



**Turlock Unified School District**  
*Learning today...Leading tomorrow*

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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2017 FEB 21 P 2:55

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Dana Salles Trevethan, Superintendent

February 22, 2017

Attn: Elizabeth King  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors  
1010 Tenth Street, Suite 6700  
Modesto, CA 95354

Re: Request for County Board of Supervisor Approval of Change in Election Year for the Turlock Unified School District's Board of Trustees

Dear Supervisors:

Pursuant to Elections Code sections 1302 subdivision (b) and 10404.5, I write on behalf of the Turlock Unified School District ("District") to submit the enclosed Resolution No. 19/2016-17 ("Resolution") to the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors for review and approval.

As you are aware, Senate Bill 415 added Section 14050 *et seq.* to the Elections Code, requiring school districts to hold their governing board elections on the same date as statewide elections, if holding it on another date previously resulted in a significant decrease in voter turnout. Voter participation within the boundaries of the District is noticeably lower during odd-numbered year local elections than during even-numbered year general elections. Therefore, in order to promote greater voter participation and in line with the requirements of Senate Bill 415, on February 21, 2017 the District's Board of Trustees passed a Resolution seeking to consolidate the District's Board elections, currently held in odd-numbered years, with statewide general elections held in even-numbered years.

The District respectfully requests that the County Board of Supervisors take all necessary actions to approve the change to even-year elections, including but not limited to the following actions:

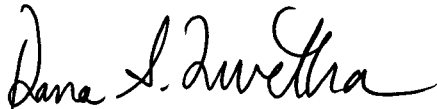
- Notify all school districts in Stanislaus County and the Stanislaus County Board of Education of the receipt of the enclosed Resolution and that the Board of Supervisors requests input from each district on the effect of consolidating the election (Elec. Code, § 10404.5 subd. (c).);
- Within 60 days from the receipt of this request, approve the Resolution, unless the Board of Supervisors finds that the ballot style, voting equipment, or computer capacity cannot handle the change to even-numbered year elections (Elec. Code, § 10404.5 subd. (d)(1).);

- Make public notices complying with Government Code section 25151 of the proceedings in which the Resolution is to be considered for adoption (Elec. Code, § 10404.5, subd. (d)(2).); and
- If approved by the Board of Supervisors, within 30 days of that approval, cause the elections official to notify all registered voters of the District by mail of the approval of the Resolution. (Elec. Code, § 10404.5, subd. (e).)

If the Board of Supervisors approves the Resolution, the District will bear the cost of notice by mail to the registered voters of the District pursuant to Elections Code section 10404.5, subdivision (e). In addition, the next District Board of Trustees election will be moved from November 2017 to November 2018, and incumbent Board members' terms will be extended for one year. (Elec. Code, § 10404.5, subd. (g).)

If you have any questions regarding the enclosed resolution or the process described above, or if the District can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Dana Salles Trevethan  
Superintendent  
Turlock Unified School District

Enclosure: District Resolution No. 19/2016-17  
DST:rc

**RESOLUTION NO. 19/2016-17**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TURLOCK UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT APPROVING THE RESCHEDULING OF BOARD MEMBER  
ELECTIONS FROM ODD TO EVEN YEAR ELECTIONS**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees (“Board”) of the Turlock Unified School District (“District”) consists of seven (7) members elected from seven (7) trustee areas (“Trustee Area”) within the District;

**WHEREAS**, Education Code section 35105 sets forth the general rule that school district governing board members serve staggered terms and are elected in odd numbered years;

**WHEREAS**, currently the election of Board members occurs every two years, on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of odd numbered years, pursuant to Elections Code section 1302, subdivision (a);

**WHEREAS**, the next Board election for Trustee Areas 2, 4 and 6 is scheduled for November 2017, and the next Board election for Trustee Areas 1, 3, 5 and 7 is scheduled for November 2019;

**WHEREAS**, statewide general elections are held in California in November of even numbered years, pursuant to Elections Code section 1001;

**WHEREAS**, generally, voter participation is greater for statewide general elections conducted in even numbered years than for special local elections, including school board member elections, conducted in odd numbered years;

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill 415 adds Section 14050 *et seq.* to the Elections Code, requiring school districts to adopt a plan by January 1, 2018 to transition their governing board elections to the same date as statewide general elections conducted in even numbered years if past governing board elections held on special local election dates in odd numbered years resulted in a significant decrease in voter turnout;

**WHEREAS**, a significant decrease in voter turnout is defined as voter turnout at least 25% less than the average voter turnout for the previous four (4) statewide general elections;

**WHEREAS**, based on the history of voter participation within the boundaries of the District, as exemplified in Exhibit A, it is likely that the District will be required to adopt a plan to transition to even numbered year statewide general elections no later than January 1, 2018, pursuant to Elections Code section 14052, subdivision (b);

**WHEREAS**, after adoption of a plan, the transition to even numbered year statewide general elections must be completed no later than the November 8, 2022 statewide general election, pursuant to Elections Code section 14052, subdivision (b);

**WHEREAS**, regardless of whether the District is required to formulate a plan pursuant to Senate Bill 415 and Election Code sections 14050 *et seq.*, the Board desires to consolidate Board member elections with statewide general elections on even numbered years to allow for Board member elections to occur when the largest number of voters generally participate in the election;

**WHEREAS**, the District Board may adopt a resolution to establish Board member elections to occur on the same day as the statewide general election pursuant to Elections Code section 1302, subdivision (b), subject to approval by the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors (“County Board of Supervisors”);

**WHEREAS**, the District Board’s resolution to establish Board member elections on the same day as the statewide general election, must be submitted to the County Board of Supervisors no later than 240 days prior to the next regularly scheduled election;

**WHEREAS**, the next regularly scheduled election for District Board members is November 7, 2017, and 240 days prior to November 7, 2017, is March 12, 2017;

**WHEREAS**, within sixty (60) days from the date that the District submits such a resolution to the County Board of Supervisors, the County Board of Supervisors must approve the resolution unless it finds that the ballot style, voting equipment, or computer capacity is such that additional elections or materials cannot be handled (Elec. Code § 10404.5, subdivision (d)(1));

**WHEREAS**, public notices of the proceeding in which the resolution is to be considered for adoption by the County Board of Supervisors must be made by County Board of Supervisors pursuant to Section 25151 of the Government Code;

**WHEREAS**, this resolution is contingent upon approval of the County Board of Supervisors and if rejected, this resolution will be null and void;

**WHEREAS**, if the County Board of Supervisors approves this resolution to establish Board member elections on the same day as the statewide general election, the terms of all Board members are extended by one (1) year pursuant to Elections Code section 10404.5, subdivision (g); and

**WHEREAS**, the result of such actions would be staggered Board elections in even numbered years, commencing with the next election for Trustee Areas 2, 4 and 6 in November 2018, and the election of Trustee Areas 1, 3, 5 and 7 in November 2020.


**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Board of Trustees of the Turlock Unified School District hereby finds and resolves that:

1. Board member elections shall be consolidated with the statewide direct primary election or the statewide general election held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of each even numbered year; thus, no board member election shall be conducted in November of 2017.

2. The Superintendent is directed to submit this Resolution to the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors not later than March 12, 2017.
3. If this Resolution is approved by the County Board of Supervisors, the terms of office of all members of the Board shall be extended one (1) year, and District Board member elections will occur in even numbered years, as described in Exhibit B.
4. Upon approval of this Resolution by the Board of Trustees, the District Superintendent shall cause a certified copy of this Resolution to be filed with the County Board of Supervisors and the Stanislaus County Superintendent of Schools.
5. The District Superintendent and her designees are hereby authorized and directed to take any other steps necessary to effectuate the purpose and intent of this resolution.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Trustees of the Turlock Unified School District, Stanislaus County, California, on this 21st day of February, 2017 at a duly noticed meeting, by the following vote:

Ayes:             5         (Gordon, Carlson, Malech, Silva, Lima)  
Noes:              2         (Carter, Weaver)  
Abstentions:   0    
Absent:            0  

  
Jennifer Carter,  
Clerk of the Board of Trustees  
Turlock Unified School District  
Stanislaus County, State of California

**Exhibit A**

Stanislaus County Registrar of Voters  
California Voter Participation Rights Act / Voter Participation Calculations

**2013 UDEL Comparison**  
Four Statewide Election Average for Even Years 2012 & 2010

District	2013 Nov UDEL Voter Turnout	2012 Nov General Voter Turnout	2012 June Primary Voter Turnout	2010 Nov General Voter Turnout	2010 June Primary Voter Turnout	Four Statewide Election AVERAGE Voter Turnout	Voter Turnout Percentage Difference
Turlock Unified Trustee Area 1							
Turlock Unified Trustee Area 2	23%	71%	35%	57%	36%	50%	27%
Turlock Unified Trustee Area 3							
Turlock Unified Trustee Area 4	0%	74%	41%	62%	40%	54%	-
Turlock Unified Trustee Area 5							
Turlock Unified Trustee Area 6	16%	70%	30%	52%	28%	45%	29%
Turlock Unified Trustee Area 7							

**2015 UDEL Comparison**  
Four Statewide Election Average for Even Years 2014 & 2012

District	2015 Nov UDEL Voter Turnout	2014 Nov General Voter Turnout	2014 June Primary Voter Turnout	2012 Nov General Voter Turnout	2012 June Primary Voter Turnout	Four Statewide Election AVERAGE Voter Turnout	Voter Turnout Percentage Difference
Turlock Unified Trustee Area 1	0%	49%	28%	71%	31%	45%	-
Turlock Unified Trustee Area 2							
Turlock Unified Trustee Area 3	0%	49%	28%	69%	32%	45%	-
Turlock Unified Trustee Area 4							
Turlock Unified Trustee Area 5	0%	45%	26%	65%	30%	42%	-
Turlock Unified Trustee Area 6							
Turlock Unified Trustee Area 7	0%	45%	26%	63%	29%	41%	-

0% indicates the district was scheduled for election but had no contest and did not appear on the ballot  
Shaded area indicates the district was not scheduled for election

*Districts with over 25% difference in voter turnout are subject to SB 415 requirements*

**Exhibit B**

<b><u>Trustee Area</u></b>	<b><u>Current Election Year</u></b>	<b><u>New Election Year</u></b>
Trustee Area 2	2017	2018
Trustee Area 4	2017	2018
Trustee Area 6	2017	2018
Trustee Area 1	2019	2020
Trustee Area 3	2019	2020
Trustee Area 5	2019	2020
Trustee Area 7	2019	2020