committee on 17th day of January, 2024, at a duly noticed meeting by the following vote:

AYES: Barillas, Martinez, Munoz, Romo, Trujillo, Weatherspoon-Bell

NOES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: Bennett, Gongora, Holohan, Zendejas

I, Jenny Owen, Acting Secretary to the San Bernardino County Committee on School District Organization ("County Committee"), hereby certify, in the County of San Bernardino, State of California, that the above and foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly adopted by said County Committee at a special meeting thereof held on the 17th day of January, 2024, and passed by a vote of 6 to 0 in favor of said Committee Members present.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 17th day of January, 2024.



Jenny Owen, Acting Secretary
San Bernardino County Committee on School District Organization