



Monterey County Office of Education

Dr. Nancy Kotowski
County Superintendent of Schools

February 23, 2017

Joe Paul Gonzalez, Registrar of Voters
County of San Benito
440 Fifth Street
2nd Floor, Room 206
Hollister, CA 95023

Dear Registrar Gonzalez:

Re: Request that the San Benito County Board of Supervisors Approve Change of Monterey County School Districts' Election Date to November of Even-Numbered Years Pursuant to Elections Code § 10404.5 and Senate Bill 415.

On behalf of the Monterey County Board of Education, whose territory extends to San Benito County, I hereby submit their resolution which resolves to move elections for their governing boards from November of odd-numbered years to November of even-numbered years, pursuant to Elections Code § 1302(b). I hereby request that the San Benito County Board of Supervisors' consider approval of that change pursuant to Elections Code § 10404.5 at a public meeting sometime within 60 days, following the statutorily-required notice.

Historically in Monterey County elections for members of the school district Boards of Trustees and the County Board of Education have been conducted in November of odd-numbered years (e.g., November 2015), pursuant to Education Code § 5000 and Elections Code § 1302(a). However, voter participation is generally greater for statewide general elections than for odd-year local elections. Therefore, on September 1, 2015, Governor Jerry Brown signed SB 415 into law, requiring that political subdivisions that hold their elections in odd-numbered years adopt a plan to transition to even-numbered year general elections no later than January 1, 2018, if they have experienced "significant decrease in voter turnout." This includes school board elections.

Included in this correspondence is a copy of the resolution of the Monterey County Board of Education to request that the San Benito County Board of Supervisors approve the change of election date to November of even-numbered years pursuant to Elections Code § 10404.5 and Senate Bill 415 beginning in 2018.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ginny Brown, Office of the Monterey County Superintendent of Schools (831-755-0303).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Nancy Kotowski".

Nancy Kotowski, Ph.D.
County Superintendent of Schools

C: Clerk of the Board, San Benito County Board of Supervisors