# MOUNTAIN VIEW LOS ALTOS HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

## RESOLUTION NO. 2024/25-5

## RESOLUTION INITIATING PROCESS OF ESTABLISHING TRUSTEE AREAS AND ELECTIONS BY-TRUSTEE AREAS FOR DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

WHEREAS, the Mountain View Los Altos Union High School District ("District") currently uses an at-large system of electing the members of its Board of Education; 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 District has received a demand letter pursuant to AB 350 requesting the District change its method of election and create trustee areas; and

WHEREAS, the District has decided to initiate the process of establishing trustee areas and changing the method of electing members of the governing Board, in order to ensure compliance with the CVRA or, at minimum, avoid the potential for costly litigation under the CVRA; and

WHEREAS, the change in the method of electing members of the District's governing Board is being made in furtherance of the purposes of the California Voting Rights Act of 2001 (Chapter 1.5 (commencing with Section 14025) of Division 14 of the Elections Code); and

WHEREAS, the Board intends to initiate a very deliberate, careful, and public process for establishing trustee areas, and for changing the method of electing members of the Board, to take effect commencing with the November, 2026 governing Board 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, 2026 election of members of the Board; and

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board directs the Superintendent or his designee to 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 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, 2026 election; and

BE IT FURTHER AND FINALLY RESOLVED that the Board directs the Superintendent or his designee to initiate processes for establishing trustee areas and changing the method of electing members of the Board that are inclusive, thoughtful, and public, providing for and encouraging significant input on the issues the Board and the Santa Clara County Committee on School District Organization will address from all interested citizens and interest groups.

ADOPTED, SIGNED AND APPROVED this 9th day of September, 2024.


_____
President, Board of Education
Mountain View Los Altos Union High School District


## **CERTIFICATION**

I, _____, Clerk of the Board of Education of the Mountain View Los Altos Union High 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 ___th day of September, 2024, and that it was so adopted by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:


_____
Clerk, Board of Education
Mountain View Los Altos Union High School District