



GOLETA UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
Office of the Superintendent

Board of Trustees

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Superintendent

Dr. Diana Galindo-Roybal

Transition to a New System of Electing Board of Trustees Members

August 25, 2021

Dear Goleta Union School District Community:

I am writing to update you and to encourage your participation in an important process led by the Goleta Union School District Board of Trustees.

In 2019, the District initiated the process of transitioning the method by which the Board of Trustees are elected. Under the current “at-large” system, all registered voters in the District’s boundaries can vote for all candidates for Board. Under the new proposed system, candidates will be elected by “trustee areas.” This means only voters within a given trustee area can vote for candidates who reside within that same area. The intent of this proposed system is to offer greater opportunities for Board representation for candidates that might not otherwise be elected under an at-large system. Since the creation of “trustee areas” requires the most updated Census data available, and since the release of the 2020 U.S. Census data was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the information needed to proceed with map creation is not available until this Fall.

Transitioning to this new system will require the Board to hold public hearings on proposed trustee area boundaries (or maps) prior to asking the Santa Barbara County Committee on School District Organization to approve the change. If the Committee approves the change, “by-trustee area” voting would be held starting with the 2022 Board of Trustees election, on *Tuesday, November 8, 2022*.

The District will be utilizing the services of an independent, professional demographer to prepare draft trustee voting area plans for community and Board review this Fall. The demographer will work with the District’s legal counsel to ensure that all draft trustee area map options are in compliance with the California Voting Rights Act (“CVRA”) and other districting requirements. The process of establishing the trustee areas will involve using the demographic data from the 2020 Census (most recent – once released), in addition to other, accepted population and demographic information. Please note, that this process has no impact on student and school attendance boundaries.

Before draft map options can be prepared and presented to the community, the law requires the District to hold two public hearings to solicit comments and feedback regarding potential trustee areas. Thereafter, the District will be hosting a series of public hearings regarding the map options, once created. **The dates and times of the upcoming public hearings are shown below.** You are invited to attend as many as you would like. If you cannot attend a hearing or meeting and wish to review and/or comment regarding potential trustee areas as well as on the proposed “trustee area” maps, once created, please do not hesitate to submit your comments and

feedback to the email address below. Following the initial public hearings, the proposed maps will be created and posted on the District's web site, <https://www.goleta.k12.ca.us/>

You may email any comments or questions to Christy Rockwood at:
rockwood@goleta.k12.ca.us

We look forward to your participation in this important process this fall.

Sincerely,



Dr. Diana Galindo-Roybal
Superintendent

Feedback Opportunities (Prior to Creation of Map Options)

<i>Date</i>	<i>Zoom Link</i>	<i>Time</i>
Wednesday, September 1, 2021 <i>Public Hearing</i>	Meeting ID: 947 8108 3944 Password: 598604	6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, September 22, 2021 <i>Public Hearing</i>	Meeting ID: 935 0051 2545 Password: 321865	6:30 p.m.

Feedback Opportunities (After Creation of Map Options)

<i>Date</i>	<i>Zoom Link</i>	<i>Time</i>
Wednesday, November 10, 2021 <i>Public Hearing</i>	Meeting ID: 966 9005 2509 Password: 325589	6:30 p.m.
Monday, December 6, 2021 <i>Public Hearing</i>	Meeting ID: 912 5136 0750 Password: 252588	4:00 p.m.
Wednesday, December 15, 2021 <i>Public Hearing</i>	Meeting ID: 980 8135 5944 Password: 445159	6:30 p.m.

NOTE: Board vote on trustee area boundaries to follow third map Public Hearing on December 15, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

*Visit <https://www.goleta.k12.ca.us/board-of-trustees/meeting-schedules-with-agendas-and-minutes/2021-meeting-schedule-with-agendas-and-minutes/> for a link to each meeting's Zoom Webinar and Public Comment Request form. If the board meetings resume to in-person meetings, it will be stated on the website and the Zoom links will be removed.

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