

# VENTURA COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION SPECIAL MEETING

**September 4, 2019, 4:00 p.m.**

*Ojai Unified School District, Board Room  
414 E. Ojai Avenue, Ojai, CA 93023*

## **AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Introduction of County Committee Members
4. Public Comments – *(Three minutes per speaker; 30 minutes maximum time allotment) – Comments are restricted to items on the agenda*
5. Review and Approve minutes: June 19, 2019
6. Information about Ojai Unified School District's desired change in election process
7. PUBLIC HEARING on Ojai Unified School District's desired change in election process from an at-large electoral process to a by-trustee area election process, pursuant to Education Code Section §5019(c)(1) and request that the State Board of Education waive the election requirements of Education Code Sections §5020 and §5030 in order to ensure the timely adoption of trustee areas and the District's transition from its current at-large electoral process to a by-trustee area election process
8. Discussion and action by the County Committee to consider County Committee resolution 19-05 which would approve the establishment of trustee areas and change the method of election to a by-trustee area election process in the Ojai Unified School District
9. Information on future meetings
10. Adjournment

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The agenda for this meeting is posted for 72 contiguous hours prior to the meeting at the following locations:  
*Ventura County Office of Education, 5189 Verdugo Way, Camarillo, CA 93012*  
*Ojai Unified School District, 414 E. Ojai Avenue, Ojai, CA 93023*

The full agenda packet, with explanatory materials, is available for public review on the Internet at:  
<https://www.vcoe.org/Fiscal-and-Administrative-Services/County-Committee-on-School-District-Organization/Agendas>

Questions? Contact Cathy Samuel, (805) 383-1906, [csamuel@vcoe.org](mailto:csamuel@vcoe.org)

**VENTURA COUNTY COMMITTEE  
ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION**

**As of January 1, 2019**

<b>Supervisory District</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Term Expiration Date</b>
<b>1</b>	<i>Kathi Smith</i>	12/31/19
	<i>Mindee J. Stekkinger</i>	12/31/22
<b>2</b>	<i>Patricia Phelps</i>	12/31/22
	<i>Denise Helfstein</i>	12/31/19
<b>3</b>	<i>Barbara Wagner</i>	12/31/20
	<i>Terri Lisagor</i>	12/31/22
<b>4</b>	<i>Rob Collins</i>	12/31/21
	<i>Robert Perez</i>	12/31/21
<b>5</b>	<i>Richard Canady</i>	12/31/20
	<i>Charles Weis</i>	12/31/21
<b>Member-at- Large</b>	<i>Ramon Flores</i>	12/31/20

# VENTURA COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

## SPECIAL MEETING

**Wednesday, June 19, 2019, 4:00 p.m.**

*Hueneme Elementary School District, Board Room  
205 North Ventura Road, Port Hueneme, CA 93041*

### MINUTES

**1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

The meeting of the Ventura County Committee on School District Organization was called to order by Chairperson Charles Weis to the Ventura County Committee on School District Organization, at 4:06 p.m. at the Hueneme Elementary School District, Board Room.

**2.** Chairperson Charles Weis led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

**3. Introduction of County Committee Members**

The following members of the Ventura County Committee on School District Organization were in attendance:

*Kathi Smith, representing Supervisorial District # 1  
Terri Lisagor, representing Supervisorial District # 3  
Robert Perez, representing Supervisorial District # 4  
Rob Collins, representing Supervisorial District # 4  
Richard Canady, representing Supervisorial District # 5  
Charles Weis, representing Supervisorial District # 5  
Ramon Flores, Member-at-Large*

The following members were absent:

*Mindee Stekkinger, representing Supervisorial District # 1  
Pat Phelps, representing Supervisorial District # 2  
Denise Helfstein, representing Supervisorial District # 2  
Barbara Wagner, representing Supervisorial District # 3*

Also in attendance:

*Misty Key, Secretary to the VCCSDO, and Associate Superintendent,  
Fiscal and Administrative Services, Ventura County Office of Education  
Dr. Christine Walker, Superintendent, Hueneme Elementary School District  
Andrew Chittaphong, Cooperative Strategies, LLC  
Cathy Samuel, Executive Assistant, Ventura County Office of Education*

**4. Public Comments**

Chairperson Charles Weis asked if there were any public comments. There were none.

**5. Review and Approve minutes: April 11, 2019**

Richard Canady made a motion to approve the April 11, 2019 minutes. The motion was seconded by Rob Collins.

Chairperson Charles Weis called for the vote. Motion passed unanimously.

	AYES	ABSTAIN	NOES	ABSENT
<i>Kathi Smith</i>	X			
<i>Terri Lisagor</i>	X			
<i>Robert Perez</i>	X			
<i>Rob Collins</i>	X			
<i>Richard Canady</i>	X			
<i>Charles Weis</i>	X			
<i>Ramon Flores</i>	X			
<i>Mindee Stekkinger</i>				X
<i>Patricia Phelps</i>				X
<i>Denise Helfstein</i>				X
<i>Barbara Wagner</i>				X

#### 6. **Information about Hueneme Elementary School District's Desired Change in Election**

Dr. Walker welcomed the County Committee. She shared that Hueneme Elementary School District (HESD), is a medium sized K-8 school district with approximately 8,243 students. They have nine elementary schools and two junior high schools, grades 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>. Since the implementation of the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) and Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), HESD has been increasing their family engagement activities and they have opened a Social and Emotional Learning Department.

Over the past few years the Board members have considered to transition from an at-large election system to a by-trustee area election system. In November 2018 the school district started this transition voluntarily and engaged in an open process to create voting areas that ensured fair representation for all residents.

Andrew Chittaphong discussed the districts demographics and described the population as of the 2010 census data. As of the 2010 census data there is a total population of 56,154 residents. The total citizen voting age population is 29,265.

Dr. Walker explained the trustee area process:

- January 28, 2019 – Board meeting: First pre-map public hearing and presentation
- February 25, 2019 – Board meeting: Second pre-map public hearing
- March 11, 2019 – Board meeting: First public hearing on trustee area scenarios
- April 22, 2019 – Board meeting: Second public hearing on trustee area scenarios
  - Public hearing on general waiver request
  - Board consideration of general waiver request
- May 13, 2019 – Board meeting: Final public hearing on trustee area scenarios
  - Board section of trustee area map
  - Board consideration of change in election method
- June 19, 2019 – County Committee on School District Organization holds a public hearing and considers approval of change in election method and trustee area map
- July 2019 - State Board of Education meeting: Waiver application consideration
- September 2019 - Cooperative Strategies sends final trustee area map to the County Registrar of Voters
- November 2020 – First election held utilizing trustee areas

Outreach and Communication effort:

- Community
  - Information provided to bargaining units and advisory committees
  - Public notices and newspaper articles
- Electronic Communication:
  - Promoted on Hueneme ESD website with maps and presentations on website

Mr. Chittaphong listed the considerations in the trustee areas:

- Each area shall contain nearly equal number of inhabitants
- Drawn to comply with the Federal Voting Rights Act
- Compact and contiguous, as much as possible
- Respect communities of interest, as much as possible
- Follow man-made and natural geographic features, as much as possible
- Respect incumbency, if possible
- Other local considerations (i.e., school boundaries, locations of school sites)

Mr. Chittaphong shared there were three maps drafted (1, 2 and 3) for the first public hearing on trustee area scenarios which took place on March 11, 2019. April 22, 2019, three additional scenarios (4, 5 and 6) were created. The HESD Board has undertaken a very deliberate and methodical process in considering and adopting the change in election method. The Board engaged in a transparent process and included opportunities for community input to the process and to the maps considered by the Board. At the third public hearing on trustee area scenarios which took place on May 13, 2019, the Board members approved scenario one.

Ms. Smith asked if the HESD received a demand letter to change from an at-large election system to a by-trustee area election system. Dr. Walker said no, it was a voluntary process.

Dr. Flores asked if there is a process in place to revisit the maps based on the 2020 census, or do they keep this one in place. Chairperson Charles Weis replied that it is required by the CVRA to revisit the trustee areas at each census. Misty Key commented that the County Committee process only takes place once.

Chairperson Charles Weis mentioned that the next County Committee meeting will be at the Ojai Unified School District.

Misty Key shared that Santa Paula Unified School District may be ready for the County Committee meeting later in 2019.

**7. Public Hearing:**

Chairperson Charles Weis opened the public hearing on the Hueneme Elementary School District's change in election system pursuant to Education Code Section §5019(c) (1) at 4:23 p.m.

Chairperson asked if the public wished to make a statement. No comments from the public were made.

Chairperson Charles Weis closed the public hearing at 4:24 p.m.

**8. Public Hearing:**

Chairperson Charles Weis opened the public hearing on the Hueneme Elementary School District request that the State Board of Education waive the election requirements of Education Code Sections §5020 and §5030 at 4:24 p.m. Chairperson asked if the public wished to make a statement. No comments from the public were made.

Chairperson Charles Weis closed the public hearing at 4:25 p.m.

**9. Discussion and Action:**

A motion was made by Kathi Smith to adopt County Committee resolution 19-04 approving the establishment of trustee areas and changing the method of election to a by-trustee area election process in the Hueneme Elementary School District. Motion was seconded by Terri Lisagor.

Chairperson Charles Weis called for the vote. Motion passed unanimously.

	<b>AYES</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>NOES</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<i>Kathi Smith</i>	X			
<i>Terri Lisagor</i>	X			
<i>Robert Perez</i>	X			
<i>Rob Collins</i>	X			
<i>Richard Canady</i>	X			
<i>Charles Weis</i>	X			
<i>Ramon Flores</i>	X			
<i>Mindee Stekkinger</i>				X
<i>Patricia Phelps</i>				X
<i>Denise Helfstein</i>				X
<i>Barbara Wagner</i>				X

**10. Adjournment:**

Rob Collins made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Terri Lisagor. The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Chairperson Charles Weis called for the vote. Motion passed unanimously.

	<b>AYES</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>NOES</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<i>Kathi Smith</i>	X			
<i>Terri Lisagor</i>	X			
<i>Robert Perez</i>	X			
<i>Rob Collins</i>	X			
<i>Richard Canady</i>	X			
<i>Charles Weis</i>	X			
<i>Ramon Flores</i>	X			
<i>Mindee Stekkinger</i>				X
<i>Patricia Phelps</i>				X
<i>Denise Helfstein</i>				X
<i>Barbara Wagner</i>				X



OJAI UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
*Connecting Students to Success*

# **ESTABLISHMENT OF TRUSTEE AREAS AND BY- AREA METHOD OF ELECTION**

Presentation to the Ventura County  
Committee on School District Organization  
September 4, 2019



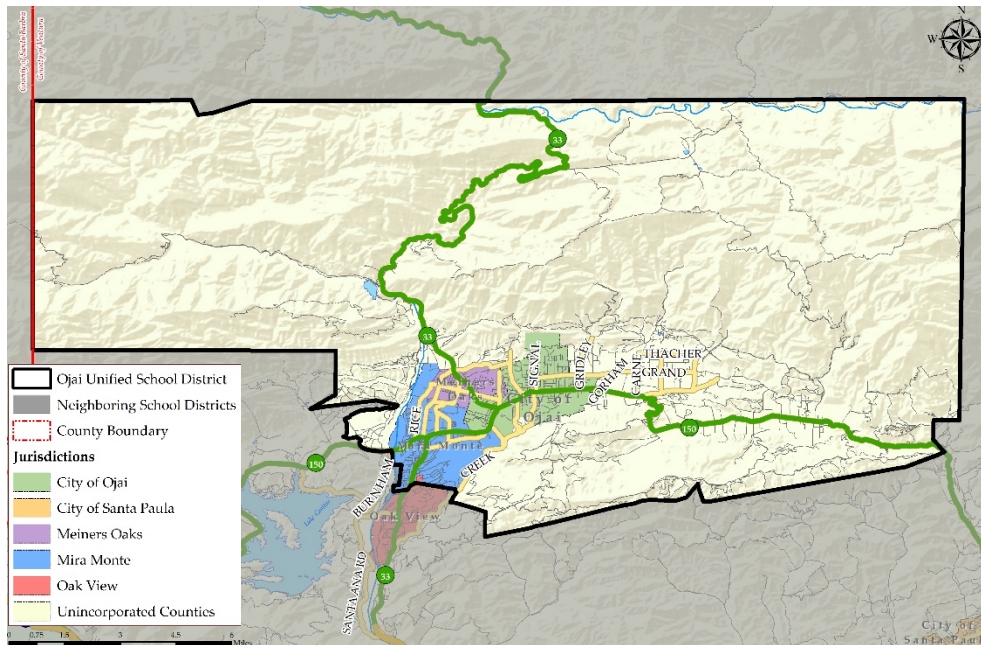
## About Us

- Ojai Unified School District serves 2,383 students in school year 2018-2019 across 7 sites within the City of Ojai and the surrounding unincorporated portions of Ventura County
- School District undertook the transition from at-large method of election to the by-area method of election voluntarily and engaged in an open process to create voting areas that ensured fair representation for all residents





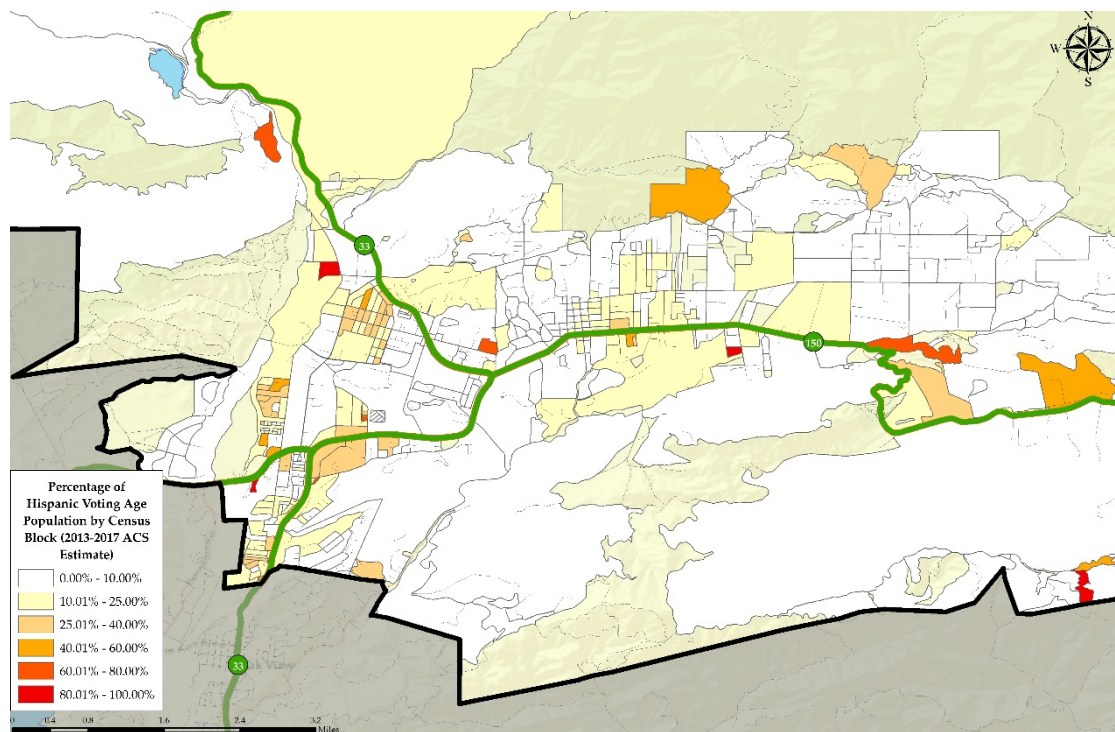
# District Demographics – 2010 Census Data



Population	Total Population		Age 18 and over	
	Total	%	Total	%
Hispanic/Latino	4,156	19.12%	2,796	16.16%
White	16,523	76.01%	13,737	79.39%
Black/ African American	114	0.52%	85	0.49%
American Indian/ Alaska Native	112	0.52%	81	0.47%
Asian	382	1.76%	316	1.83%
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	6	0.03%	6	0.03%
Other	43	0.20%	27	0.16%
Two or More Races	403	1.85%	255	1.47%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>21,739</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>17,303</b>	<b>100.00%</b>



## District Demographics – Citizen Voting Age Population Estimates



Population	Total Population	
	Total	%
Hispanic/Latino	2,295	13.99%
White	13,481	82.16%
Black/ African American	16	0.10%
American Indian/ Alaska Native	37	0.23%
Asian	198	1.21%
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	29	0.18%
Two or More Races	353	2.15%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>16,409</b>	<b>100.00%</b>



# Trustee Area Process

Date	Activity
April 8, 2019	Board Meeting: First Pre-Map Public Hearing and Presentation
April 17, 2019	Board Meeting: Second Pre-Map Public Hearing
May 6, 2019	Board Meeting: First Public Hearing on Trustee Area Scenarios Public Hearing on General Waiver Request Board Consideration of General Waiver Request
June 6, 2019	Board Meeting: Second Public Hearing on Trustee Area Scenarios
June 19, 2019	Board Meeting: Board Section of Trustee Area Map Board Consideration of Change in Election Method
September 4, 2019	County Committee on School District Organization Holds a Public Hearing and Considers Approval of Change in Election Method and Trustee Area Map
November 2019	State Board of Education Meeting; Waiver Application Consideration
January 2020	Cooperative Strategies sends Final Trustee area Map to the County Registrar of Voters
November 2020	First Election Held Utilizing Trustee Areas



## Considerations in Trustee Areas



Each area shall contain nearly equal number of inhabitants



Follow man-made and natural geographic features, as much as possible



Drawn to comply with the Federal Voting Rights Act



Respect incumbency, if possible



Compact and contiguous, as much as possible



Other local considerations (i.e., school boundaries, locations of school sites)

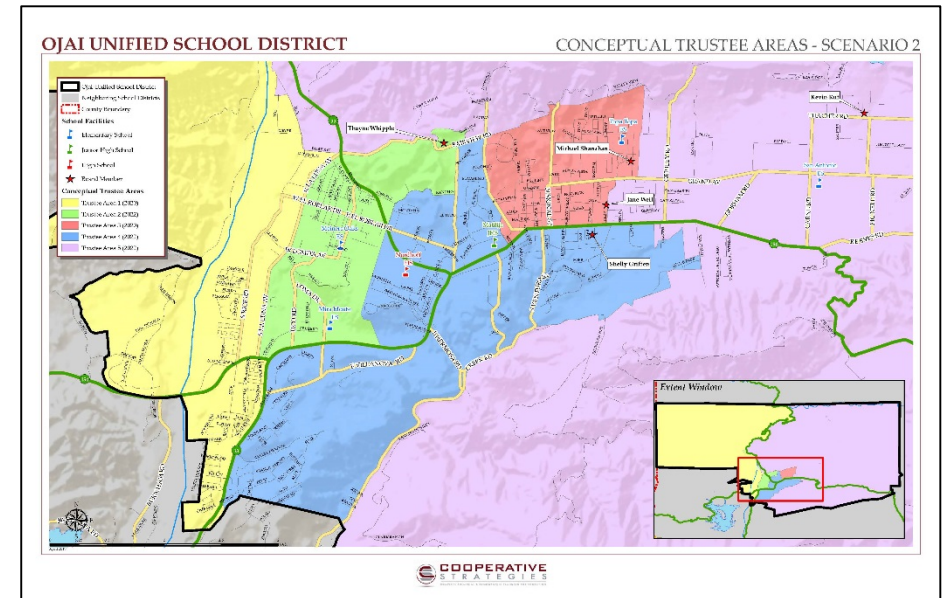
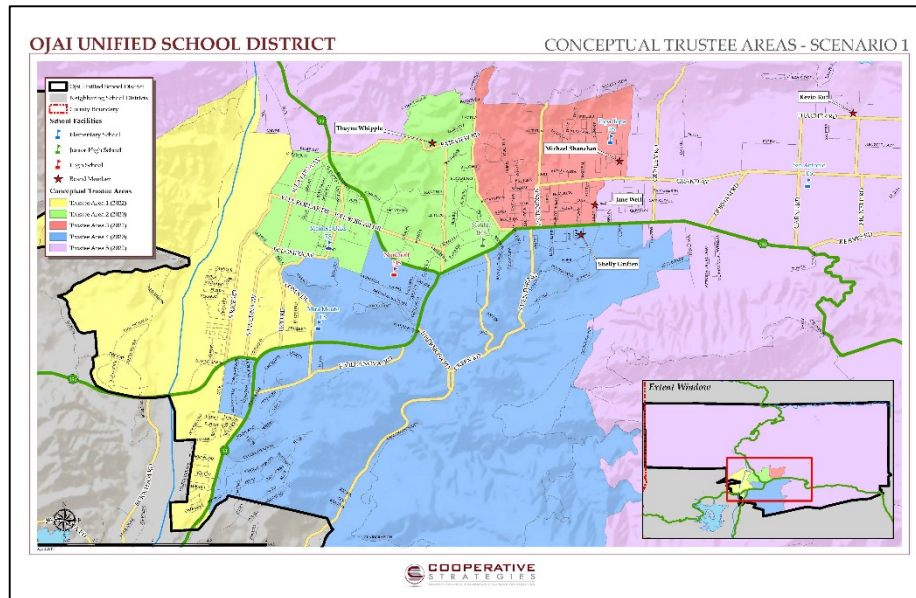


Respect communities of interest, as much as possible





# Conceptual Trustee Scenarios - Trustee Area Process





# Community Outreach

## Outreach and Communication Effort:

### Community

- » Information provided to bargaining units and advisory committees
- » Public notices and newspaper articles
- » Community input meetings

### Electronic Communication

- » Promoted on Ojai USD website with maps and presentations on website



OJAI UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Connecting Students to Success

MENU

SCHOOLS

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OJAI UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT // BOARD MEMBERS AND SUPERINTENDENT // BY-TRUSTEE AREA ELECTION SYSTEM



Ojai Unified School District  
414 East Ojai Avenue, P.O. Box 878, Ojai, CA 93024  
(805) 640-1300 • Fax (805) 640-4419 • www.ojaiaed.org

OJAI UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TRUSTEE AREA MAPS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Governing Board of the Ojai Unified School District at its regularly scheduled meeting on **May 6, 2019** at 5:30 P.M., will invite public input regarding the draft trustee area map plan scenarios attached to this notice.

The public hearing will be held at the District Office Board Room

414 East Ojai Avenue  
Ojai, CA

This public hearing is part of the statutory process for establishing a "by-trustee area" elections system. In a by-trustee area elections system, the Ojai Unified School District would be divided into trustee areas and each Governing Board member would be elected by only the registered voters in the particular trustee area where the Governing Board member resides. The Governing Board is currently elected using an at-large elections system, in which all Governing Board members are elected by voters of the entire Ojai Unified School District. At two previous public hearings, the District's demographics received input into the creation of draft trustee area map plan scenarios which were subsequently shared with the public at community input meetings held on May 1, 2019 and May 3, 2019. By law, the District must conduct at least two public hearings on the map plans prior to selecting a final by-trustee area election map for the election of Governing Board members commencing in November of 2020.

Questions or comments should be directed to Superintendent Andy Cantwell at (805) 640-4300 ext. 1012 or acantwell@ojaiaed.org.

Administration  
Andrea Cantwell, Superintendent  
Shawn Evans, P.E.D., Assistant Superintendent, Fiscal and Services

Board of Education  
Theresa Williams, President  
Shelly Griffin, Vice President  
Jane Wink, Clerk  
Karin Paul, Member  
Michael Sanderson, Member

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[Board Resolution of Intent](#)

[Public Notice & Draft of Trustee-Area Maps](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Cooperative Strategies Presentation](#)

The Ojai Unified School District currently elects its Board of Education members through an at-large election system. Under this system, candidates for the Board of Education can reside anywhere in OUSD's area of service and are elected by the registered voters that reside within OUSD's area of service.

OUSD did not receive a demand letter as of yet. We are hoping to make this change before receiving a demand letter and facing any litigation. On March 23th, 2019 the Ojai Unified School District Board of Education members adopted a resolution declaring their intent to investigate a transition to an By-Trustee Area Election System. The resolution of intent can be found [here](#).

Pursuant to [Election Code Section 10010](#), OUSD will conduct a series of public hearings over the next 90 days to receive community input on the composition of proposed election geographic areas for Board of Education seats. It is of the utmost important that residents participate and provide feedback during the upcoming public hearings. It is the District's desire to ensure that the proposed By-Trustee Areas reflect communities of interest and that the community is involved in this process.

Please review the Frequently Asked Questions page for additional information about district elections.



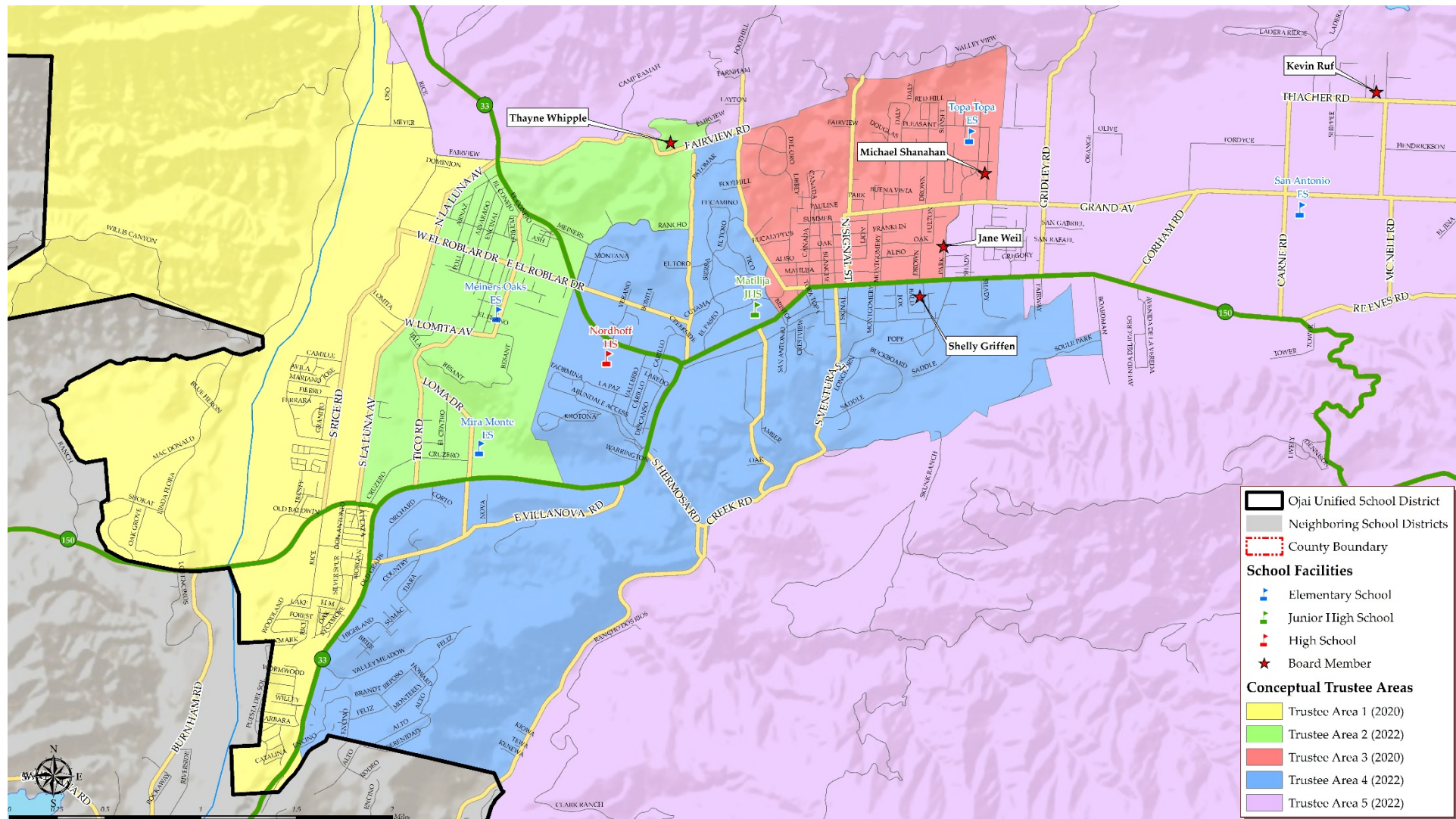
## June 19, 2019 Board Meeting

- ✓ Following the required public hearings on the maps and deliberation by the Board members, the Ojai Unified School District Board approved the following:
  - Selection of Scenario 2
  - Approval of Resolution No. 18-19-31 to be forwarded to the County Committee on School District Organization





# Selection of Scenario 2







## Proposed Trustee Areas (Scenario 2) - Demographics

Trustee Area	Trustee Area 1		Trustee Area 2		Trustee Area 3		Trustee Area 4		Trustee Area 5	
TP* vs. CVAP**	TP	CVAP	TP	CVAP	TP	CVAP	TP	CVAP	TP	CVAP
Population	4,314	3,775	4,519	2,981	4,480	3,575	4,255	3,252	4,171	3,107
Population Variance	-34	437	171	-357	132	237	-93	-86	-177	-231
	-0.78%	13.09%	3.94%	-10.70%	3.04%	7.10%	-2.13%	-2.58%	-4.07%	-6.92%
Hispanic/Latino	679	614	1,378	523	658	399	816	352	625	238
	15.74%	16.26%	30.49%	17.54%	14.69%	11.16%	19.18%	10.82%	14.98%	7.66%
White	3,421	2,993	2,944	2,368	3,568	3,001	3,222	2,742	3,368	2,703
	79.30%	79.28%	65.15%	79.44%	79.64%	83.94%	75.72%	84.32%	80.75%	87.00%
Black/African American	12	0	23	0	33	8	19	8	27	8
	0.28%	0.00%	0.51%	0.00%	0.74%	0.22%	0.45%	0.25%	0.65%	0.26%
American Indian/ Alaska Native	30	31	40	2	16	11	16	12	10	4
	0.70%	0.82%	0.89%	0.07%	0.36%	0.31%	0.38%	0.37%	0.24%	0.13%
Asian	65	38	56	20	110	44	84	65	67	63
	1.51%	1.01%	1.24%	0.67%	2.46%	1.23%	1.97%	2.00%	1.61%	2.03%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	29
	0.05%	0.00%	0.04%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.05%	0.93%
Other	11	0	11	0	11	0	8	0	2	0
	0.25%	0.00%	0.24%	0.00%	0.25%	0.00%	0.19%	0.00%	0.05%	0.00%
Two or More Races	94	99	65	68	84	112	90	73	70	62
	2.18%	2.62%	1.44%	2.28%	1.88%	3.575	2.12%	2.24%	1.68%	2.00%

\*TP: Total Population

\*\*CVAP: Citizen Voting Age Population



## Summary

- ✓ Board has undertaken a very deliberate and methodical process in considering and adopting the change in election method before you tonight.
- ✓ Board engaged in a transparent process
- ✓ Included opportunities for community input to the process and to the maps considered by the Board
- ✓ Respectfully request that the County Committee approve the Board's resolution seeking to establish trustee boundaries and to permit a by-trustee area voting method



# QUESTIONS

## **COUNTY COMMITTEE RESOLUTION NUMBER 19-05**

### **RESOLUTION OF THE VENTURA COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION APPROVING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF TRUSTEE AREAS AND CHANGING THE METHOD OF ELECTION TO A BY-TRUSTEE AREA ELECTION PROCESS IN THE OJAI UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**WHEREAS,** a proposal to establish trustee areas and change the method of election to a by-trustee area election process was presented to the Ventura County Committee on School District Organization (“County Committee”) by the Board of Education (“Board”) of the Ojai Unified School District; and

**WHEREAS,** the Board of the Ojai Unified School District has adopted a resolution declaring its intent to seek a waiver of the election requirements from the State Board of Education; and

**WHEREAS,** Education Code section §5019(c)(1) provides that a proposal to establish trustee areas may be initiated by resolution of the governing board of a district; and

**WHEREAS,** Education Code section §5019(c)(2) further provides that when a proposal is made by a governing board of a district to establish trustee areas, the county committee on school district organization shall call and conduct at least one hearing in the district on the matter; and

**WHEREAS,** Education Code section §5030 provides that whenever trustee areas are established in a district, provisions shall be made for one of the alternative methods of electing governing board members; and

**WHEREAS,** Education Code section §5020 provides that a resolution of a county committee on school district organization approving a proposal to establish trustee areas, and to adopt one of the alternative methods of electing governing board members specified in Education Code section §5030, shall constitute an order of election which shall be presented to the electors of the district not later than the next succeeding election for members of the governing board; and

**WHEREAS,** the County Committee met on September 4, 2019, to consider the proposal to establish trustee areas and change the method of election to a by-trustee area election process in the Ojai Unified School District; and

**WHEREAS,** the County Committee meeting on September 4, 2019, took place within the boundaries of the Ojai Unified School District, and the meeting included a public hearing in accordance with Education Code section §5019(c); and

**WHEREAS,** by Resolution Numbers 18-19-18 and 18-19-31, the Board of the Ojai Unified School District determined that an at-large method of election could be subject to legal challenge under the California Voting Rights Act of 2001 and adopted a by-trustee area electoral system for consideration by the County Committee; and

**WHEREAS,** Ojai Unified School District declared its intent to request that the State Board of Education waive the election requirements of Education Code section §5020 and §5030 in order to ensure the timely adoption of trustee areas and the district’s transition from its current at-large electoral process; and

**WHEREAS**, having consideration of the proposal of the Board of the Ojai Unified School District to establish trustee areas and change the method of election to a by-trustee area election process as set forth in its Resolution Numbers 18-19-18 and 18-19-31 as well as public comments, the County Committee recommends approval of the proposal of the Board of the Ojai Unified School District;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the County Committee hereby finds the foregoing recitals to be true and correct; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** the County Committee hereby establishes trustee election areas within the Ojai Unified School District as set forth in the District's Resolution Numbers 18-19-18 and 18-19-31; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** the County Committee hereby adopts, as the method of election governing board members to the Board of Education of the Ojai Unified School District, that method of election specified in Education Code section §5030(b), which provides one or more members residing in each trustee area be elected by the registered voters of that particular trustee area; and

**BE IT FURTHER AND FINALLY RESOLVED** that this action of the County Committee establishing trustee election areas and adopting one of the alternative methods of electing governing board members specified in Education Code section §5030 shall not be deemed to constitute an order of election if the State Board of Education grants the district's waiver and if such waiver is granted, trustee area elections shall be commenced effective the next succeeding Board member election in November 2020.

I, Misty Key, Secretary to the Ventura County Committee on School District Organization, hereby certify, in the County of Ventura, State of California, that the above and foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly adopted by said County Committee at a special meeting thereof held on the 4th day of September 2019, and passed by a vote of:

**AYES:**

**ABSTAIN:**

**NOES:**

**ABSENT:**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 4<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2019.

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Misty Key, MBA  
Secretary to the Ventura County Committee  
on School District Organization

**OJAI UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**MARCH 13, 2019**

**RESOLUTION NO. 18-19-18**

**RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO INITIATE THE PROCESS  
OF ESTABLISHING TRUSTEE AREAS AND  
ELECTIONS BY-TRUSTEE AREAS**

**WHEREAS**, the Ojai Unified School District (“District”) does not have trustee areas for the members of its Board of Education (“Board”), and the District currently utilizes an “at-large” method of election to select Board members; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board believes the current at-large method of election serves the needs of the District and, as the District’s policy-making body, the Board ensures the District provides a high quality educational experience to its students in accordance with the desires of the community, and federal and state laws; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board is aware that under state law an at-large method of election may be deemed to impair the ability of some voters to elect candidates of their choice or to influence the outcome of elections and, therefore, may be subject to challenge under the California Voting Rights Act of 2001, California Elections Code §§ 14025, et seq. (“CVRA”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Board, based on this awareness, has had an ongoing interest in the issue, and has decided to initiate the process of establishing trustee areas and changing the method of electing members of the Board, in order to ensure compliance with the CVRA or, at minimum, avoid the potential for costly litigation under the CVRA; and

**WHEREAS**, by-trustee area electoral systems are not vulnerable to challenge under the CVRA; and

**WHEREAS**, in a by-trustee area system of election, candidates for the Board must reside within a trustee area, and candidates are elected only by the voters of that trustee area; and

**WHEREAS**, transitioning to a by-trustee area election method is a time-consuming process, which requires public input and the involvement of the County Committee on School District Organization and the State Board of Education; and

**WHEREAS**, with an understanding of the challenges inherent in completing the transition, the Board intends to complete the process of transitioning to trustee areas, and election of Board members by trustee area, commencing with the November 2020 election.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board hereby finds the foregoing recitals to be true and correct; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board directs the Superintendent or his designee to immediately initiate the legal and regulatory process to establish trustee areas within the District, as provided in Education Code section 5019, in sufficient time for trustee areas to be established for the November 2020 election of members of the Board; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board directs the Superintendent or his designee to immediately initiate the legal and regulatory process of changing the method of electing members of the Board, from the current at-large system whereby each member of the Board is elected by the registered voters of the entire District (Education Code section 5030(a)), to a method which provides that Board members residing in each trustee area will be elected by the registered voters of that particular trustee area (Education Code 5030(b)), in sufficient time for the new method of electing members of the Board to be in place for the November 2020 election; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board directs the Superintendent or his designee to collaborate with a demographer to prepare draft by-trustee area map scenarios for review and input by the Board and members of the public at upcoming meetings and public hearings; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Superintendent or his designee is authorized to initiate the legal and regulatory process to seek a waiver from the State Board of Education, of the requirements of Education Code section 5020 and related statutes, so that action of the County Committee on School District Organization establishing trustee election areas and adopting one of the alternative methods of electing Board members specified in Education Code section 5030 does not constitute an order of election, so that trustee area elections can commence effective with the November 2020 election; and

**BE IT FURTHER AND FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Superintendent or his designee is authorized to do all things necessary and proper to accomplish the purposes of this Resolution.

**APPROVED, PASSED, AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Education of the Ojai Unified School District this 13th day of March 2019 at Ojai, in the County of Ventura, State of California, the by the vote of:

AYES: Shelly Griffen, Kevin Ruf, Michael Shanahan

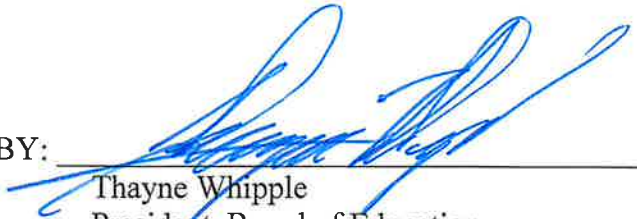
Thayne Whipple, \_\_\_\_\_

NOES: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT: Jane Weil

The below-signed attests that he was present at the open session meeting of the Board of Education on March 13, 2019, and that a majority of the members approved this Resolution.

BY:   
Thayne Whipple  
President, Board of Education  
Ojai Unified School District

DATED: 3.13.19

I, Jane Weil, Clerk of the Board Education of the Ojai Unified School District, do certify that the foregoing Resolution was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by the Board of Education at its special meeting held on March 13, 2019.

3.13.19  
Date

  
Vice. Clerk, Board of Education  
president Ojai Unified School District  
Shelly Griffin



RESOLUTION NO. 18-19-31

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE  
OJAI UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT RECOMMENDING  
THAT THE VENTURA COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ORGANIZATION APPROVE AND ESTABLISH TRUSTEE AREAS  
FROM WHICH THE OJAI UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
TRUSTEES WILL BE ELECTED  
IN A BY-TRUSTEE AREA ELECTION PROCESS**

WHEREAS, The Ojai Unified School District ("District") currently uses an at-large system of electing members of its Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, At-large electoral systems such as the Districts are subject to challenge under the California Voting Rights Act of 2001, codified at sections 14025 - 14032 of the California Elections Code ("CVRA"); and

WHEREAS, By-trustee area electoral systems are not vulnerable to challenge under the CVRA; and

WHEREAS, In a by-trustee area system of election, candidates for the District's Board of Education (the "Board") must reside within a specific geographic subarea of the District called a "trustee area" and candidates are elected only by the voters of that trustee area; and

WHEREAS, One method of transitioning from an at-large electoral system to a by trustee area electoral system is for the school district board of education to petition the local county committee on school district organization by resolution to initiate the transition under California Education Code section 5019(c)(1); and

WHEREAS, the Ventura County Committee on School District Organization ("Committee") has indicated that it will initiate this process on behalf of the District at the District's request, and will consider any recommendation on specific trustee areas made by the District; and

WHEREAS, District held two public hearings on April 8, 2019 and April 17, 2019 to receive public input on drafting trustee area map plans ("Plans") and thereafter, District consultants created two (2) draft map plans that were circulated for public review at community forums held May 1, 2019, and May 3, 2019; and online on the District's website; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Elections Code section 10010, the District held properly noticed public hearings regarding the proposed trustee area plans on May 6, 2019 and June 6 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Board has considered all public input and comment on the Plans; and

WHEREAS, the Board has adopted Scenario 2 and hereby recommends Scenario 2 to the Committee for its consideration based upon the findings, analysis and recommendations contained in the report attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit "A"; and

the Board's determination forthwith and provide whatever assistance may be required by the Committee to complete the process.

ADOPTED, SIGNED AND APPROVED this 19<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2019.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Board of Education for the  
Ojai Unified School District

I, Jane Weil, Clerk of the Board of Education of the Ojai Unified School District, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Board of Education of said District at a meeting of said Board held on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2019, and that it was so adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Jane Weil, Shelly Griffen, Kevin Ruf, Thayne Whipple, Michael Shanahan

NOES: Ø

ABSTAIN: Ø

ABSENT: Ø

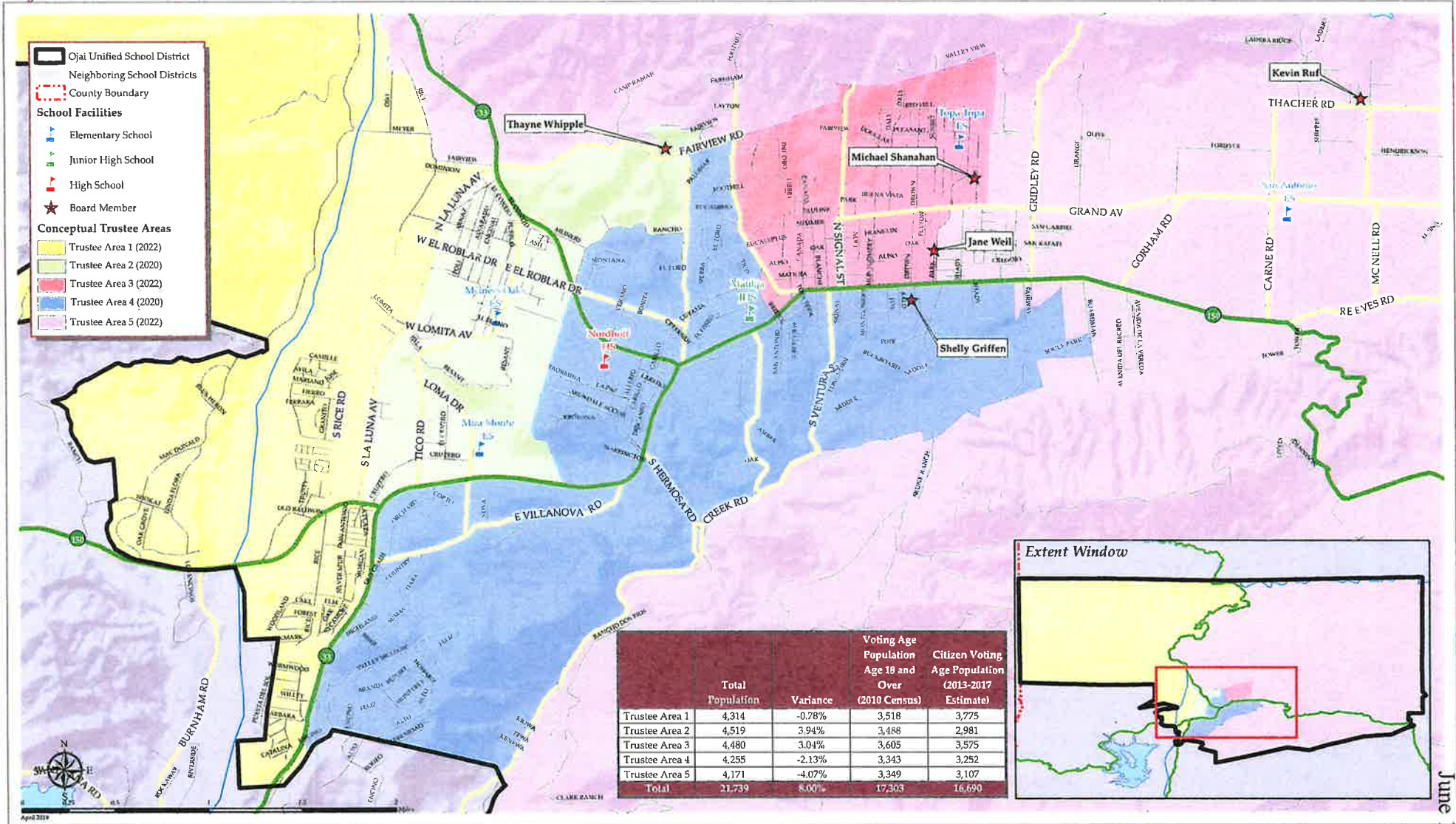
Jane Weil  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the Board of Education of the  
Ojai Unified School District

**EXHIBIT "A"**

**APPROVED TRUSTEE AREA MAP**

# OJAI UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

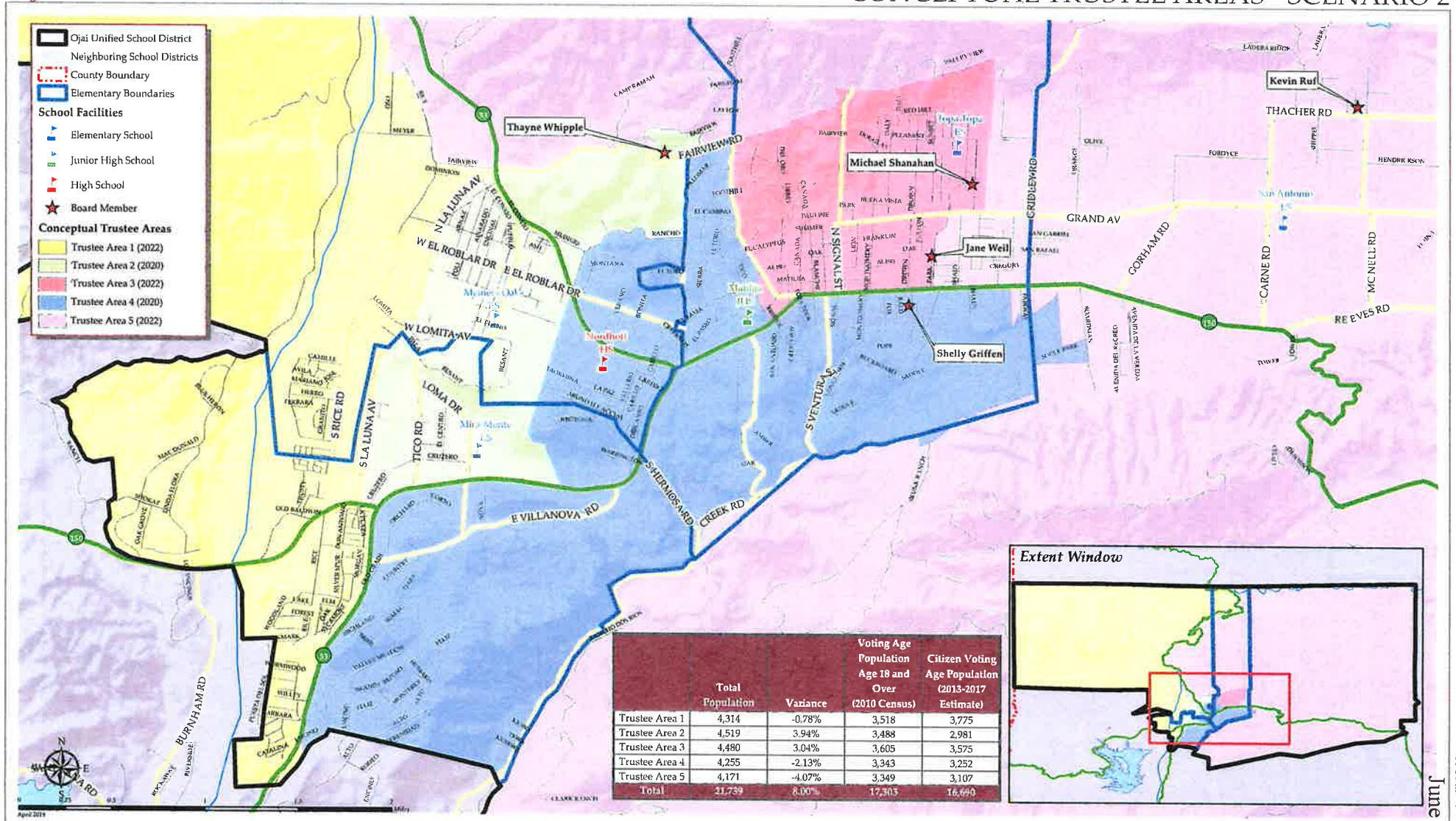
## CONCEPTUAL TRUSTEE AREAS - SCENARIO 2





# OJAI UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

## CONCEPTUAL TRUSTEE AREAS - SCENARIO 2



OJAI UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
CONCEPTUAL TRUSTEE AREAS - SCENARIO 2

Total Population (2010 Census)						
	Trustee Area 1	Trustee Area 2	Trustee Area 3	Trustee Area 4	Trustee Area 5	Variance
Population	4,314	4,519	4,480	4,255	4,171	
Population Variance	-34	171	132	-93	-177	
	-0.78%	3.94%	3.04%	-2.13%	-4.07%	8.00%
Hispanic/Latino	679	1,378	658	816	625	
	15.74%	30.49%	14.69%	19.18%	14.98%	
White	3,421	2,944	3,568	3,222	3,368	
	79.30%	65.15%	79.64%	75.72%	80.75%	
Black/ African American	12	23	33	19	27	
	0.28%	0.51%	0.74%	0.45%	0.65%	
American Indian/ Alaska Native	30	40	16	16	10	
	0.70%	0.89%	0.36%	0.38%	0.24%	
Asian	65	56	110	84	67	
	1.51%	1.24%	2.46%	1.97%	1.61%	
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	2	2	0	0	2	
	0.05%	0.04%	0.00%	0.00%	0.05%	
Other	11	11	11	8	2	
	0.25%	0.24%	0.25%	0.19%	0.05%	
Two or More Races	94	65	84	90	70	
	2.18%	1.44%	1.88%	2.12%	1.68%	

Population 18 and Over (2010 Census)						
	Trustee Area 1	Trustee Area 2	Trustee Area 3	Trustee Area 4	Trustee Area 5	
Population	3,518	3,488	3,605	3,343	3,349	
Population Variance	57	27	144	-118	-112	
	1.66%	0.79%	4.17%	-3.40%	-3.22%	
Hispanic/Latino	469	907	446	551	423	
	13.33%	26.00%	12.37%	16.48%	12.63%	
White	2,895	2,439	2,972	2,638	2,793	
	82.29%	69.93%	82.44%	78.91%	83.40%	
Black/ African American	10	15	26	12	22	
	0.28%	0.43%	0.72%	0.36%	0.66%	
American Indian/ Alaska Native	18	31	16	9	7	
	0.51%	0.89%	0.44%	0.27%	0.21%	
Asian	52	46	85	72	61	
	1.48%	1.32%	2.36%	2.15%	1.82%	
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	2	2	0	0	2	
	0.06%	0.06%	0.00%	0.00%	0.06%	
Other	4	6	7	8	2	
	0.11%	0.17%	0.19%	0.24%	0.06%	
Two or More Races	68	42	53	53	39	
	1.93%	1.20%	1.47%	1.59%	1.16%	

Citizens by Voting Age Population Estimate (2013-2017)						
	Trustee Area 1	Trustee Area 2	Trustee Area 3	Trustee Area 4	Trustee Area 5	
Population	3,775	2,981	3,575	3,252	3,107	
Population Variance	437	-357	237	-86	-231	
	13.09%	-10.70%	7.10%	-2.58%	-6.92%	
Hispanic/Latino	614	523	399	352	238	
	16.26%	17.54%	11.16%	10.82%	7.66%	
White	2,993	2,368	3,001	2,742	2,703	
	79.28%	79.44%	83.94%	84.32%	87.00%	
Black/ African American	0	0	8	8	8	
	0.00%	0.00%	0.22%	0.25%	0.26%	
American Indian/ Alaska Native	31	2	11	12	4	
	0.82%	0.07%	0.31%	0.37%	0.13%	
Asian	38	20	44	65	63	
	1.01%	0.67%	1.23%	2.00%	2.03%	
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	29	
	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.93%	
Other	0	0	0	0	0	
	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
Two or More Races	99	68	112	73	62	
	2.62%	2.28%	3.13%	2.24%	2.00%	

**Ventura County**  
**LEA Election Methodology**  
*As of September 2019*

<b>LEA Name</b>	<b>Election Methodology</b>	<b>Date of Change</b> <i>as Applicable</i>
Briggs Elementary	At large	
Conejo Valley Unified	Trustee Area	March 2019
Fillmore Unified	At large	
Hueneme Elementary	Trustee Area	June 2019
Mesa Union Elementary	At large	
Moorpark Unified	Trustee Area	April 2019
Mupu Elementary	At large	
Oak Park Unified	At large	
Ocean View Elementary	At large	studying data
Ojai Unified	Trustee Area	September 2019
Oxnard Elementary	Trustee Area	June 2015
Oxnard Union High	Trustee Area	in the works Spring 2021 *
Pleasant Valley Elementary	At large	
Rio Elementary	At large	
Santa Clara Elementary	At large	
Santa Paula Unified	Trustee Area	in the works
Simi Valley Unified	Trustee Area	February 2019
Somis Union Elementary	At large	
Ventura Unified	Trustee Area	March 2018
Ventura County Office of Education	Trustee Area	a long time ago!

*\*waiting for 2020 census data to be available*