

San Mateo County Committee on
School District Organization (CCSDO)
Regular Meeting
Monday, January 10, 2022

APPROVED MINUTES

Date: January 10, 2022

Place: Held Remotely via Zoom

County Committee on School District Organization Members Present:

Virginia Bamford, Lynne Esselstein, Samuel Leinbach, Bill Lock, Lillian Markind, Dennis McBride, Hilary Paulson, Rosie Tejada, Melchoir Thompson

County Committee on School District Organization Members Absent:

Greg Dannis, Maria Hilton

Staff Present:

Niambi Clay, Secretary
Timothy Fox, Deputy County Counsel

Co-Petitioners Present:

Leigh Amaro
Ben Depoorter
Royal Farros

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Paulson called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

2. Consideration to Adopt Resolution for Online Remote Meetings (AB 361) Discuss and Take Action

After a motion by Committee Member McBride and a second by Committee Member Tejada, the CCSDO approved, by a vote of nine in favor (Bamford, Esselstein, Leinbach, Lock, Markind, McBride, Paulson, Tejada, and Thompson) and two absent (Dannis and Hilton), by roll call vote, the Resolution for Online Remote Meetings (AB 361).

3. Approval of Agenda

After a motion by Committee Member Leinbach and a second by Committee Member Markind, the CCSDO approved, by a vote of nine in favor (Bamford, Esselstein, Leinbach, Lock, Markind, McBride, Paulson, Tejada, and Thompson) and two absent (Dannis and Hilton), by roll call vote, the January 10, 2022, agenda as presented.

4. Approval of Minutes

After a motion by Committee Member Esselstein and a second by Committee Member Lock, the CCSDO approved, by a vote of seven in favor (Bamford, Esselstein, Lock, Markind, McBride, Paulson, and Tejada), two absent (Dannis and Hilton), and two abstentions (Leinbach and Thompson), by roll call vote, the Minutes of the November 1, 2021, Regular Meeting as presented.

After a motion by Committee Member Tejada and a second by Committee Member Markind, the CCSDO approved, by a vote of six in favor (Bamford, Esselstein, Markind, McBride, Paulson, and Tejada), two absent (Dannis and Hilton), and three abstentions (Leinbach, Lock, and Thompson), the Minutes of the November 1, 2021, Governing Board Representatives Meeting as presented.

Committee Member Esselstein noted there was a misspelling of the Las Lomas Elementary School District Superintendent's name, which should be changed from Pulido to Polito. After a motion by Committee Member Esselstein and a second by Committee Member Leinbach, the CCSDO approved, by a vote of seven in favor (Bamford, Esselstein, Leinbach, Lock, McBride, Paulson, and Tejada), two absent (Dannis and Hilton), and two abstentions (Markind and Thompson), by roll call vote, the Minutes of the November 29, 2021, Greenways Drive Petition Public Hearing 1 (Las Lomas Elementary School District) as amended.

Committee Member McBride noted that Committee Member Markind and Committee Member Thompson had been listed as both present and absent, when they should have been listed as absent. After a motion by Committee Member McBride and a second by Committee Member Lock, the CCSDO approved, by a vote of six in favor (Bamford, Leinbach, Lock, McBride, Paulson, and Tejada), two absent (Dannis and Hilton), and three abstentions (Esselstein, Markind, and Thompson), by roll call vote, the Minutes of the December 6, 2021, Greenways Drive Petition Public Hearing 2 (Redwood City School District) as amended.

After a motion by Committee Member Bamford and a second by Committee Member Markind, the CCSDO approved, by a vote of seven in favor (Bamford, Leinbach, Lock, Markind, McBride, Paulson, and Tejada), two absent (Dannis and Hilton), and two abstentions (Esselstein and Thompson), by roll call vote, the Minutes of the December 6, 2021, Regular Meeting as presented.

5. General Staff Report

Secretary Clay provided an update on the survey sent to district superintendents regarding whether their districts are elected by trustee area or at-large and whether those which are elected by trustee area are reviewing their maps after the Census. She informed that BoardDocs would be up and running soon for viewing meeting agendas and posted public documents.

6. Public Comment

There were no members of the public wishing to address the CCSDO on non-agenda items.

7. Approval of 2022 Meeting Calendar

The CCSDO approved, by a vote of nine in favor (Bamford, Esselstein, Leinbach, Lock, Markind, McBride, Paulson, Tejada, and Thompson) and two absent (Dannis and Hilton), by unanimous consent, the 2022 Meeting Calendar.

8. San Mateo County Board of Education Trustee Areas

Deputy County Counsel Fox and Secretary Clay provided updates regarding the San Mateo County Board of Education moving to by-trustee area elections and the map and parcel area alignment process. They shared a presentation highlighting the review process, the timeline, trustee map considerations, additional data reviewed, current trustee areas, current and adjusted maps, the legal standard, adjusted map population data, and next steps. Deputy County Counsel Fox and Secretary Clay answered questions from CCSDO members.

9. Public Hearing

The CCSDO held a public hearing to receive comment on the San Mateo County Board of Education Trustee Map proposal to adjust trustee areas pursuant to Election Code 10010.

The following speakers provided public comment:

- Chelsea Bonini, SMCOE Board member but speaking as a community member, lodged concerns about deviation calculations, keeping school district boundaries, maintaining unity between San Mateo and Foster City, the potential lack of coastside representation, and the fact that San Mateo County Board of Education Board members will only need 1/7 of the vote to be elected.
- Beverly Gerard, SMCOE Board member, commented on the previous trustee map adjustment process, explaining that the Board tried to keep districts together. She stated that she did not support the current proposed maps and that the issue of which areas Board members represent is already quite confusing.

10. Greenways Drive Transfer of Territory; Staff Report

Secretary Clay provided an overview and timeline of the Greenways Drive Transfer of Territory and described the documents contained in the folder shared with the CCSDO members.

11. Greenways Drive Transfer of Territory Petition Discuss and/or Take Action

Deputy County Counsel Fox and Secretary Clay answered questions from CCSDO members.

Co-Petitioners Royal Farros and Ben Depoorter asked clarifying questions and provided additional information on their petition.

Deputy County Counsel Fox and the CCSDO members engaged in discussion focused on the 9 individual criteria to consider in the territory transfer petition process.

After voting on each of the nine criteria, committee members voted on whether or not the petition ought to be granted in light of the totality of the record. The CCSDO denied, by a vote of nine against (Bamford, Esselstein, Leinbach, Lock, Markind, McBride, Paulson, Tejada, and Thompson) and two absent (Dannis and Hilton), by roll call vote, the petition to transfer territory of the Redwood City School District to the Las Lomitas Elementary School District.

Deputy County Counsel Fox noted that staff would prepare a written resolution reflecting the action taken on each of the petition criteria to bring back at the February meeting for adoption.

12. Member Comments

Chairperson Paulson thanked those who attended the meeting, including the petitioners for providing information at the various meetings.

13. Adjournment

Chairperson Paulson adjourned the meeting at 9:03 p.m.