

SAN MATEO-FOSTER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION NO. 18/16-17

WHEREAS, Section 1001 of the California Elections Code ("Elections Code") establishes that elections held in June and November of even-numbered years are statewide general elections; and

WHEREAS, Sections 1302(a) and 5000 of the Elections Code establish the regular election cycle for school board members in any school district as every two (2) years on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of odd-numbered years; and

WHEREAS, Section 14050 of the Elections Code (commonly known as the "California Voter Participation Rights Act") prohibits any political subdivision of the State to hold elections on dates other than a statewide general election date in even numbered years if those previous non-concurrent elections have resulted in a significant decrease in voter turnout; and

WHEREAS, the District has undertaken an analysis of the voter turnout rates and has determined that there exists a significant decrease in voter turnout in odd-numbered years as compared to statewide general election dates;

WHEREAS, Section 14050 of the Elections Code requires political subdivisions of the state to adopt a plan not later than January 1, 2018, to consolidate a future election with a statewide general election in even numbered years not later than the November 8, 2022 statewide general election date; and

WHEREAS, Section 1302(b)(1) of the Elections Code authorizes a school board to voluntarily change the regular election cycle for its members to occur on the same day as the statewide primary election, the statewide general election or the general municipal election by adopting an appropriate resolution, subject to approval by the county board of supervisors ("Board of Supervisors"); and

WHEREAS, as of September 16, 2016, the San Mateo-Foster City School District ("District") holds its board elections on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of odd-numbered years; and

WHEREAS, the District's Board Bylaw 9220 states "[w]henver possible, the Board shall consolidate Board elections with the local municipal or statewide primary or general election"; and

WHEREAS, changing the election date for school Board elections to even-numbered years and consolidating Board elections with local municipal and statewide general elections will promote increased voter participation in school board elections as voter turnout is ordinarily higher in statewide elections, and changing the election date will also minimize or avoid increased election costs to the District; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 1.7 of Division 14 of the Elections Code and Senate Bill 415 (2015-2016 Regular Session), with the approval of the County Board of Supervisors, all Board members' terms shall be set to a three-year term on a one time basis and thereafter, will revert to four-year terms for each trustee pursuant to Education Code Sections 5009 and 5017, to align the election cycle to the statewide general election dates (i.e., the three Trustee's Terms that expire in 2017, shall be re-set on a one time basis to a three year term, to expire in 2020, and thereafter be elected on a four-year cycle in even years; and the two Trustee's Terms that expire in 2019, shall be re-set on a one time basis to a three year term, to expire in 2022, and thereafter be elected on a four-year cycle in even years.)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the District adopts this Resolution to consolidate the election date for members of the Governing Board with the date of the statewide elections in November of even-numbered years pursuant to Section 1302(b) of the Elections Code; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is directed to submit this Resolution to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors no later than 240 days before the date of the currently scheduled November 2017 Board election; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is directed to submit this Resolution to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors and request that the Board of Supervisors provides notice of this of this Resolution to each school district within the County and the County Board of Education, and request input from each school district and the County Board of Education on the effect of consolidation, with a 30-day response deadline; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that within 60 days from the date the District submits this Resolution to the Board of Supervisors, the Board of Supervisors is requested, by this Resolution, to approve the Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the District requests the Board of Supervisors post the required public notices of the proceeding in which this Resolution is to be considered for adoption by the Board of Supervisors, as provided by Section 25151 of the Government Code, including providing notice of all affected voters; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to Chapter 1.7 of Division 14 of the Elections Code and Senate Bill 415 (2015-2016 Regular Session), if the consolidation of election is approved by the Board of Supervisors, all Board member terms shall be shortened by one (1) year on a one-time basis, and thereafter the term for each Board member shall begin a new four-year cycle on the same dates as the statewide general election dates, as described above in this Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is directed to prepare and present to this Board for consideration and adoption all necessary changes to the District Board Policies and/or Administrative Regulations as a result of the adoption of this Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent and/or his designee are hereby authorized to take such other action or steps necessary to carry out the intent of this Resolution.

ADOPTED, SIGNED and APPROVED this 17th day of November of 2016.

AYES: Ed Coady, Chelsea Bonini, Lory Lorimer Lawson, Audrey Ng, Nancy Kohn Hsieh

NOES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

By: 

President, Board of Trustees, San Mateo-Foster City School District