

**CYPRESS SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Cypress, California 90630**

RESOLUTION NO. 167-06

**RESOLUTION TO INITIATE THE PROCESS OF ESTABLISHING
TRUSTEE AREAS AND BY-TRUSTEE AREA ELECTIONS**

WHEREAS, The Cypress School District (“District”) currently uses an at-large system of electing its Governing Board members; and

WHEREAS, the Board is aware that under state law an at-large method of election may be deemed to impair the ability of some voters to elect candidates of their choice or to influence the outcome of elections and, therefore, may be subject to challenge under the California Voting Rights Act of 2001, California Elections Code §§ 14025, *et seq.* (“CVRA”); and

WHEREAS, the Board, based on this awareness, has had an ongoing interest in the issue, and has independently decided to initiate the process of establishing trustee areas and changing the method of electing members of the Board, in order to ensure compliance with the CVRA or, at minimum, avoid the potential for costly litigation under the CVRA; and

WHEREAS, transitioning to a by-trustee area election method is a time consuming process, which requires public input, the involvement of the Orange County Committee on School District Organization, and the State Board of Education, therefore, the Board intends to complete the process of changing to the by-trustee area election methodology, and hold its initial by-trustee area election of Board members, commencing with the November, 2018 Board election.

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

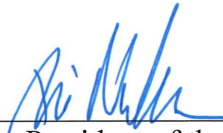
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board directs the Superintendent or her designee to immediately initiate the legal and regulatory process, including the retention of counsel and demographic experts, to establish trustee areas within the District, as provided in Education Code section 5019, in sufficient time for trustee areas to be established for the November, 2018 election of members of the Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board directs the Superintendent or her designee to immediately initiate the legal and regulatory process of changing the method of electing members of the Board, from the current at-large system whereby each member of the Board is elected by the registered voters of the entire District (Education Code section 5030(a)), to a method which provides that Board members residing in each trustee will be elected by the registered voters of that particular trustee area (Education Code 5030(b)), in sufficient time for the new method of electing members of the Board to be in place for the November, 2018 election; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent or her designee is authorized and directed to initiate the legal and regulatory process to seek a waiver from the State Board of Education, of the requirements of Education Code section 5020 and related statutes, so that action of the Orange County Committee on School District Organization establishing trustee election areas and adopting one of the alternative methods of electing Board members specified in Education Code section 5030 does not constitute an order of election so that trustee area elections can commence effective with the November, 2018 election; and

BE IT FURTHER AND FINALLY RESOLVED that the Superintendent is authorized to do all things necessary and proper to accomplish the purposes of this Resolution.

ADOPTED, SIGNED, AND APPROVED this 17th day of November, 2016.



Vice President of the Governing Board
of the Cypress School District

I, Lydia Sondhi, Ph.D., Clerk of the Governing Board of the Cypress School District, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Governing Board of said District at a meeting of said Board held on the 17th day of November, 2016, and that it was so adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Kern, Lee, Nakamura, Sondhi
NOES: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0



Clerk of the Governing Board
of the Cypress School District