

October 13, 2011

## Press Release

YOSEMITE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT Modesto Junior College & Columbia College

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Redistricting Plans Unveiled**

MODESTO, CA – October 13, 2011 – The Yosemite Community College District (YCCD) will be holding a Public Redistricting Forum to discuss its final redistricting options on October 25, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. in the YCCD Board Room located at 2201 Blue Gum Avenue in Modesto. The purpose is to collect public input concerning two proposals that are being considered for action by the YCCD Board of Trustees. The final two options under consideration are known as "Simple Change" and "Modesto Splits" options.

The Simple Change option primarily changes the internal border between Trustee Area 1 and Trustee Area 2, where Trustee Area 1 (which is comprised of Tuolumne County, and portions of Calaveras and eastern Stanislaus Counties) will expand west to the borders of Oakdale and Waterford. This option would also maintain Area 5 as the lone trustee area from which three trustees are elected. Currently YCCD elects seven trustees from five separate trustee areas.

The Modesto Splits option is exactly the same as Simple Change, with the exception that Area 5 would be split into three separate trustee areas. Under this option, YCCD would move to elect its seven trustees from seven separate trustee areas, versus the current five. If the District chooses this option, it would also be subject to approval by the State Board of Governors.

As required by law, the District must review internal geographic boundaries every ten years based on census data. Additional requirements include that all trustee areas be within +/- 5% of the average trustee area and that the redistricting complies with Federal regulations, in accordance with the Voting Rights Act, which require the District to ensure that minority voting strength is not reduced or diluted by any proposed changes.

At the upcoming Public Redistricting Forum, the two proposals under consideration will be presented. For individuals who cannot attend, the information is available on the District's website with a form to submit comments by clicking "Redistricting" at <u>www.yosemite.edu</u>.

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