

GLENDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

May 24, 2016

ACTION REPORT NO. 1

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Winfred B. Roberson, Jr., Superintendent

SUBMITTED BY: Robert McEntire, Chief Business and Financial Officer

SUBJECT: **Resolution No. 28 to Adopt the Preferred Trustee Area Plan**

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The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education approve Resolution No. 28 to adopt the Preferred Trustee Area Plan for the District.

Background

Currently members of the District's Governing Board are elected in at-large elections as required by the City of Glendale City Charter. At-large elections are subject to legal challenge under the California Voting Rights Act ("CVRA") if they impair the ability of a protected class to elect preferred candidates or influence the outcome of elections.

For the past several years, county offices of education (COEs) and school and community college districts around the State have been faced with the issue of trustee area voting, prompted by legal challenges under the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA). CVRA is part of the state constitution, and it supersedes the City Charter and Education Code in the area of school district elections.

In December 2013, the District received a letter from a law firm demanding adoption of by-trustee area elections. GUSD elections are governed by the City of Glendale Charter. In order to transition from at-large elections to by-trustee area elections, the District placed Measure E on the April 7, 2015 ballot to amend the City Charter. Unfortunately, Measure E was not approved by the voters.

On April 22, 2015, the District was served a Lawsuit for alleged violation of the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA). In the 12 years since the CVRA was passed, no local government entity whose at-large election system was challenged has mounted a successful defense.

On September 30, 2015, the Los Angeles Superior Court approved settlement of the CVRA lawsuit. Settlement included a stipulated judgment and an agreement to move to trustee areas in advance of the 2017 election with no finding of liability or wrongdoing.

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Subsequent to the settlement of the CVRA lawsuit, the District engaged in a collaborative and transparent process including multiple opportunities for the Board of Education to study the issue and receive community input regarding area/boundary choices. Below is a list of the events:

Community Meetings:

March 10, 2016 – Roosevelt Middle School

March 12, 2016 – Administration Building

March 16, 2016 – Crescenta Valley High School

March 17, 2016 – Toll Middle School

Public Hearings:

April 5, 2016

April 19, 2016

On May 3, 2016, the District's demographer presented a new map G2 along with two of the previous maps, A and G that the Board had requested to be brought back for discussion.

Attached is Resolution No. 28 to adopt the Preferred Trustee Area Plan for the District.

GLENDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. 28

RESOLUTION ADOPTING PREFERRED PLAN MAP OR TRUSTEE AREA ELECTIONS

*WHEREAS*, the Glendale City Charter required that the Board of Education (“Governing Board”) of the Glendale Unified School District (“District”) be elected under an “at-large” election system where Governing Board members were elected by voters of the entire District; and

*WHEREAS*, at-large electoral systems such as the District’s are subject to challenge under the California Voting Rights Act (Elections Code §§ 14025 et seq.) (“CVRA”); and

*WHEREAS*, the procedures to amend the Glendale City Charter are established by the California Elections Code; and

*WHEREAS*, Ballot Measure E, a proposed Glendale City Charter amendment, was placed before the electorate on April 7, 2015, and did not pass. Had Ballot Measure E passed, it would have amended the Glendale City Charter to allow the Governing Board to designate its own method of electing Governing Board members, such as “by-trustee area” elections; and

*WHEREAS*, on April 17, 2015, a complaint was filed in the Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC579052 against the District for an alleged violation of the CVRA (the “Lawsuit”); and

*WHEREAS*, on September 30, 2015, the Los Angeles Superior Court entered a stipulated judgment in the Lawsuit (the “Judgment”), in which the Governing Board agreed to change to by-trustee area elections; where each trustee must reside within the designated trustee area boundary and is elected only by the voters in that trustee area; and

*WHEREAS*, the District retained the National Demographics (the “Consultant”) to prepare proposed trustee area boundary plans for consideration by the District, Board, and community. The Consultant has extensive experience working with school districts and local jurisdictions regarding electoral demographics, the CVRA, the Federal Voting Rights Act, and related election system choices; and

*WHEREAS*, all of the proposed trustee area boundary plans prepared by Consultant were drawn with CVRA, Federal compliance, and Board adopted criteria of January 12, 2016 in mind; and

*WHEREAS*, the Board conducted multiple public forums and Board meetings to consider community input and comment regarding the proposed trustee area boundary plans; and

*WHEREAS*, the Board has thoughtfully considered all such public input and comment on the proposed trustee area boundary plans; and

Resolution No. 28

*WHEREAS*, the Board desires to adopt the Map of Trustee Areas (Exhibit “A”) because it closely satisfies the CVRA, Federal law, and Board adopted January 12, 2016 criteria for adoption of a proposed trustee area boundary plan; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Glendale Unified School District finds and directs as follows:

1. That the above listed recitals are true and correct.
2. That the Superintendent take all actions necessary to timely implement the Preferred Plan.
3. That the Superintendent/designee consult with legal counsel to resolve any legal issues necessary to give effect to this resolution.
4. That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 24th day of May, 2016, by the Board of Education of Glendale Unified School District

Ayes: \_\_\_\_\_

Noes: \_\_\_\_\_

Absent: \_\_\_\_\_

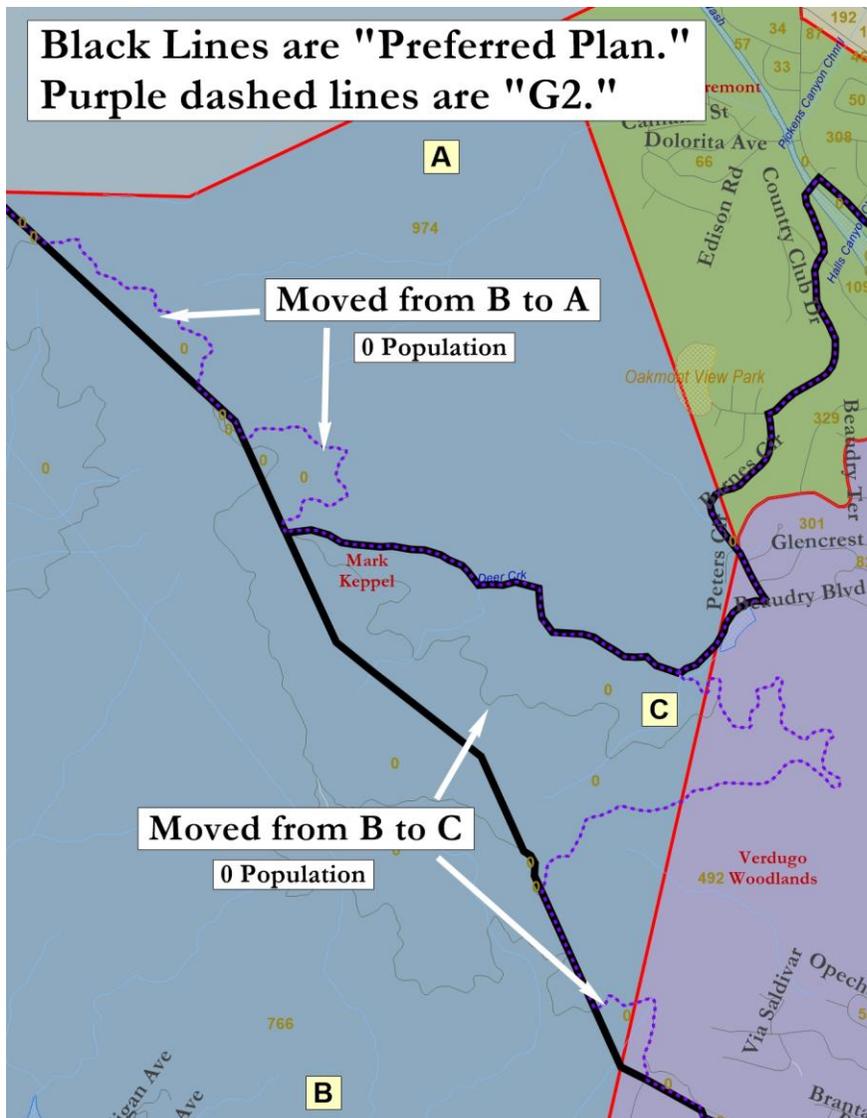
Abstain: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
President, Board of Education  
Glendale Unified School District

May 10, 2016

To: Glendale Unified School District  
 Fr: Douglas Johnson, President  
 Re: Changes from "G2" to "Preferred Plan"

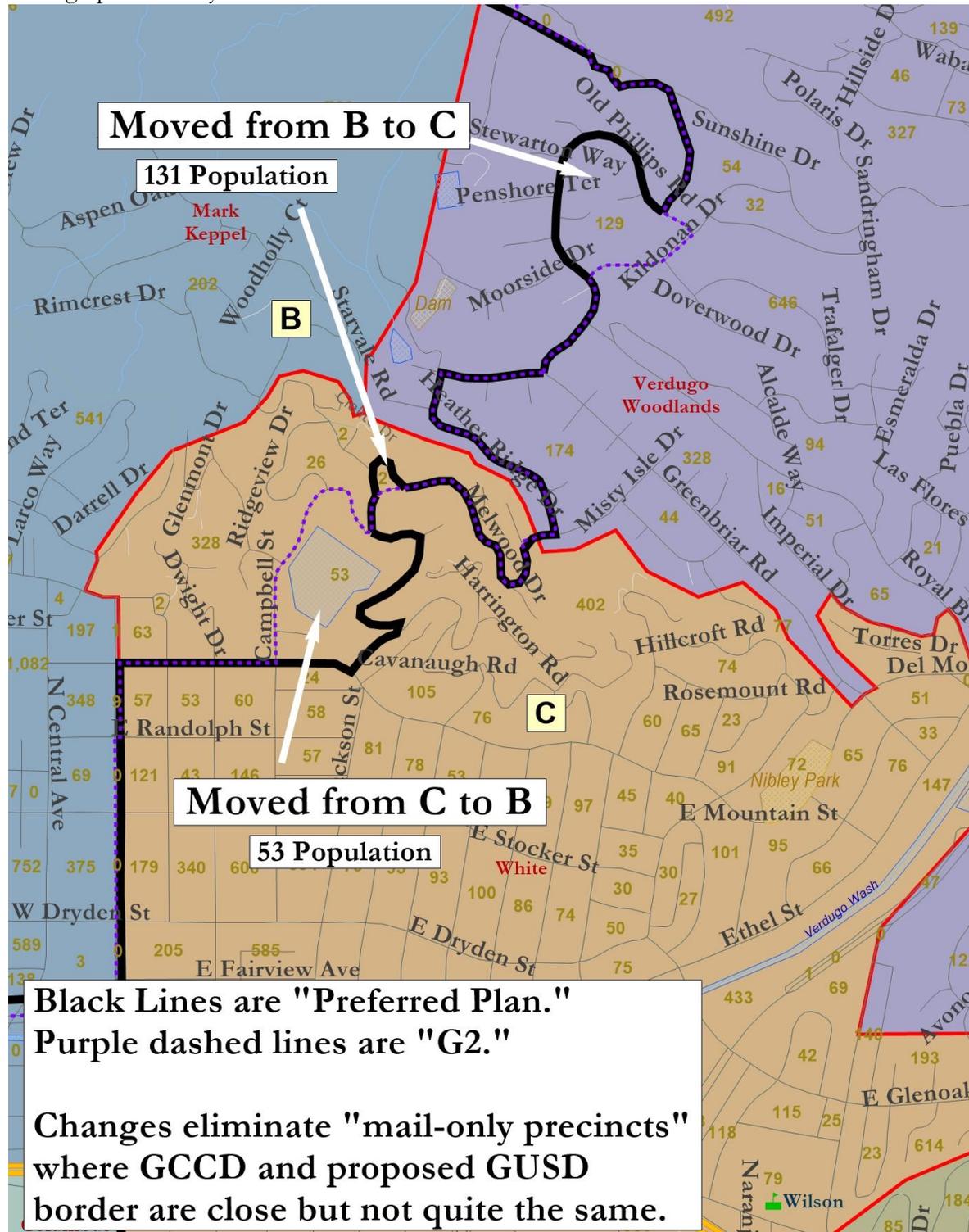
The attached map is presented for your consideration as part of the final resolution to the districting process. The map is labeled "Preferred Plan," and it is the same as map "G2" except for the small changes discussed at the most recent Board decision on this topic. All of the changes are made solely to avoid creating "sliver precincts" where the GUSD and GCCD borders are very close to, but not quite, the same. These areas are only in the area of the hills where trustee areas 1, 2 and 3, now labeled A, B, and C, come together. Trustee Areas B, C, and D will hold their first elections in 2017, while A and E will hold their first elections in 2019.



The first set of changes, shown in the image to the left, all involve unpopulated areas. The purple dashes are the borders in map "G2," while the black lines are the borders of the "Preferred Plan," and the "Preferred Plan" borders match GCCD in the areas in question.

The second set of changes, show on the following page, involve small numbers of people where the "G2" lines follow one street and the GCCD map follows lines one street over. The "Preferred Plan" recommends following the GCCD lines to avoid creating a 'sliver precinct' where the County Registrar and the City Clerk would be forced to create a mail-ballot-only precinct (meaning the residents would be required to vote by mail and would not have the option of going to a polling place on election day, unless they want to cast a provisional ballot).

Note that the population numbers shown in the images are the total population in each area. The number of registered voters will be less. None of the changes have any noticeable impact on the demographics of any trustee area.





## Glendale USD Preferred Plan Demographics

District		A	B	C	D	E	Total
	Total Pop	44,707	41,226	44,723	41,794	41,428	213,878
	Deviation from ideal	1,931	-1,550	1,947	-982	-1,348	3,497
	% Deviation	4.51%	-3.62%	4.55%	-2.30%	-3.15%	8.18%
Total Pop	% Hisp	11%	10%	14%	22%	28%	17%
	% NH White	59%	73%	68%	56%	50%	61%
	% NH Black	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%
	% Asian-American	27%	15%	16%	20%	19%	19%
Voting Age Pop	% Hisp	10%	9%	12%	20%	25%	15%
	% NH White	62%	74%	69%	57%	53%	63%
	% NH Black	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%
	% Asian-American	26%	15%	16%	20%	19%	19%
Citizen Voting Age Pop	% Hisp	11%	11%	12%	20%	20%	14%
	% NH White	68%	74%	76%	58%	60%	68%
	% NH Black	1%	2%	1%	2%	3%	1%
	% Asian-American	19%	12%	10%	18%	15%	15%
Voter Registration (April 2015)	Registered Voters	27,490	20,595	24,574	20,118	19,143	111,920
	% Latino	9%	11%	11%	17%	20%	13%
	% Armenian	13%	39%	35%	32%	37%	30%
	% Other	77%	50%	54%	50%	43%	56%
Voter Turnout (April 2015)	Voters Casting Ballots	4,564	4,423	5,447	3,891	3,063	21,388
	% Latino	6%	7%	6%	8%	9%	7%
	% Armenian	15%	40%	40%	42%	56%	37%
	% Other	79%	53%	54%	51%	34%	56%
Age	age0-19	27%	19%	20%	21%	22%	22%
	age20-60	56%	58%	55%	58%	59%	57%
	age60plus	18%	23%	25%	21%	19%	21%
Immigration	immigrants	34%	58%	54%	57%	61%	53%
Housing Stats	vacant	4%	4%	6%	4%	7%	5%
	occupied	96%	96%	94%	96%	93%	95%
	rented	36%	59%	60%	68%	78%	60%
	owned	64%	41%	40%	32%	22%	40%
	singlefamily	75%	44%	37%	40%	24%	44%
	multifamily	25%	56%	63%	60%	76%	56%
Language spoken at home	english	54%	28%	32%	25%	21%	33%
	spanish	7%	9%	9%	18%	24%	13%
	asian-lang	22%	10%	11%	13%	12%	14%
	other lang	17%	53%	48%	43%	43%	40%
Children at Home	child-under18	37%	26%	26%	28%	29%	29%
Work (percent of pop age 16+)	employed	61%	56%	55%	53%	56%	56%
	Commute on Public Transit	1%	3%	4%	6%	7%	4%
Household Income	hhincome0-25k	12%	24%	27%	27%	32%	24%
	hhincome25-50k	16%	20%	20%	24%	27%	21%
	hhincome50-75k	15%	17%	14%	15%	15%	15%
	hhincome75-200k	46%	32%	32%	28%	24%	32%
	hhincome200k-plus	11%	7%	8%	6%	2%	7%
Education (among those age 25+)	high school grad	43%	46%	44%	46%	50%	46%
	bachelor degree	33%	26%	29%	25%	22%	27%
	graduate degree	18%	12%	15%	12%	7%	13%

Total and Voting Age population data from the 2010 Decennial Census.

Voter Registration and Turnout data from Political Data Incorporated.

Citizen Voting Age Pop., Age, Immigration, and other demographics from the 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-year data.