

ORANGE COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION  
MINUTES  
Special Meeting and Public Hearing  
June 20, 2018

1. CALL TO ORDER ORANGE COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

The Special Meeting and Public Hearing of the Orange County Committee on School District Organization was called to order by Chairperson Sheila Benecke at 6:01 p.m., June 20, 2018 in the Board Room of the Irvine Unified School District, 5050 Barranca Parkway, Irvine, California, 92604.

2. FLAG SALUTE The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Robert Singer

3. ROLL CALL

*Present:*

Sheila Benecke, Chairperson	Francine Scinto
Marilyn Buchi	Robert Singer
Meg Cutuli	Suzie Swartz
Karin Freeman	Virginia Wilson (arrived late)

*Absent:*

Kathryn Moffat	Josephine "Joey" Van Camp
Jo-Ann Purcell	

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA Motion by Meg Cutuli, seconded by Marilyn Buchi, and carried by a unanimous vote of all members present to adopt the agenda as presented.

5. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES Motion by Karin Freeman, seconded by Bob Singer, and approved by a unanimous vote of all members present to approve the County Committee minutes of the March 21, 2018 meeting.

County Committee Member Virginia Wilson arrived after the acceptance of the minutes at 6:04 p.m.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. County Committee Staff Report on the Irvine Unified School District's Request to Approve and Establish Trustee Areas from which Irvine Unified School District Governing Board Members will be elected in a By-Trustee Area Election Process

Mr. Lombardo reported that the purpose of the meeting is to conduct a public hearing within the Irvine Unified School District regarding the proposal to establish trustee areas and change the method of election to a by-trustee area election process. At the conclusion of the public hearing, the County Committee must either approve or disapprove the District's proposal.

Mr. Lombardo explained that should the County Committee approve the District's proposal to establish trustee areas and change the method of

election to a by-trustee area election process, the State Board of Education granted a waiver at the May 2018 meeting so the District would forgo the election process required by the Education Code, and move forward with the by-trustee area method of election at the next general election for governing board members in November of 2018.

Mr. Lombardo indicated that the Education Code does not provide specific criteria to apply in determining whether to approve or disapprove the District's proposal to establish trustee areas, resulting in broad discretion by the County Committee. The role of the County Committee is to approve or disapprove the District's proposed by-trustee area map and the change to a by-trustee area election process. The County Committee cannot make changes to the District's proposed plan.

## B. Public Hearing

Chairperson Benecke explained the format of the hearing as set forth in the County Committee Bylaws.

Chairperson Benecke opened the public hearing at 6:05 p.m.

District representatives present for the public hearing included: Mr. Terry Walker, Superintendent for Irvine Unified School District; Ms. Shawna McKee, District Legal Counsel with Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud, and Roy; and Mr. Robert McEntire, Demographer from National Demographic Corporation.

Mr. Walker gave a brief overview of the District's vision, mission, and demographics. He also described the District's considerations in changing to by-trustee area elections and a timeline of the District's public outreach efforts, which included the following: a dedicated District webpage regarding the consideration of the transition prominently posted on the District's website, multiple emails to the community listserv, several in-person meetings with stakeholder groups, local news media, and public hearing notices.

Ms. McKee described the criteria for preparing the draft trustee area maps and the emphasis on having multiple trustee areas within each District high school attendance area to the extent possible.

Mr. McEntire explained that he initially prepared three maps that aligned with the criteria established by the school district and revised the maps as he received feedback and input from the community and school district. Mr. McEntire described how the school district took into account and prepared for the change in data given the rapid housing development in certain areas of Irvine, and how after the incremental changes that were made to the maps it was determined that the Purple IV map best meets the criteria adopted by the Board. He also confirmed that the school district received a written confirmation of the waiver granted by the State Board of Education.

No members of the public were present and no comment cards were received.

Chairperson Benecke closed the public hearing at 6:21 p.m.

C. Questions/Discussion from County Committee Members

County Committee Members Suzie Swartz and Karin Freeman commended the school district on their efforts to ensure that there would be more than one trustee in each high school attendance area. County Committee Member Robert Singer commended the school district for their creative and clever approach to consider population growth.

Mr. Walker and Mr. McEntire answered questions from the County Committee members regarding the incremental changes that were made to reach the Purple IV map; what the response was from the collective bargaining groups; the community outreach and District website page views; the differences in the Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP) census data and surnames from the voter registration.

D. Vote to Approve/Disapprove the Proposal of the Irvine Unified School District

Chairperson Benecke asked for a motion. Meg Cutuli moved to adopt a resolution approving the proposal of the Irvine Unified School District establishing the map "Purple IV" and changing the method of election to a by-trustee area election process, and that this action shall not be deemed to constitute an order of election given that the State Board of Education granted the District's request for a waiver of the election process. The motion was seconded by Karin Freeman. There was a roll call vote and the motion was approved by a 8-0 vote.

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| 7. <u>PRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC</u> | None   |
| 8. <u>NEXT MEETING</u>                  | None scheduled.  |
| 9. <u>ADJOURNMENT:</u>                  | There being no further business Chairperson Benecke requested to adjourn the meeting. The motion was moved by Karin Freeman, seconded by Meg Cutuli and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m. |

All documents submitted to the County Committee prior to, during and subsequent to this public hearing have been posted on the County Committee's website at <http://www.ocde.us/CCSDO/Pages/Meeting-Agendas.aspx> and are available for viewing and/or downloading.