

**ESCONDIDO UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Minutes of the Special Board Workshop of the Board of Education  
November 29, 2011**

The special meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by President Linda Woods with all members present. EEEA President, Romero Maratea led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call to Order;  
Pledge

The following persons were present:

Linda Woods, President	Zoe Carpenter, Vice President
Marv Gilbert, Clerk	Joan Gardner, Member
Marty Hranek, Member	Jennifer Walters, Superintendent
Staff	Others as registered

Present

President Woods asked if there was anyone wishing to speak to an item on the agenda or on another topic that lies within the board's jurisdiction.

Oral Communica-  
tions

Community member Jose Fragozo thanked the board for the information going out to parents regarding the changes that will take place in Escondido due to the California Voting Rights Act. He further shared concerns about the unification process.

Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, Gina Manusov updated the board on the communications efforts the district has made to the public regarding the by-trustee area election system. She also shared that all the map information and data will be posted on the district website including a comment section for public responses.

CVRA

Mrs. Manusov introduced Justin Levitt from National Demographics Corp. who gave an overview of the process used for the redistricting plan using demographics based on Census data from the 2010 Decennial Census and the Census Bureau's American Community Survey. The following redistricting criteria was also shared:

Federal Criteria

- Equal Population among districts
  - Total population: not voting age population, citizens, or voters
- Federal Voting Rights Act
  - Section 2 – Ensure equal power to elect candidates of choice
  - No racial gerrymandering

Traditional Criteria

- Communities of interest (i.e. elementary/middle school areas)
- Visible (natural & man-made) boundaries (i.e. Hwy 15, main roads)
- Compactness & contiguity (can people walk within the boundary)
- Continuity in office
- Population growth

Three maps were shared: Plan 1, where boundaries were drawn around major roads; Plan 2, which breaks the district into north, south, east, and west regions; and Plan 3 which attempts to follow the school district boundaries. District 1 in all three plans

represents a majority population of voting age Latino citizens.

Mr. Levitt also presented demographic details, racial breakdowns, for each plan and reiterated that the maps presented were just a starting point. Greg Rodriguez from Fagan, Friedman & Fulfroost said that district personnel know the area best and would know if a street would pull a neighborhood together and asked for as much information as possible to make the best choices.

Community member Catherine West spoke in opposition to the proposed change and asked that the board consider not changing to an at-large election system.

Lori Schellenberger, a civic engagement attorney with the ACLU stated that this action protects the fundamental rights of citizens and commended the board for their diligence. She indicated that outreach to the community is important and suggested that a press release in a Spanish language publication may be helpful.

Jose Fragozo suggested having a meeting on a Saturday at a middle school to reach more people.

Board member discussion ensued.

Gina Manusov reported that the high school district is moving forward with the process, but is behind the EUSD schedule. EUHSD is actively working with the county to catch-up with meeting deadlines. She indicated that it is difficult to coordinate work since both districts are at different stages and have different attendance areas.

Superintendent Walters confirmed that with a by-trustee area election system when an individual votes at their polling location, they will only see the candidate names of the person(s) running in their precinct.

Superintendent Walters reiterated that the submission of waiver of election resolution must be to California Department of Education (CDE) by December 23. CDE staff then prepares the agenda item for State Board of Education meeting in February.

Mrs. Manusov explained that with the on-line maps, community members can zoom in on any map for a more detailed view. All three plans will be on the district website for review.

It was moved by Marv Gilbert, seconded by Joan Gardner, and passed 5-0 to adjourn at 8:22 p.m.

Adjournment

**I hereby certify the preceding to be a true and correct copy of the actions of the Board of Education at a special meeting, as recorded in these minutes.**

Certification

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Jennifer Walters, Superintendent/Secretary

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Joan Gardner, Clerk