

Hollister Elementary School District

Resolution Continuing Board of Trustees Authority to Hold Virtual Meetings Pursuant to AB 361

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom declared a statewide emergency arising from the coronavirus (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 suspending certain provisions of the Brown Act pertaining to teleconferenced meetings; and

WHEREAS, on June 11, 2021, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-08-21 which indicated that Executive Order N-29-20's authorization for holding virtual meetings would expire on September 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed AB 361 (Rivas) as urgency legislation effective immediately, which provides that legislative bodies may continue to meet remotely during a declared State of Emergency subject to certain conditions; and

WHEREAS, AB 361 amends the Brown Act (Government Code section 54953) to add the following provision:

(e)(1) A local agency may use teleconferencing without complying with the requirements of paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) if the legislative body complies with the requirements of paragraph (2) of this subdivision in any of the following circumstances:

(B) The legislative body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency for the purpose of determining, by majority vote, whether as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.; and

WHEREAS, AB 361 amends the Brown Act (Government Code section 54953) to add the following provision:

(3) If a state of emergency remains active, or state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, in order to continue to teleconference without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b), the legislative body shall, not later than 30 days after teleconferencing for the first time pursuant to subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of paragraph (1), and every 30 days thereafter, make the following findings by majority vote:

(A) The legislative body has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency.

(B) Any of the following circumstances exist:

(i) The state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Hollister Elementary School District finds that the Governor's March 4, 2020 declaration of a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic remains active.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Hollister Elementary School District finds that due to the state of emergency meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees and/or the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person due to the prevalence of the Delta variant, the indoor setting of meeting facilities, the potential presence of unvaccinated individuals attending meetings, the potential for noncompliance with mask wearing requirements, and desire to protect the health of immuno-compromised trustee(s), staff and the public.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the following vote of the Board of Trustees of the Hollister Elementary School District, County of San Benito, State of California on January 25, 2022.

AYES: _____

NOES: _____

ABSENT::_____

President, Board of Trustees