The Board of Trustees’ decision to request a modification of the election process from an at-large election method to a by-trustee election method was the culmination of deliberative process that took over a year

In making this determination, the Board of Trustees engaged in a collaborative and transparent process that provided multiple opportunities to study the issue and receive community input regarding this historic change to the election method:

* December 6, 2012, Board reviewed information regarding the Board’s election system and the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA).
* March 28, 2013, Board reviewed information about engaging a demographer to review historic voting patterns within the District and directed staff to engage a demographer for such purpose.
* June 18, 2013, Board reviewed and discussed results from demographic study that evidenced some instances of racially polarized voting during the last 10 elections.
* On July 11, 2013, Board further reviewed results of demographic study and consulted in open session with legal counsel, Mr. Spencer Covert, regarding implications of demographic analysis.
* August 22, 2013, Board reviewed existing policy regarding the election process and reviewed proposed timeline for transitioning to a by-trustee area election method. Board directed staff to further engage demographer to develop proposed by-trustee area maps.
* September 19, 2013, Board conducted first reading of amended Board Policy 10110 changing to a by-trustee area election method.
* October 10, 2013, Board approved Board Policy 10110 reflecting a transition to by-trustee area voting and reviewed with consultant considerations and process for drawing trustee area boundaries.
* November 1, 2013, Board held study session with demographer to review several proposed trustee area maps.
* November 7, 2013, Board reviewed several proposed by-trustee area maps and selected three proposed maps to present to the community for input and comment.
* November 18-20, 2013, three community input forums held within District for the community to review the proposed maps and ask any questions of the demographer.
* December 12, 2013, Board held a public hearing to receive input from the community on the proposed maps, received information from the demographer summarizing the input received from the community forums, and received two additional proposed maps that were provided by community members.
* January 9, 2014, Board passed Resolution No. 2013/14-BOT-02 adopting a proposed by-trustee area map to present to the County Committee on School District Organization, held a public hearing on the general waiver request from the State Board of Trustees, and adopted a resolution seeking to waive the requirement to change to a by-trustee area method through an election process.