RESOLUTION NO. 19-2019/2020
OF THE
NOVATO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

RECOMMENDING THAT THE MARIN COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION APPROVE AND ESTABLISH TRUSTEE AREAS FROM WHICH THE NOVATO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT TRUSTEES WILL BE ELECTED IN A BY-TRUSTEE AREA ELECTION PROCESS

WHEREAS, The Novato Unified School District ("District") currently uses an at-large system of electing members of its Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, At-large electoral systems such as the Districts are subject to challenge under the California Voting Rights Act of 2001, codified at sections 14025 - 14032 of the California Elections Code ("CVRA"); and

WHEREAS, By-trustee area electoral systems are not vulnerable to challenge under the CVRA; and

WHEREAS, In a by-trustee area system of election, candidates for the District’s Board of Trustees (the "Board") must reside within a specific geographic subarea of the District called a "trustee area" and candidates are elected only by the voters of that trustee area; and

WHEREAS, One method of transitioning from an at-large electoral system to a by-trustee area electoral system is for the school district board of Trustees to petition the local county committee on school district organization by resolution to initiate the transition under California Education Code section 5019(c)(1); and

WHEREAS, the Marin County Committee on School District Organization ("Committee") has indicated that it will initiate this process on behalf of the District at the District’s request, and will consider any recommendation on specific trustee areas made by the District; and

WHEREAS, District held two public hearings on May 7, 2019 and May 21, 2019 to receive public input on drafting trustee area map plans ("Plans") and thereafter, District consultants created eight (8) draft map plans that were circulated for public review at community forums held September 10, 2019, and October 1, 2019; and online on the District’s website; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Elections Code section 10010, the District held properly noticed public hearings regarding the proposed trustee area plans on October 15, 2019 and November 5, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Board has considered all public input and comment on the Plans; and
WHEREAS, the Board has adopted Plan 7A and hereby recommends Plan 7A to the Committee for its consideration based upon the findings, analysis and recommendations contained in the report attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit “A”; and

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Novato Unified School District as follows:
1. That the above recitals are true and correct.
2. That the Board has adopted Plan 7A and recommends Plan 7A to the Committee for consideration and adoption.
3. That the Superintendent and/or his designee take all actions necessary to notify the Committee of the Board’s determination forthwith and provide whatever assistance may be required by the Committee to complete the process.

ADOPTED, SIGNED AND APPROVED this 5th day of November, 2019.

[Signature]  
President of the Board of Trustees for the Novato Unified School District

I, Maria Aguila, Clerk of the Board of Trustees of the Novato Unified School District, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Board of Trustees of said District at a meeting of said Board held on the 5th day of November, 2019, and that it was so adopted by the following vote:

AYES: 7
NOES: 0
ABSTAIN: ______
ABSENT: ______

[Signature]  
Clerk of the Board of Trustees of the Novato Unified School District
EXHIBIT “A”

APPROVED TRUSTEE AREA MAP

NOVATO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

CONCEPTUAL TRUSTEE AREA - SCENARIO 7A (GRIGGY)