

# SHASTA UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT Establishment of By-Trustee Area Voting

### **Election Systems**

1. "At Large"

2. "From Trustee Area" or "Residence" Trustee Area

3. "By Trustee Area"

The California Voting Rights Act was written to specifically encourage by-Trustee Area elections.



## California Voting Rights Act (CVRA)

- □ Under the Federal Voting Rights Act (passed in 1965), a jurisdiction must fail 4 factual tests before it is in violation of the law.
- The California VRA makes it significantly easier for plaintiffs to force jurisdictions into "by-district" election systems by eliminating two of the US Supreme Court Gingles tests:
  - Can the protected class constitute the majority of a district?
  - Does the protected class vote as a bloc?
  - Do the voters who are not in the protected class vote in a bloc to defeat the preferred candidates of the protected class?
  - Do the "totality of circumstances" indicate race is a factor in elections?
- Liability is now established by just the presence of racially polarized voting and dilution of the protected class's voting strength.



#### **CVRA** Impact

- □ Switched (or in the process of switching) as a result of CVRA:
  - At least 275 school districts
  - 36 Community College Districts
  - 191 cities
  - 1 County Board of Supervisors
  - 53 water and other special districts.
- □ Palmdale, Santa Clara and Santa Monica fought "on the merits." All lost.
  - Santa Monica: CA Supreme Court referred case back to Court of Appeals
  - Palmdale spent about \$1.8 million, Santa Clara about \$800,000, and Santa Monica between \$5 and \$8 million, just on their defense.
  - Santa Monica plaintiffs requested \$22 million
  - No jurisdiction has won a case.

- Key settlements:
  - Palmdale: \$4.7 million
  - Modesto: \$3 million
  - Highland: \$1.3 million
  - Anaheim: \$1.1 million
  - Whittier: \$1 million
  - Santa Barbara: \$600,000
  - Tulare Hospital: \$500,000
  - Camarillo: \$233,000
  - Compton Unified: \$200,000
  - Madera Unified: about \$170,000
  - Hanford Joint Union Schools: \$118,000
  - Merced City: \$42,000
- ☐ An estimated \$16 million in total settlements and court awards so far.



## **Districting Process**

Step	Description	
<b>Hearings 1 &amp; 2</b> October 24 & 27	<ul> <li>Held prior to release of draft maps</li> <li>Education and to solicit input on the composition of Trustee Areas</li> </ul>	
<b>Draft Maps Posted</b> November 7	<ul> <li>Must be posted on the project website seven (7) days in advance of Hearings 3-5</li> <li>Public maps must be submitted at least 10 (ten) days in advance</li> </ul>	
<b>Hearing 3</b> November 14	First Board consideration of draft maps	
<b>Hearing 4</b> November 27	Board consideration of draft maps	
Hearing 5/Map Adoption December 12	Public hearing followed by map adoption	
County Committee Hearing December 19	Shasta County Committee on School Organization Public Hearing	



## Districting Rules and Goals

Federal Laws	Traditional Redistricting Principles
Equal Population	Communities of interest
Federal Voting Rights Act	Compact
No Racial Gerrymandering	Contiguous
	Visible (Natural & man-made) boundaries
	Respect voters' choices / continuity in office
	Planned future growth



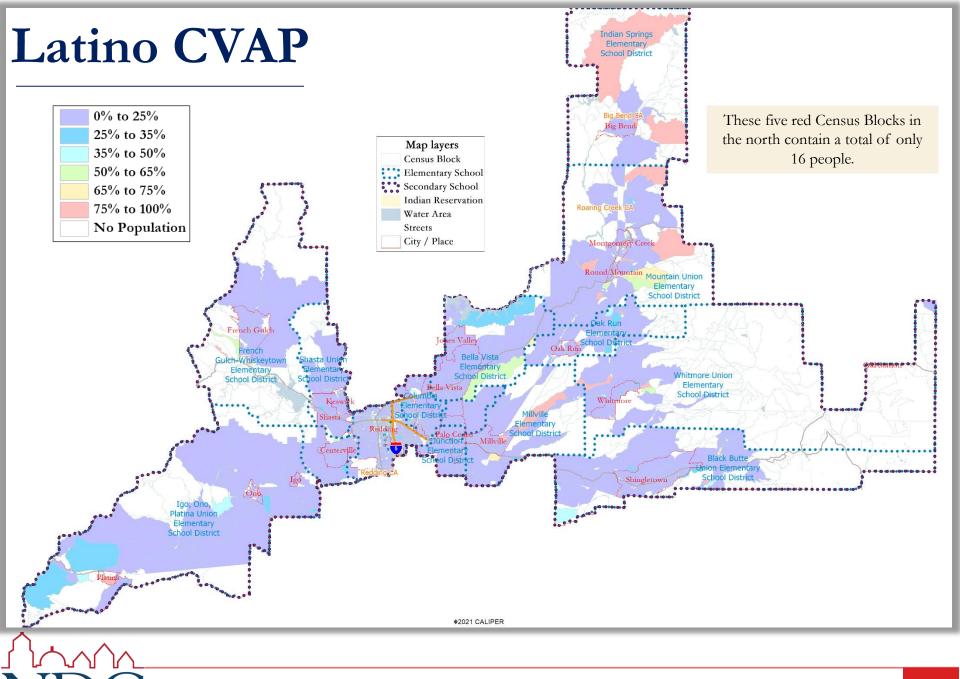


# Demographic Summary

Each of the 5 Trustee Areas must contain about 20,817 people.

Category	Field	Total		Category	Field	Total	
2020 Census	Total Population	104,085			age0-19	24%	
	Hispanic/Latino	10%		Age	age20-60	49%	
	NH White	75%			age60plus	26%	
Total Pop.	NH Black	2%	т		immigrants	6%	
	NH Asian/Pac.Isl.	6%		Immigration	naturalized	50%	
	NH Native Amer.	5%		Language spoken at home	english	91%	
	Total	78,867			spanish	4%	
	Hisp	8%			asian-lang	3%	
	NH White	83%			other lang	2%	
Citizen Voting Age Pop	NH Black	2%		Language Fluency	Speaks Eng. "Less than Very Well"	3%	
	Asian/Pac.Isl.	4%		Education (among	hs-grad	66%	
	Native Amer.	3%		those age 25+)	bachelor	17%	
	Total	63,573		those age 25+)	graduatedegree	9%	
	Latino est.	7%		Child in Household	child-under18	27%	
Voter Registration	Spanish-Surnamed	6%		Pct of Pop. Age 16+	employed	57%	
(Nov 2022)	Asian-Surnamed	1%			income 0-25k	17%	
(1NOV 2022)	Filipino-Surnamed	1%			income 25-50k	22%	
	NH White est.	88%		Household Income	income 50-75k	17%	
	NH Black	2%			income 75-200k	38%	
	Total	39,296			income 200k-plus	7%	
	Latino est.	5%			single family	81%	
Voter Turnout (Nov	Spanish-Surnamed	5%		Housing Stats	multi-family	19%	
2022)	Asian-Surnamed	1%		Housing Stats	rented	39%	
2022)	Filipino-Surnamed	0%			owned	61%	
	NH White est.	90%					
	NH Black	2%		Total population data from California's adjusted 2020			
	Total	53,845	53,845 Census data. Citizen Voting Age Population				
	Latino est.	5%	Immigration, and other demographics from the 2017- 2021 American Community Survey and Special				
Voter Turnout (Nov	Spanish-Surnamed	5%					
2020)	Asian-Surnamed	1%		Tabulation 5-year data. Turnout and Registration data from California Statewide Database. "Latino" figures			
2020)	Filipino-Surnamed	1%					
	NH White est.	90%		calculated by NDC using Census Bureau's Latino undercount by surname estimate.			
	NH Black est.	1%	undercount by surn		surname estimate.		





# Defining Neighborhoods and Communities of Interest

1st Question: What is your neighborhood or community?

#### Examples of physical features defining a neighborhood boundary:

- □ Natural neighborhood dividing lines, such as highway or major roads, rivers, canals and/or hills
- □ Areas around parks or schools
- □ School attendance areas
- Other neighborhood landmarks

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Question: Does the area benefit from being united in a single zone?

In the absence of public testimony, planning records and other similar documents may provide definition.





### Public Hearing & Discussion

■ What is your neighborhood or community of interest and what are its boundaries?

■ Would you prefer your neighborhood or community of interest be in one Trustee Area or that it have multiple representatives on the Board?

