

## **BOARD RESOLUTION**

**THE STATE OF TEXAS           §**  
**§**  
**THE COUNTY OF TRAVIS       §**

### **GUIDELINES FOR PERSONS SUBMITTING SPECIFIC REDISTRICTING PROPOSALS AND PROVIDING COMMENTS**

WHEREAS, the Austin Independent School District Board of Trustees ("Austin ISD" or "District") has certain responsibilities for redistricting under federal and state law including but not limited to Amendments 14 and 15 to the United States Constitution, U.S.C.A. (West 2006) and the Voting Rights Act, 42 U.S.C.A. § 1973 c (West 2010); Article 5, Section 18 of the Texas Constitution (Vernon 2007); and Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §§ 2058.001 and 2058.002 (Vernon 2008); and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to provide for the orderly consideration and evaluation of redistricting plans which may come before the District; and

WHEREAS, these guidelines relate to persons who have specific redistricting plans they wish the District to consider; and

WHEREAS, the District welcomes any comments relevant to the redistricting process;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in order to make sure that any plan that might be submitted is of maximum assistance to the District in its decision making process, the District hereby sets the following guidelines to be followed by each person submitting a redistricting plan for consideration:

1. Proposed plans must be submitted in writing and be legible. If a plan is submitted orally, there is significant opportunity for misunderstanding, and it is possible that errors may be made in analyzing it. The District wants to be sure that all proposals are fully and accurately considered.
2. Any plan must show the total population and voting age population for Blacks, Hispanics, Asians, and Anglo/other for each proposed district based on the 2010 Census Data. If a plan is submitted without a population breakdown, the District may not have sufficient information to give it full consideration.
3. Plans should redistrict the entire District. The District, of course, will be considering the effect of any plan on the entire District. Also, the District is

subject to the Voting Rights Act, which protects various racial and language minorities. Thus, as a matter of federal law, the District will be required to consider the effect of any proposal on multiple racial and ethnic groups. If a plan does not redistrict the entire District, it may be impossible for the District to assess its impact on one or more protected minority groups.

4. Plans should conform to the criteria the District will be using in drawing the districts.
5. Comments must be submitted in writing and be legible, even if the person also makes the comments orally at a public hearing.
6. Persons providing comments and those submitting proposed plans must identify themselves by full name and home address and provide a phone number and, if available, an email address. The District may wish to follow up on such comments or obtain additional information about submitted plans.
7. All comments and proposed plans must be submitted to the District's Board of Trustees by the close of the public hearing.

BE IT SO ORDERED.

Adopted on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2011.

AUSTIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

By: Mark Williams  
Mark Williams  
President of the Board

ATTEST:

Lori Moya  
Lori Moya  
Board Secretary

## **BOARD RESOLUTION**

**THE STATE OF TEXAS           §**  
**§**  
**THE COUNTY OF TRAVIS       §**

### **AUSTIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT RESOLUTION ADOPTING CRITERIA FOR USE IN REDISTRICTING 2011 PROCESS**

WHEREAS, the Austin Independent School District Board of Trustees ("Austin ISD" or "District") has certain responsibilities for redistricting under federal and state law including but not limited to Amendments 14 and 15 to the United States Constitution, U.S.C.A. (West 2006) and the Voting Rights Act, 42 U.S.C.A. § 1973 c (West 2010); Article 5, Section 18 of the Texas Constitution (Vernon 2007); and Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §§ 2058.001 and 2058.002 (Vernon 2008); and

WHEREAS, on review of the 2010 Census data, it appears that a population imbalance exists requiring redistricting of Austin ISD's trustee districts; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the District to comply with the Voting Rights Act and with all other relevant law, including *Shaw v. Reno* jurisprudence; and

WHEREAS, a set of established redistricting criteria will serve as a framework to guide the District in the consideration of districting plans; and

WHEREAS, established criteria will provide the District a means by which to evaluate and measure proposed plans; and

WHEREAS, redistricting criteria will assist the District in its efforts to comply with all applicable federal and state laws;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED, that the Austin Independent School District, in its adoption of a redistricting plan for trustee districts, will adhere to the following criteria to the greatest extent possible when drawing district boundaries:

1. Where possible, easily identifiable geographic boundaries should be followed.
2. Communities of interest should be maintained in a single district, where possible, and attempts should be made to avoid splitting neighborhoods.
3. To the extent possible, districts should be composed of whole voting precincts.



4. Although it is recognized that existing districts will have to be altered to reflect new population distribution, any districting plan should, to the extent possible, be based on existing districts.
5. Districts must be configured so that they are relatively equal in total population according to the 2010 federal census. In no event should the total deviation between the largest and the smallest district exceed ten percent.
6. The districts should be compact and composed of contiguous territory. Compactness may contain a functional, as well as a geographical dimension.
7. Consideration may be given to the preservation of incumbent-constituency relations by recognition of the residence of incumbents and their history in representing certain areas.
8. The plan should be narrowly tailored to avoid retrogression in the position of racial minorities and language minorities as defined in the Voting Rights Act with respect to their effective exercise of the electoral franchise.
9. The plan should not fragment a geographically compact minority community or pack minority voters in the presence of polarized voting so as to create liability under section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1973.

The District will review all plans in light of these criteria and will evaluate how well each plan conforms to the criteria.

Any plan submitted to the District by a citizen for its consideration should be a complete plan—*i.e.*, it should show the full number of trustee districts and should redistrict the entire District. The District may decline to consider any plan that is not a complete plan.

All plans submitted by citizens, as well as plans submitted by staff, consultants, and members of the District's Board of Trustees should conform to these criteria.

BE IT SO ORDERED.

Adopted on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2011.

AUSTIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Mark Williams  
Mark Williams  
President of the Board

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Lori Moya", is written over a horizontal line.

Lori Moya  
Board Secretary