

NEWS

El Monte Union High School District begins shift to trustee-area elections

The meeting on Thursday is the first two scheduled to inform voters about the changes in the elections.



El Monte Union High School District office. Photo: Google Streetview

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Instead of holding at-large elections for school board members, the El Monte Union High School District is shifting to creating districts and using a trustee-area method.

The school district will have its first meeting to provide details about the new election process and how it plans to inform voters about the changes through postcards, a website and community meetings on Thursday, May 13.

Voters will choose candidates who reside in newly formed district boundaries instead of holding elections for all candidates regardless of where they live. The change in elections goes into effect in November 2022.

The meeting on Thursday is the first two scheduled to inform voters about the changes in the elections. The second meeting is scheduled in August.

The school district is planning to have public hearings and work with a professional demographer to develop a map with five districts that meet legal requirements and follow criteria established by the district board of trustees.

“Our District is proud to be proactively beginning this important and historic process, ensuring that we adhere to the California Voting Rights Act and maintaining a fair election system that upholds representation, diversity and inclusivity,” Superintendent Edward Zuniga said in a release.

The school district scheduled a special meeting on Aug. 18 to discuss through public hearings the new district boundaries. Visit the school district website [emuhsd-by-area-trustees.com](https://www.emuhsd-by-area-trustees.com) for more information on the proposed district boundaries and elections.

“Every decision the EMUHSD Board of Trustees makes is always with the best interest of the students at the forefront,” Zuniga said in a release. “Transition to a by-trustee area election formation will not change the way our district prioritizes its students and will help us to ensure that every part of our community is represented.”

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