RESOLUTION 2015-16 # 29
RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF
SAUGUS UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ADOPTING A FINAL TRUSTEE AREA PLAN FOR
THE DISTRICT’S TRANSITION TO A BY-TRUSTEE AREA ELECTION SYSTEM; A
PLAN OF ELECTION FROM THOSE AREAS; AND RECOMMENDING THAT THE LOS
ANGELES COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION APPROVE
THE DISTRICT’S ESTABLISHMENT OF A BY-TRUSTEE AREA ELECTION SYSTEM
AND ADOPTED TRUSTEE VOTING AREA PLAN

A. On May 5, 2015 the Governing Board (“Board”) for the Saugus Union School District
(“District”) passed Resolution 2014-15 # 58 initiating the process for the District to transition
from an “at-large” election system to a “by-trustee area” election system.

B. In approving Resolution 2014-15 # 58 the Board expressed its concern about potential
violations of the California Voting Rights Act (Elections Code § 14025 et seq.). The Board
believes that a transition to a by-trustee area election system will reduce the District’s risk of
costly litigation, especially since a successful plaintiff under the California Voting Rights Act
(“CVRA”) is entitled to reasonable attorneys’ fees and experts fees, creating great financial risk
to any jurisdiction sued.

C. The District retained Compass Demographics (“Consultant”) to prepare proposed trustee
area boundary plans for consideration by the District, Board, and community. The Consultant has
extensive experience working with school districts and local jurisdictions regarding electoral
demographics, taking into consideration the CVRA, the Federal Voting Rights Act, and related
election system choices.

D. All of the proposed trustee area boundary plans prepared by Consultant were drawn with
all applicable laws and regulations in mind, including the CVRA and federal election law.

E. The District conducted public forums to consider community input and comment
regarding the proposed trustee area boundary plans on October 14, 2015 at Tesoro del Valle,
October 15, 2015 at Skyblue Mesa Elementary, October 21, 2015 at Emblem Academy,
conducted public hearings at Board meetings on September 29 and November 3, 2015, and made
plans available for public review and comment on the District’s website from September 25,
2015 until final adoption on November 17, 2015.

F. With thoughtful consideration of all public input received on the draft trustee area plans
and applicable state and federal legal criteria, the Board desires to adopt the trustee area plan and
demographic information described as the "Trustee Plan Blue" (attached hereto as Exhibit “A”)
as the final trustee area plan establishing the boundaries for the new trustee areas, and to request
timely approval from the County Committee of the trustee area plan and the District’s transition
to a by-trustee area election system commencing with the 2016 Governing Board election.
G. The County Committee has indicated that it will consider the District's establishment of trustee areas upon the District's request.

H. In order to complete the transition to by-trustee area elections in a timely and cost effective manner, and to ensure that the new by-trustee area process will be in place in time to elect new governing board members at the Board's next regularly scheduled election, the District has sought a waiver of certain portions of the Education Code from the State Board of Education. The District's request for waiver was submitted to the State Board of Education for approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Governing Board of Saugus Union School District does hereby resolve, order and determine as follows:

1. The above recitals are true and correct.

2. The Board hereby adopts the trustee area plan and demographic information described as the "Scenario Blue" (attached hereto as Exhibit "A") as the final trustee area map for the District's transition to a by-trustee area election system commencing with the 2016 Governing Board election.

3. That the District will hold by-trustee area elections in trustee area numbers 3 and 4 for seats that should come up at its November 2016 election, assuming timely approval by the County Committee. That the District will hold by-trustee area elections in trustee area numbers 1, 2 and 3 for seats that should come up at its November 2018 election. Current area 5 appointed seat will be up for election in 2016 in order to complete the term of office.

4. That by this resolution and contingent upon the approval by the County Committee of the District's change to a by-trustee area election system, the Board hereby applies to the County Committee to timely approve the Board's adopted trustee area plan for implementation commencing with the 2016 Governing Board election, or at the earliest possible election, as conditioned upon approval of the Education Code waiver request submitted to the State Board of Education.

4. The Board hereby authorizes and directs District staff to transmit this resolution, the final trustee area plan adopted, and any additional required documentation to the County Committee and to take any other necessary action to effectuate the purposes of this resolution and complete the District's transition to a by-trustee area election system for the 2016 Governing Board elections.
5. The foregoing resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Rose Koscielny
President of the Governing Board of the
Saugus Union School District

ATTEST:

Judy Egan Umeck
Clerk of the Governing Board of the
Saugus Union School District
I, Judy Egan Umek, Clerk of the Governing Board of the Saugus Union School District, hereby certify that the above and foregoing resolution was duly and regularly adopted by said Board at a regular meeting held on the 17th day of November 2015 and passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. De La Cerda, Mrs. Koscielny, Dr. Powell, Mr. Trunkey and Mrs. Umek

Noes: None

Absent: None

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 17th day of November 2015.

Judy Egan Umek
Clerk of the Governing Board of the Saugus Union School District
EXHIBIT “A”

(Final Trustee Area Plan and Demographic Information)