

**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION**

**MINUTES
July 24, 2018**

**Location: Lovonya DeJean Middle School
3400 MacDonald Avenue, Richmond, CA 94805**

MEMBERS

Fatima Alleyne, Area 1 Trustee
Christine Deane, Area 2, Trustee
Vikki Chavez, Area 3 Trustee
Mike Maxwell, Area 4 Trustee
Jeff Belle, Area 5 Trustee

ABSENT

None

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Alleyne called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at Lovonya DeJean Middle School, 3400 MacDonald Avenue, Richmond, CA 94805

2. OPENING PROCEDURES

3. CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSAL FROM WEST CONTRA COSTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT TO ESTABLISH TRUSTEE AREAS WITHIN THE DISTRICT AND TO IMPLEMENT BY-TRUSTEE AREA VOTING FOR ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD; CONSIDER ADOPTING RESOLUTION 1-18/19 STATING COMMITTEE'S ACTION ON PROPOSAL

3.1 The President will Open the Public Hearing

President Alleyne opened the public hearing at 6:48 p.m.

3.2 The President will acknowledge receipt of all documents submitted to the Committee by the West Contra Costa Unified School District and the public

President Alleyne acknowledged receipt of all documents submitted to the Committee by the West Contra Costa Unified School District and the public.

3.3 Introduction of Proposal and Committee process by Associate Superintendent Bill Clark

Associate Superintendent, Bill Clark introduced the proposal and committee process.

3.4 District presentation of its Proposal and process it used to develop its Proposal

Marcus Walton, Director of Communications, WCCUSD; Harold Freiman, district legal counsel, Lozano Smith, and Doug Johnson, President, National Demographics Corporation, shared a PowerPoint presentation and explained the process used to develop the proposal and answered questions from Board members.

3.5 Comments from the Public - 2 minutes per speaker

The following spoke in support of disapproving the West Contra Costa Unified School District proposal: Mitzi Perez, Valeria Jameson, Stephanie Sequiera, Anthony Caro, Guadalupe Calvario, Brenda Rios, Manual Lopez, Silvia Castillo, Don Gosney, Raquel Antolin, Ada Bustamante, Abadesa Rolón, Mariela Cuellar, Scottie Smith, Petronila Fernandes, Roxanne Carillo Garza, Mary Selva, Yalanda Lopez, Rafael Aguiero, Wendy Lopez, Sophia Lopez, Lesdia Ramirez, Alex Beltran, Diego Garcia, Dave Schoenthal, Maria Franco, LeDamren Flowers, Justin Choi, Scott Rafferty

The following spoke in support of approving the West Contra Costa Unified School District proposal: Willie J. Robinson, Ayana Young, Ivy Winston, Dandrea Farrell

The following urged the Committee to seek further clarification before voting: Hans Moore, Cheryl Sudduth, Sarah Butler

Following a brief recess, the Board reconvened at 9:55 p.m.

3.6 District Response to Comments from Public

Marcus Walton, Director of Communications, WCCUSD; Harold Freiman, district legal counsel, Lozano Smith, Doug Johnson, National Demographics Corporation, and WCCUSD Superintendent Duffy responded to questions from Board members including the following:

President Alleyne asked that the communities of interest be defined by trustee area in Map B. Particularly, what similarities between the cities were used, to confirm it is not gerrymandering or segregating and is in compliance with the California Voting Rights Act and the Federal Voting Rights Act.

Mr. Johnson stated that communities of interest are a building block and there is no completely homogeneous trustee area in the map. Trustee Area 1, Hercules and Pinole, is not a community of interest, but comprised of communities of interest. Input was received from the Mayor of Pinole. The controlling definition is whatever the people who live in the community say it is.

President Alleyne asked how the demographer incorporated the community's definition of community of interest. Superintendent Duffy replied that the Board asked the demographers and the team to think mostly about city boundaries and school boundaries as communities of interest. Pinole and Hercules see themselves as similar because they have had the least representation.

President Alleyne asked, if constituents are zoned for schools outside of their area how can they represent a school their children don't attend. Is it seen as a problem? Mr. Johnson stated that this is the biggest challenge facing all school districts in this transition to trustee areas as trustees will only answer to trustee election area. Superintendent Duffy stated if we were to dig into the issue of students from one trustee area attending school in another trustee area, then we would see more of that in the maps. Mr. Duffy said although this is a challenge, trustees will vote on every issue of every school.

President Alleyne asked what communities were fragmented to generate the map. Mr. Johnson explained the Richmond Annex was divided due to population requirements. Except for areas where there is an exact match at the city border or school attendance boarder, there are no clear lines. Mr. Johnson informed the Committee that if they do not approve the map, the cost to WCCUSD for a special election will be \$600,000. The WCCUSD Board decided not to pursue a waiver.

President Alleyne pointed out a significant difference in the map of June 4 and Map B. Mr. Johnson explained there is a 2 - 5 percent margin of error.

3.7 The President will close the Public Hearing

President Alleyne closed the public hearing at 11:09 p.m.

3.8 Committee Deliberations - ACTION

Maxwell moved, Belle seconded, and the Board vote 3-2-0 to disapprove District's proposal to establish trustee areas in accordance with District map "Cities and Schools B".

Ayes: Alleyne, Belle, Maxwell

Noes: Deane, Chavez

Abstain: None

Absent: None

3.9 Consider Adopting Resolution 1-18/19 Stating Committee's Action on Proposal - ACTION

Maxwell moved, Belle seconded, and the Board voted 5-0-0 to authorize President Alleyne to sign adopted Resolution 1-18/19 B once reduced to writing with President Alleyne's comments included.

Ayes: Alleyne, Belle, Maxwell, Deane, Chavez,

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

4. PUBLIC COMMENT - ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

4.1 Items not on the agenda, but in the jurisdiction of the County Committee on School District Organization Information

Abadesa Rolón, Mariela Cuellar, Ayana Young, Maria Franco, Petronila Fernandes

5. GENERAL INFORMATION

The meeting adjourned at 11:33 p.m.