The Twin Rivers Unified School District is currently governed by a seven-person board whose members reside in one of seven trustee areas but are elected by the registered voters of the entire school district. If Measure G is approved, the system for electing members of the governing board of the Twin Rivers Unified School District would change from this system to one whereby one governing board member residing in each trustee area would be elected by registered voters residing in that trustee area.

Passage of Measure G requires approval by a majority of the voters voting thereon.

ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE G

In 2007, the State Board of Education, the Sacramento County Office of Education, and area voters acted to create a new, unified district. They understood the importance of taking petty politics out of schools and approved “from-area” elections for the new district.

The “from-area” approach incorporates the strengths of two voting methods (“by-area” and “at-large”) in which one trustee from each of the 7 areas is elected by all voters. This ensures a representative from each area, but requires representatives to look out for all students and schools.

Trustee areas are small and cut our community into 7 artificially-created pieces. Families often have children that attend schools in 2-3 different trustee areas. Changing the voting method would mean that parents could only vote for the representative in the small area where their house is located.

Under a “by-area” approach, a family would no longer have any input on the trustees that govern the other areas where their children attend schools. Far from empowering voters, changing the method of election will take representation away from families and encourage selfish decision making that isn’t good for our children, schools, or communities.

Our current “from-area” voting ensures a representative from each neighborhood that is accountable to all families and taxpayers, not just the ones in their area. "From-area" voting has resulted in a board that is culturally diverse and one that has been able to make the difficult but responsible decisions that have resulted in higher graduation rates and a positive school budget.

There is no student-focused reason to consider rearranging the method of election. Now is not the time to take away voters’ rights to elect all 7 trustees. We urge you to vote NO on Measure G. See www.NoMeasureG.com

"The undersigned proponent(s) or author(s) of the primary argument against ballot measure G at the Presidential Primary Election for the Twin Rivers Unified School District to be held on June 5, 2012 hereby state that such argument is true and correct to the best of their knowledge and belief."

s/Elizabeth Mitchell, Board Member, Former Rio Linda Union School District
s/Bob Bastian, Board Vice President, Twin Rivers Unified School District
s/Lisbeth Gray, Old Foothill Farms Community Task Force
s/Keith Weber, North Sacramento County Community Leader and Alumni of 5 Twin Rivers Schools
s/Roberta Cokely, Board Member, North Highlands Junior Scots