

San Dieguito Union High School District Trustee Area 5 Applications

Name

David L Snodgrass

Years of Residence in the San Dieguito Union High School District

6

Describe your educational, professional, volunteer and/or public service background. Please elaborate how your experiences would best qualify you to serve as the Area 5 Trustee?

I hold a BS in Physics with a minor in History and an additional minor in Mathematics, a MS in Physics, and a MS in Electrical Engineering. While in graduate schools I was a teaching assistant and later an adjunct physics professor at the community college in Columbia, SC.

I am a Army National Guard veteran, I enlisted in 1985 while in college and later graduated from officers candidate school in 1990. During my 11 years of service I was an infantry platoon leader.

Upon finishing my second masters degree, I began working for Northrop Grumman in Rolling Meadows, IL. I began as an engineer, moved onto business development and finally into program management. I left Northrop Grumman after 20 years to become an executive with DRS Daylight Solutions here in San Diego. I am the Vice President and deputy General Manager of DRS Daylight Defense. In this role I have overall profit and loss responsible for our defense business in San Diego, managing hundreds of millions of dollars of business. I lead multifunction teams across multiple business units dispersed across multiple states.

Within Area 5, I have volunteered as a Boy Scout leader, a Pop Warner Football Coach and Mustangs rugby coach for both the boys and girls teams. I have had a great deal of interaction with the youth of Area 5. As an active Scout leader, I receive direct feedback from our students on their successes and challenges in our middle and high schools.

I am the executive sponsor for my company's support of the Advanced Engineering Technology class as CCA. Through discussion about high school robotics with Tony Mauro (CCA engineering teacher) in 2018, I learned he was trying set up class to allow students to learn engineering from local companies, a pseudo-internship for high school students. Being a position to commit my company, I volunteered DRS Daylight Solutions to be the lead company for this partnership. We have conducted three successful terms of this program partial completed with the fourth term. In addition to being the executive sponsor, I have been one of the mentoring engineers for the third and fourth term of this class. This has allowed me to have detailed, weekly, interactions with students at CCA.

I also volunteered last fall as on the parents/professionals to review senior projects for 12th grade English at CCA.

In addition to having a strong academic education, I am also have as strong athletic education. While in high school I was not not only on the honor roll, I was a three sport per year varsity lettering athlete. Once leaving public schools I played semi-professional rugby for 17 years, including representation one step below the Olympic level. I am currently an avid sailboat racer.

I point out my eclectic background and interests to highlight the fact that I have the ability to see the world through multiple lenses. My diversity of backgrounds would be a benefit to the leadership of SDUHSD.

Why do you wish to serve on the Board? Please describe your leadership style and describe your approach to being one of five members of the Board.

I am an direct hands on leader. I have been trained through multiple military and business leadership programs on how to be an effective servant leader. My leadership training harkens back to days a youth where I earned the rank of Eagle Scout.

My ability to find innovative win-win solutions in the business world has prepared me to work well with governing Boards to set and maintain policies and standards. In fact a great deal of my professional life is spent doing the same.

I am a member of many steering committees inside my 6,000 person corporation, where we determine the paths of our business and compliance to laws and regulations.

What qualities do you believe are important for a School Board Member to possess? What skills, abilities, and experiences do you have that would allow you to successfully serve Area 5 and carry out your duties with the other four Trustees?

I believe a School Board Member should, as all leaders must, be open to multiple points of view and opinions, but ultimately has to have the courage of their own conflictions to make hard and sometimes unpopular decisions.

As outlined above I have 30 years experience at various levels of leadership and currently serve on several cross business unit teams similar in structure to School Board and supporting administration

Success in such distributed leadership structures requires one to find innovative win-win positions with all members of the leadership team, while not compromising ones principles. I have years of experience doing just that.

Describe your affiliation with SDUHSD. Please list your involvement in activities that demonstrate your understanding and support for public education and SDUHSD.

I have two children, one boy and one girl, that attend Canyon Crest Academy. Prior to that they both attended Pacific Trails MS. One child was on an IEP for ADHD and dyslexia, the other is a gifted honor/AP student. I have experience with both ends of the academic spectrum see in Area 5.

Both of my children are members of the CCA robotics team. This team has regular interactions with the robotics teams of the other three high schools in the district. I have personally volunteered to help judge the annual robotics competitions these teams compete in, along with other schools in the San Diego area.

What do you hope to accomplish? What are your short-term and long-term goals for the district? How would you propose solving some of these issues?

I hope to provide the SDUHSD Board additional leadership in these turbulent fiscally constrained time. I strongly believe we need to return our schools to a normalcy that has been missing over this past year. In order to best educate our children, we need to have them return to a structured, proven, on-campus

instructional model. I am please that the Board has decided to make on-campus instruction the standard for next year, however, this decision will require staunch support in the next several months.

In the long-term I want to ensure we operate in fiscally responsible manner, investing and divesting resources where required to ensure SDUHSD remains the premier school district in San Diego. Our schools are the bedrock of our community. We must ensure they are strong.

Explain the mission of the San Dieguito Union High School District.

To provide our students with the best possible preparation to become productive members of society. This has to be done by balance multiple competing priorities, but ultimately we must put our students first.

***One page of additional materials may be submitted. You will be required to sign into Google before you can upload a file (PDF only).**

None submitted.

Signature of Applicant

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink. The signature is cursive and appears to read "Paul S. [unclear]".

San Dieguito Union High School District Trustee Area 5 Applications

Name

Vic Wintriss

Years of Residence in the San Dieguito Union High School District

30

Describe your educational, professional, volunteer and/or public service background. Please elaborate how your experiences would best qualify you to serve as the Area 5 Trustee?

BEE, ME Cornell University, MSEE San Diego State University, Retired Commander, USN, San Diego Community College Instructor Credential, UCSD Extension Instructor, Junior Achievement 5th grade teacher, Computer Science teacher at The League Of Amazing Programmers, Carmel Valley Community Planning Board Member.

Why do you wish to serve on the Board? Please describe your leadership style and describe your approach to being one of five members of the Board.

Very interested in providing high-quality technical education to the under-served community. Team player, thoughtful.

What qualities do you believe are important for a School Board Member to possess? What skills, abilities, and experiences do you have that would allow you to successfully serve Area 5 and carry out your duties with the other four Trustees?

Past Board experience at Electronic Product Associates, Computer System Associates, Wintriss Engineering Corporation. Presently Treasurer at The League Of Amazing Programmers. Friendly persona...interested in smooth, cordial interaction among board members.

Describe your affiliation with SDUHSD. Please list your involvement in activities that demonstrate your understanding and support for public education and SDUHSD.

Former Encinitas resident, 12 years. Attended San Dieguito adult education classes. Casa de Amistad. Reality Changers.

What do you hope to accomplish? What are your short-term and long-term goals for the district? How would you propose solving some of these issues?

Support outstanding educational opportunities for local students, especially trade related education. Bring back practical, trade related classes that prepare high school students for the high-paying technical jobs available here in San Diego.

Explain the mission of the San Dieguito Union High School District.

To provide a world-class education for all students through quality programs that engage students, inspire achievement and service to others, prepare them to be lifelong learners and responsible members of society

*One page of additional materials may be submitted. You will be required to sign into Google before you can upload a file (PDF only).

None submitted.

Signature of Applicant



San Dieguito Union High School District Trustee Area 5 Applications

Name

Ty Humes

Years of Residence in the San Dieguito Union High School District

14 years and 2 months

Describe your educational, professional, volunteer and/or public service background. Please elaborate how your experiences would best qualify you to serve as the Area 5 Trustee?

My educational, professional, volunteer and public service record uniquely qualifies me to serve on the Board of Trustees. The reason for my strong belief in the aforementioned is rooted in the following. I was the Chairman and President of the Del Mar Schools Educational Foundation for 6 years (2011 -2017) and the architect of its STEAM Plus program. In addition, I served as a Board Director and Head of Fundraising for Volunteers of America Southwest where I was instrumental in the creation of 2 Charter Schools (El Centro and San Bernardino) and its Head Start program. Also, I have been a Board Director of the Del Mar Little League and on the Del Mar Schools Local Control and Accountability Plan Committee. Furthermore, I have coached and continue to coach Master Sports basketball and Friday Night Lights football and am on the Torrey Pines High School Dance Team Banquet Committee. In regards to my professional and educational curriculum vitae, I am a graduate of Syracuse University and am the CFO and part owner of Sercagene (a biotech pharmaceutical company here in Carmel Valley, which is owned by Theragene Pharmaceuticals where I served as the Chief Investment Officer. I also serve as the Executive and Global Head of Wondros, Inc. (an international creative agency).

Why do you wish to serve on the Board? Please describe your leadership style and describe your approach to being one of five members of the Board.

I wish to serve on the Board to first work in conjunction with the other four members to not only maintain an unparalleled level of excellence already in place but to augment and incrementally grow our ever-changing and diverse narrative and opportunity. My leadership style has been continuously described as that of a paradigm pioneer and facilitator. I do not have any problems with addressing and subsequently executing within the team environment and mandates of the constituency we serve, the families of the district. My entire life has been in a leadership role and in an always diverse one, at that, due to my presence in most cases as the only Black male (in the African American community you will usually find more Black women in leadership roles; thus, Black men in the aforementioned roles is not the norm but a rarity). I have served on the Board of Directors of for profit and non profit organizations, inclusive of school and educational incorporated entities and I am always in a position of executing a team approach leadership style with the ability to take the lead whenever required.

What qualities do you believe are important for a School Board Member to possess? What skills, abilities, and experiences do you have that would allow you to successfully serve Area 5 and carry out your duties with the other four Trustees?

I believe that a School Board Member should possess the following two main qualities. First, the ability to listen and learn from the constituency. Second, they must have the ability to interact and make themselves actively involved in all aspects of the community (failure usually results in unconscious bias). The skills, abilities and experiences that I have that will allow me to successfully serve Area 5 are as follows. One, I have already delivered 6 years of leadership in the Del Mar School District and grew the

financial and family participation levels to unparalleled tiers of success which they do enjoy until today and did not exist prior to my election and subsequent leadership. Two, I recruited educators from Area 5 to help build the educational infrastructure for underserved communities; thus, showing my comprehensive understanding of the talent and skills we have in the Area. Third, I have built numerous corporations, inclusive of Dearborn Financial (Warren Buffet), Wondros (Bob Dylan), Pacific Title (Warner Brothers, MGM), where I was specifically brought in by executive recruiters to restructure, maintain and design a culture for the future while working with the successful components that were already in place.

Describe your affiliation with SDUHSD. Please list your involvement in activities that demonstrate your understanding and support for public education and SDUHSD.

My affiliation with SDUHSD is two fold. First, my daughter is a freshman at Torrey Pines High School and on the dance team (both JV and Varsity). Since her start two years ago at Pacific Trail Middle Schools, my focus on support and family participation has been in SDUHSD. Second, I am on a member of the Commissioner's Office and Coach me son's team in the Friday Nights Light League. Over 98% of our team families have a child in SDUHSD middle and high schools and I consistently interact with them in regards to the role and impact that SDUHSD plays in their respective lives.

What do you hope to accomplish? What are your short-term and long-term goals for the district? How would you propose solving some of these issues?

I hope to accomplish the obvious and optical lack of diversity on the Board, which is to have a male of color who has diligently and comprehensively served this community. The short-term goal is to have the district re-emerge as a leader and pioneer in communicating and taking the leadership role in the County of San Diego (active leadership). The long-term goal is to be an integral voice and leader in the dynamic change that is required in an ever and immediate changing learning environment and curriculum. My unique experience and professional experience in building companies, culture and people will be the baseline of facilitating the aforementioned.

Explain the mission of the San Dieguito Union High School District.

The mission of the San Dieguito Union School District is to provision a world-class education for all students. This is inclusive of curriculum, facilities, culture, environment and dialogue. Subsequent to the foundation of the mission is to ensure that we are preparing our children to be infinite learners and responsible members of the world. Our main contribution to this will be our preparedness for the consistently changing learning platform that was not this dynamic 10 years ago.

***One page of additional materials may be submitted. You will be required to sign into Google before you can upload a file (PDF only).**

None submitted.

Signature of Applicant

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. J. ...', written over a white background.

San Dieguito Union High School District Trustee Area 5 Applications

Name

Alan Kholos

Years of Residence in the San Dieguito Union High School District

20

Describe your educational, professional, volunteer and/or public service background. Please elaborate how your experiences would best qualify you to serve as the Area 5 Trustee?

Educational

- B.S. Engineering from UCLA
- M.B.A from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
- J.D. from Loyola of Los Angeles Law School

Professional

- U.S. Air Force
 - o Human Factors Engineer designing computer-based education software used throughout Air

Training Command

- o Project officer for acquisition of satellite and space launch vehicles
- Judicial law clerk in federal district court
- Corporate attorney in two major international law firms representing technology companies
- Attorney and business leader in wireless, software and life sciences companies in San Diego
- Currently employed at Becton Dickinson (BD) in Carmel Valley, and recently completed 4-year assignment in Israel to acquire an Israeli medical device company

Public Service & Volunteer

- U.S. Air Force officer (7 years active duty, 13 years reserve duty)
- U.S. District Court: Judicial law clerk
- Congregation Beth Am: Executive Committee (2006-2011)
- Del Mar Union School District (DMUSD): Board of Trustees (elected 2012)

Serving the community on the DMUSD Board of Trustees provided me an in-depth knowledge of school board governance principles that were supplemented by educational opportunities with the California School Board Association. I learned how to work collaboratively with my fellow trustees, superintendent, staff, teachers, parents and students. These experiences are directly transferable to the important work on the SDUHSD Board of Trustees.

As a corporate attorney, I have extensive experience advising boards of directors on governance and principles of procedure for managing meetings. I have advised on litigation, mediation, personnel issues and contract relationships. As a business leader, I know how to set goals and priorities, manage budgets and finances, lead people, and organize efforts to achieve tangible results.

As a military officer, I learned how to stay cool under pressure, focus on the mission, serve with humility, and ignore politics that distract from achieving core objectives. In the military, we identify threats and

prepare contingency plans to address those threats. This is not unlike the threat of COVID-19 faced by our community. A well-functioning school district would have developed multiple contingencies in the face of uncertain and evolving scientific information. And our District should have contingency plans for adapting to the decrease of the current threat, and also prepare for new threats in the future based on current variants of COVID-19, as well as public health crises that may develop in the future.

In my work at Becton Dickinson, we have adapted quickly to the COVID-19 Pandemic by increasing production of IV infusion pumps for ICUs around the world, rapidly developed and deployed COVID-19 diagnostic tests, and produced more than 1 billion syringes to administer vaccines. Through our businesses and the healthcare industry customers we serve, I have experienced a crash course in responsibly reacting to the public health crisis of our time.

I welcome the opportunity to employ these experiences to make the SDUHSD Board of Trustees more effective.

Why do you wish to serve on the Board? Please describe your leadership style and describe your approach to being one of five members of the Board.

My family has a long tradition of service. My father served 34 years in the U.S. Air Force. I followed his lead by accepting a full ROTC scholarship to study engineering at UCLA, graduated with a regular commission, and served 7 years on active duty. More recently, I served on the Board of Trustees of the Del Mar Union School District (DMUSD). My wife is a Registered Nurse with a Master of Public Health degree, has worked in DMUSD, and also volunteered as a vaccinator at Petco Park.

I would be honored to continue serving our community on the Board of Trustees of the San Dieguito Union High School District (SDUHSD).

My leadership style has been influenced by my training and experience as an Air Force officer. I have learned that good leadership requires collaboration, professionalism, and a commitment to everyone on the team. My style has further evolved through my experiences as a service provider supporting various sizes of companies, and then as a business leader within various enterprises. My current company, Becton Dickinson employs a highly-matrixed organization that requires me to exercise influence – sometimes without direct authority – to lead teams to achieve results.

I enjoyed success on the DMUSD Board by utilizing my skills of teamwork and collaboration. Our Board developed a congenial and productive environment for the open exchange of ideas with each other, the Superintendent, staff, teachers, and the broader community.

If selected to join the SDUHSD Board, I would continue to focus on the following attributes:

- ability to listen and learn to understand the issues facing the District from the perspectives of students, teachers, staff, and the community;
- ability to engage in the constructive exchange of ideas without introducing personal biases;
- respect for the roles and responsibilities of teachers and staff, so that they may exercise their professional judgment;
- understanding the governance role of the Board as representatives of the stakeholder community; and
- always understanding how each decision may impact the students in the classroom and the learning environment we create at our schools.

I have never been politically active. This is a result of my experience as military officer and my roles with government affairs. In the military, we support the Commander-in-Chief regardless of political party or how we personally voted. In working on legislative issues, my job focused on the funding and deployment of space systems (e.g., Global Positioning System), and I worked with Congressional staff and visiting Members of Congress regardless of political party. In San Diego, I led the government affairs program for CareFusion Corporation. During the drafting of Affordable Care Act legislation in Congress, I focused on influencing the impact to medical technology companies in providing innovative solutions to patients and medical professionals, and met with representatives of both political parties. Being politically active would have hindered my effectiveness in these roles.

What qualities do you believe are important for a School Board Member to possess? What skills, abilities, and experiences do you have that would allow you to successfully serve Area 5 and carry out your duties with the other four Trustees?

I believe that an effective School Board Member should have the following qualities:

- ability to listen and learn to understand the issues facing the District from the perspectives of students, teachers, staff, and the community;
- ability to engage in the constructive exchange of ideas without introducing personal biases;
- respect for the roles and responsibilities of teachers and staff, so that they may exercise their professional judgment;
- understanding the governance role of the Board as representatives of the stakeholder community; and
- always understanding how each decision may impact the students in the classroom and the learning environment we create at our schools.

I would contribute the skills, abilities and experience that I previously demonstrated during my service on the DMUSD Board of Trustees, and learned from my training through the California School Board Association.

As an engineer, I bring a passion for science and technology education, and an understanding of technical issues related to the District's facilities, infrastructure and technology. As a corporate attorney, I bring a deep understanding of governance principles from advising boards of private and public companies, as well as legal principles and processes for contracts, dispute resolution and litigation. As a business professional, I know budget and finance processes, project management, human resource management, strategic planning, and communication with internal and external stakeholders. I also have experience working with state and federal legislators through my roles with the U.S. Air Force and Becton Dickinson. During my prior Board service, I utilized these skills while representing the District at the Legislative Action Network (LAN).

As a parent, I have a son and daughter who attended schools in the District, with my daughter currently at Canyon Crest Academy. And my wife Tina, who is a registered nurse, worked for DMUSD for 8 years. My family's involvement with the schools, parents and students in the community provides me with key insights on their expectations and needs.

Finally, during my recent overseas assignment, our children attended the American International School (AIS) in Israel with families from all over the world. I offered my advice to their board and leadership based on the best practices I learned from DMUSD. I also had the opportunity to learn from AIS parents and staff with their experiences at multiple schools across the U.S. and the world. I hope to bring these ideas back to our District.

Describe your affiliation with SDUHSD. Please list your involvement in activities that demonstrate your understanding and support for public education and SDUHSD.

I have lived in Trustee Area 5 of Carmel Valley for 20 years, and my children have attended Carmel Valley Middle School and Canyon Crest Academy (CCA). In 2019, I received my clearance from SDUHSD to work with the students on the CCA Robotics Team as a mentor for the FIRST Robotics Competition (which unfortunately cancelled due to COVID-19).

During my service on the DMUSD Board of Trustees, I attended an average of 20 public meetings per year, in addition to California School Board Association (CSBA) and Legislative Action Network (LAN) meetings, and individual meetings with the Superintendent, staff, teachers, parents and other Trustees from DMUSD and neighboring districts. Each meeting required varying levels of preparation and research, active engagement during meetings, and follow-up activities. I developed a deep understanding of the inner workings of DMUSD and the California system of public education.

Prior to the 2012 election for the DMUSD Board, I served on the DMUSD Financial Task Force. I also had the pleasure of participating in Veterans Day events at the schools and addressing student body assemblies in my Air Force uniform (which still fits me).

At the American International School in Israel, I served as an engineer mentor for the school's FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) team, and led the drive to raise funds to support their first-ever trip to the U.S. to compete at the FRC World Championships. I hope to continue my passion for STEAM+ education throughout SDUHSD. And given the opportunity, I'd like to contribute my knowledge of competitive speech, debate, parliamentary procedure, and Model United Nations learned during my high school and college experiences.

At DMUSD, I embraced the philosophy that everyone is in the business of education, even Board members. As a life-long learner, I made a personal commitment to meet with a different DMUSD department every month (in addition to our monthly school site visits as a Board). I also met with teachers to understand the challenges and opportunities they face in the classroom as educational professionals. I enjoyed attending CSBA meetings to learn best practices and develop a network of board member peers who shared ideas of addressing common problems facing our school districts.

As an "educator," I sought to share with staff some of the best practices I learned from other organizations where I have worked or volunteered. I also believe that we educate as role models through our words at actions at board meetings and meetings with individual stakeholders throughout the community.

What do you hope to accomplish? What are your short-term and long-term goals for the district? How would you propose solving some of these issues?

I hope to bring to the SDUHSD Board the positive governance principles that I developed on the DMUSD Board. By working as a team, we can confront the unique challenges from the COVID 19 Pandemic.

In the short term, the District needs to finish the 2020-21 school year on the accelerated path to normalcy, where students and teachers can have closure on a difficult year, and graduating seniors can feel a sense of accomplishment.

The District also needs to start planning for the beginning of a new school year that will be unlike any other. While we desire a return to “normal,” our students have developed different learning, study and engagement behaviors. We need to recognize those changes in our students and make the preparations to ease their transition back to the classroom and school sponsored activities, and re-engage them with interactive learning after a period of isolation. This may require increased investment in training for our teachers and staff, assessment of students after long periods of distance learning, and additional counseling support. We may also require contingency planning in the event of a resurgence of COVID related concerns, and strategies to accommodate families that either feel or do not feel comfortable returning to the classroom.

In the long term, we need to plan for the “new normal” the District will face in the next 2-3 years. We should review the strategic themes in the Education Plan from 2015, and update our strategy and goal priorities.

Similar to my experience on the DMUSD Board, I believe that the major issues confronting our District are (1) establishing proper funding priorities, and (2) promoting innovation in the delivery of instruction to our students.

Funding:

Our community members (whether or not they have a connection with the District) expect that taxpayer dollars are spent effectively to maintain one of the best school districts in California. Our parent community has grown to expect innovative education by top teachers in engaging classroom settings.

We have a challenging responsibility to balance these interests by (a) developing balanced budgets while (b) spending on near-term priorities, (c) planning for long-term infrastructure, and (d) maintaining an adequate funding reserve.

As I did for DMUSD, I commit to active engagement with the Superintendent and staff to understand all funding issues, and work collaboratively with community stakeholders and other members of the Board to have a transparent process for reviewing and approving responsible and thoughtful budgets.

Innovation:

Our District should have innovative instructional design and delivery to meet the need of our learners. This is important not only for our students and parent community, but to the high-class teaching professionals we seek to attract and retain in the District. Our facilities and technology infrastructure should be able to support our STEAM+ initiatives. And we should actively engage local businesses, community organizations and technology professionals to supplement these plans.

For better or worse, our response to COVID-19 have made us rethink how we use technology to engage and educate. Now is the time to learn from innovations by our District and other schools around the world, and apply new ways of doing business in our classrooms.

Collaboration:

Finally, we should all recognize that the past 15 months have been filled with uncertainty, fear and tension on how best to educate our students in a pandemic setting. Before we tackle long-term goals, we need to focus our energies in rebuilding trust between the stakeholders in our community who believe that SDUHSD can and should be the most functional and high-achieving school district in California.

Explain the mission of the San Dieguito Union High School District.

The SDUHSD Education Plan describes both:

- A mission to provide a world-class education for all students: Engaged, Inspired, Prepared; and
- A vision to provide a world-class education for all students through quality programs that engage students, inspire achievement and service to others; prepare them to be lifelong learners and responsible members of society.

Taken together, these statements articulate the important purpose and reason for the existence of SDUHSD.

SDUHSD has a well-deserved reputation as a leading public education institution in California and the U.S. Our community (whether they have students or not) has grown to expect the highest levels of engagement and achievement by our students.

I work at a company with a proud mission of "advancing the world of health." I want to see our students focusing on what they can do to repair or improve the world. I like to ask students not "what do you want to be?" - but rather "what problems of the world do you want to solve?" This helps us think about developing skills around a passion, instead of focusing on a specific job that may or may not exist when we complete the next chapter of our education.

As a Board member, I would continue to embrace the philosophy that everyone is in the business of education and would live the mission of SDUHSD. This means serving as a role model while performing duties as a trustee. I will also volunteer as a mentor for student activities where I have relevant experience in technology, law or business.

Finally, Board Policy 0000 recommends an annual review of the vision statement. During the next review, I recommend developing a vision statement that adopts a long-range vision of where we aspire to be in the future (e.g., one of the nation's leading high school districts that sets an example with the highest standards for delivering quality education to our students). We can also update our mission statement, and related goals areas, to address adjustments and learnings developed during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

***One page of additional materials may be submitted. You will be required to sign into Google before you can upload a file (PDF only).**

None submitted.

Signature of Applicant

San Dieguito Union High School District Trustee Area 5 Applications

Name

Jeffery Adler

Years of Residence in the San Dieguito Union High School District

2 years

Describe your educational, professional, volunteer and/or public service background. Please elaborate how your experiences would best qualify you to serve as the Area 5 Trustee?

I have a range of experiences that qualify me for this role.

My professional experiences include:

My work history includes domain expertise in budgeting, finance, operations, and strategy. Over the years, I have been actively involved in capital raising and building strategic partnerships with organizations and civic leaders of influence. Of particular strength is my ability to find common ground in places of seemingly irreconcilable conflict. I have direct experience with conflict resolution, and negotiate for win-win solutions.

I am currently the CEO of a virtual board education company, iProtean. In this capacity I work with over 500 hospital trustees across the country. My company produces virtual education micro-courses focused exclusively on board governance best practices. Accordingly, I have the privilege of working with multidisciplinary experts from across our nation on various governance subject matters, such as finance, mission, strategy, and innovation. This ongoing body of work provides a rich perspective on all things governance related, which will all me to serve the school board well.

My personal experiences include:

Active donor, contributor and supporter to a range of local charities in San Diego - including Challenged Athletes Foundation, Susan G. Komen, and the San Diego Autism Society.

I collaborate with higher education institutions such as UC San Diego, SDSU, and above all University of San Diego where I have helped launch a number of programs in conjunction with past and present deans to the Business School.

I was a Board member alongside Malin Burnham, at Destination Care, 2017-2019

Why do you wish to serve on the Board? Please describe your leadership style and describe your approach to being one of five members of the Board.

My company mantra is "Learn for Life." I am evangelical about all things learning - the power of curiosity, the power of free thinking, the power to imagine, the power to learn by doing, the power of personal experiences. Whether it be as high school class V-President, national president of the Organization of American States; Rotary International Ambassador of Goodwill Scholar; or University of Maryland Class Valedictorian - I have always cherished leadership platforms to inspire others to discover their capacity to learn. I'll always remember my 3rd grade teacher, Ms. Vaneski, who lobbied my parents to have me take 3rd grade over again, "We simply need to 'hold Jeffery back' - he's just not ready for 4th grade." She took me aside afterwards and said, "Every flower blooms when it's ready - don't you dare stop believing in yourself, Jeffery!" Looking back, Ms. Vaneski may have been the single best gift of my life - her insistence and propelled me to learn about the importance of hard work - to look at setbacks as setups for something better. And to believe in the power of possibility.

Fast forward to the present day, my leadership style consists of a few key ingredients: candor and directness; honesty and integrity; transparency; and moral conviction. I say what I mean and I mean what I say. But I also strive to build consensus and seek out ways to build bridges, not break them. I learned long ago never cut what you can untie, and this lesson has served me well in my life.

I recognize that I am but one member of a Board of 5 individuals, and that the Board acts as a whole. I will work to gain consensus wherever possible, but I am not afraid to be a leader. At the same time, if I am in the minority on any given issue, I recognize that the Board acts as a whole, and will support the majority.

My education has served me well in my life. I now am at a point where I am looking to give back to the community. Education is at the foundation of my success, and serving on a school board is where I have genuine interest and can make a significant impact.

What qualities do you believe are important for a School Board Member to possess? What skills, abilities, and experiences do you have that would allow you to successfully serve Area 5 and carry out your duties with the other four Trustees?

Building on question #2, there are three qualities that I can offer that I believe will be valuable to the board and the school district - particularly in these times of uncertainty:

The first is being a thoughtful listener to ideas from across all points of view. We won't make good decisions unless we listen to all constituents.

The second is being an individual that brings critical and sound judgment to the decision making process.

The third is having the conviction to take decisive action and make hard decisions, even if it means become disliked or disapproved of from some members of our community.

Describe your affiliation with SDUHSD. Please list your involvement in activities that demonstrate your understanding and support for public education and SDUHSD.

The fun activity that comes top of mind is my children's involvement in the water sports space as avid swimmer athletes and water polo players. Both our son Eric, a graduating senior at Torrey Pines, and our daughter Leah, a freshman at Torrey Pines, play organized sports. Water sports has been at the epicenter of their adolescent life, and as a family we've enjoyed countless memories participating in community events tied to the water sports here in the district.

My understanding on public education has been fortified through experiences at the University level, including UCSD where I maintained a business for several years. In that capacity I had a number of community outreach activities (charitable, education-lifting, and teaching) that collectively deepened my understanding of the institutional complexity and competing forces at play in driving change on a student campus.

What do you hope to accomplish? What are your short-term and long-term goals for the district? How would you propose solving some of these issues?

I have one single-minded goal: I want to inspire and enrich the lives of our kids. I recognize the last year was unthinkable painful and uncertain for students, parents, teachers, and staff. We must confront where we are at with the pandemic, and mission #1 is to get our kids back into the classroom - full-time, full classrooms, fully present - in mind and spirit. The bond of trust - student to teacher, student to student, student to school system - has been under stress. We need to get students back, get them re-

inspired, and replace their current cynicism with a renewed joy for learning. I will also work to rebuild the trust with our teachers. We have some of the best teachers around, and by rebuilding trust we can ensure our kids get the best education possible.

Beyond the pandemic, I look forward to working with the rest of the Board to creatively find ways to get the maximum benefit for our kids. We are a great school district, but can achieve even more through creative collaboration.

Explain the mission of the San Dieguito Union High School District.

The stated mission: provide a world-class education for all students through quality programs that engage students, inspire achievement and service to others; prepare them to be lifelong learners and responsible members of society

The bedrock of our mission promotes 3 words: “engaged, inspired, prepared”. The pandemic has put a strain on our ability as a District to fulfil this mission. Going forward we all have to work hard to get back to our core mission, but I’m confident we can get there. By fully embracing these three words, “Back To School”, we are back on our way to making this district a true “force for good.”

***One page of additional materials may be submitted. You will be required to sign into Google before you can upload a file (PDF only).**

None submitted.

Signature of Applicant

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal line extending to the right, ending in a small arrowhead.

San Dieguito Union High School District Trustee Area 5 Applications

Name

Lea Wolf

Years of Residence in the San Dieguito Union High School District

21 years

Describe your educational, professional, volunteer and/or public service background. Please elaborate how your experiences would best qualify you to serve as the Area 5 Trustee?

With the combination of my business and professional experience, educational credentials, and relentless advocacy for students, I introduce myself as the most qualified candidate to serve constituents as the Area 5 Trustee. My competencies and diverse background will infuse innovative, holistic visions at SDUHSD.

I have built a track record that focuses on innovation and child advocacy. I hold a BA in Financial Service, and an MBA in Entrepreneurship from San Diego State University. My professional career began on Wall Street as a software engineer developing financial applications. Upon moving to San Diego in 1997, I started a consulting company to help corporations transition outdated mainframe systems into new technologies.

Once family priorities shifted, I redefined myself. I co-founded Innolink, Inc to commercialize Israeli technologies in the US. Gaining expertise in the entrepreneurial world, I launched ventures surrounding social responsibility. I spearhead a human resources platform, iclique-in (www.haychamba.com), enabling blue-collar workers to connect with employers via bilingual texting.

I later pioneered women's networking events using concepts like respect, confidence, and trust to form intellectual-emotional connections. I developed the 7P's Method that made workshops interactive by shifting power to participants. I'd use this method to hear student needs and empower each stakeholder to contribute to our community.

Personal development workshops extended into professional development for managers and executives (www.iqnetinteractive.net). Working with corporate clients, I created a cross-cultural and collaborative communication method called e-LEADERSHIFT. With my certification as an ATD coach and experience, I coined FACE-IT to help clients discover their authentic self.

Seeing the world through my child's eyes sparked my passion for kids. Witnessing the pain of bullying impact my daughter and her friends, I applied my expertise to launch Deeds By Kids (www.deedsbykids.org), fostering child character development through community service projects. One project involved collecting bullying stories and establishing techniques to guide through adversity. Hundreds of stories revealed patterns that inspired another tool, SELF-Ex., guiding kids to speak assertively and act responsibly in five simple steps.

When my daughter was silenced for reporting harassment at her private school, I began scrupulous research and attended SDUHSD board meetings. I connected with parents in the district and formed a team who launched www.letspeakup.org to support families through Title IX issues. My research

report, *The Underground Practices that Normalize Child Abuse*, is currently transforming into a book entitled, *Act Responsibly*, through my recent venture, www.ICIARA.com, that integrates software and curriculum to prevent misconduct.

In 2018, I ran for school board (www.vote4lea.org) under the slogan “Empower Students to Lead and Succeed,” by prioritizing the whole student. I funded my own campaign, was endorsed by former SDUHSD Trustee John Salazar, and garnered approximately 2700 votes — while raising awareness that catering solely to the Teacher’s Union hurts our children.

My passion for social justice stems from my upbringing with Judeo-Christian philosophies. ‘Tikkun Olam,’ repairing the world for the collective good, is part of my vision for our community.

Why do you wish to serve on the Board? Please describe your leadership style and describe your approach to being one of five members of the Board.

I strive to bring positive, meaningful change to student’s matters under the motto that “A whole-student counts.” In 2017, I realized that children are the most vulnerable stakeholders in the school system. Decisions are not necessarily made in our kids’ best interests; they are at the mercy of the adults around them. In the past few years, I dedicated all my time to understanding the education system and its impact on kids.

I am poised to contribute new ideas and a fresh perspective to the SDUHSD community, where excellence is achieved by attending to the whole student. I hope to work together in creating a cohesive culture, where each stakeholder understands their roles and responsibilities to achieve community objectives. I strive to create a safe environment for open and honest communications where each stakeholder’s needs are considered to achieve a balance between personal goals, group achievements, and the collective good.

My style of leadership will certainly benefit the SDUHSD board. A method developed for managers and executives, e-LEADERSHIFT is a facilitative and collaborative method that engenders high-quality action plans by evaluating risks, resources, and support systems. Every element of e-LEADERSHIFT focuses on “purpose.” The “purpose” is collectively defined by the group, where “ONE: Objectives, Needs, and Expectations” are defined by every stakeholder to align a common mission:

- What is the objective? Why do we need it? Why is it important?
- What are the expected outcomes?

e-LEADERSHIFT is an acronym that delineates its methodology. To give brief insight, “L” stands for listening attentively to every relevant party, “E” stands for embracing differences and similarities, and “A” stands for asking questions with the intent to understand, clarify, and assess solutions. “I” stands for inspecting/integrating resources, and finally, “T” stands for transferring responsibilities to each stakeholder.

As a Russian Jew with Middle Eastern roots and raised in Israel, I was fortunate to experience an education that integrated experiential learning, community service, critical thinking, problem resolution, and academic excellence. I am confident in applying these innovative methods to enhance the SDUHSD student experience.

My immigration story is an important part of who I am today. As a teenager, I immigrated to the United States, first to New York where I lived in a basement with my parents and brothers. Life in Brooklyn

taught me humility while connecting with diverse ethnicities, religious affiliations, and communities, from ultra-orthodox to ultra-liberal.

Having lived in San Diego for the past 24 years, I am well versed in my community's evolution. I believe strongly that my cultural background will better represent SDUHSD's diverse socio-demographics due to my intimate understanding of diversity and inclusion.

Lastly, I am a candidate with no special relationships with any board members, and with no conflicts of interest with any group or political party. My focus is on student wellness and the collective good of our community through a formulated, process-oriented, and purpose-based vision.

What qualities do you believe are important for a School Board Member to possess? What skills, abilities, and experiences do you have that would allow you to successfully serve Area 5 and carry out your duties with the other four Trustees?

2021 is a pivotal year, especially for students and teachers amidst COVID-19, and a trustee must possess qualities that align with the role and its responsibilities. He/she must be:

1. A visionary
2. Trustworthy by leading with integrity
3. Independent and objective
4. Fiscally responsible
5. Process/solution-oriented to establish structure
6. Open-minded, collaborative, and balanced
7. An advocate for students and families

Trustees must ensure that each decision is made in students' best interests by seeing their perspective. All the while, the trustee must collaborate with stakeholders who promote SDUHSD's mission and vision, offering diverse opportunities for children to excel academically, explore their passions, and thrive socially and emotionally.

As a visionary, a trustee directs where stakeholders aligns their roles and responsibilities with the district's goals. That vision must unite the community under a cohesive culture where school is a safe environment for everyone. Norms, guidelines, and policies must be communicated clearly to all stakeholders. A trustee must ensure that the systems in place are enforced and that stakeholders are held accountable to restore trust and confidence.

Independence is paramount, free of relationships to special interest groups. Those conflicts of interest obscure judgment, depriving students from equal access to educational opportunities. To prioritize the needs our children, a trustee must remain objective while possessing a passion for students.

A trustee must possess skills to share effective resources, tools, and techniques to serve our 13,000 students, including those with special needs. My expertise in technology and financial applications will help streamline processes that monitor budgets. I aim to allocate more funds toward student success, such as leadership training and social-emotional workshops.

In order to achieve our vision, a trustee must communicate assertively, clearly, and respectfully. Adversity and conflicts are inevitable; controversy is 100% guaranteed. The questions that remain: How to bridge differences? How do to disagree respectfully? How to negotiate, influence, and compromise? How to have healthy debate to reach the best solutions?

I adhere to the philosophy that collective wisdom is greater than the wisdom of a few. I employ e-LEADERSHIFT to promote open and honest communication. It allows me to learn and understand others' perspectives by listening and questioning with intent. Through the years, this very tool enables me to facilitate conversations with opposing views and infuse them into new philosophies or ideas. A trustee who is principle-driven and solution-oriented will make high-quality decisions by assessing the risks/rewards of each.

All of us strive to protect our kids, ensure their safety, and help them achieve their dreams. A champion for students' rights who is confident in furthering our children's well-being brings tremendous credibility and trust to the board. Not only have I been a relentless advocate for students, but hold much knowledge of the inner workings at SDUHSD and government agencies. I am confident in my ability to navigate the system to yield beneficial outcomes for students, their families, and community members.

Describe your affiliation with SDUHSD. Please list your involvement in activities that demonstrate your understanding and support for public education and SDUHSD.

My affiliation with SDUHSD is as a relentless student advocate, a parent and a community member who has lived in the district for over 20 years. Making schools a better place begins with student safety and wellness. Over the past few years, I've dedicated my time, resources, and expertise to spark positive change at SDUHSD:

1. Just recently, I've closely worked with community members to gain an independent board that acts in students' best interests in mind. We gathered facts and data while I employed my knowledge of the public school system to bring about meaningful change.
2. From 2018 through 2021, I have supported families with diverse queries in education codes, Title IX, and guided them through various processes. I became an empowering resource for many community members, using my knowledge of the system to educate and guide them toward favorable outcomes. For example, I developed A Parent's Guide to File Grievances.
3. In 2019, I spearheaded a petition that informed students and their families of their right to opt-out of California State exams. That year, the CA State exams were being administered at the same time as AP exams, causing immense emotional distress and anxiety to students. Hundreds of opt-out forms were downloaded.
4. In 2019, I wrote a report on How to Improve Outcomes at SDUHSD, which I submitted to Dr. Haley and Dr. Gothold. The report is still relevant and can be applied in brainstorming sessions among SDUHSD leadership for potential long-term solutions.
5. I developed another report called the Underground Practices that Normalize Child Abuse, which identifies sexual assault and harassment cases. I educate parents and community members of these practices so they can manage these situations constructively and prevent further misconduct.
6. My track record speaks for itself. I've advocated extensively for students who were harshly punished in the district. From 2018 through 2021, I spoke at board meetings and helped behind the scenes whilst offering resources and support to families who reached out to me. I was also responsive to complaints filed on www.letspeakup.com and met with various SDUHSD administrators on behalf of students. I suggested ways to implement restorative justice methods, educational segments, and training to prevent abusive behaviors.

7. Before and during the pandemic, my support for the SDUHSD community has been unyielding. Over the past few years, I became a resource for community members to understand the SDUHSD culture and help reopen the schools safely.

What do you hope to accomplish? What are your short-term and long-term goals for the district? How would you propose solving some of these issues?

As a Trustee I will strive to work with all trustees to achieve SDUHSD's mission. My unique competencies and collaborative approaches aim to support our kids' success. The lockdown posed much emotional distress, depression, and anxiety that derailed many children. For this reason, my first goal is to help safely reopen schools fully. As a part of that, I would advocate for the board to provide faculty and families the option to return based on their personal circumstances.

Next, I would seek to address mental health of students on an ongoing basis, as students continue their transitions back into full-time, mainstream learning. New social-emotional programs can help return them the tools to overcome the travails of the pandemic's isolation.

Life and leadership skills shall be implemented to help kids on their journey ahead. I would implement workshops similar to one I recently developed, Be Your Own Advocate, that empowers children to address their needs confidently to make progress. I would introduce weekly sessions called Obstacles and Opportunities, where students will discover how challenges are the catalyst to confidence. In addition, I would envision ongoing effective personal development programs and leadership workshops, among other educational segments based on the needs of the community.

I will also implement effective professional leadership training, applicable to various stakeholders in the school system. Adults' roles in kids' lives have changed. Children no longer need us only for information; knowledge of a topic can be acquired through the click of a button. Kids today need adults to guide them to apply the information in their daily lives. Hence, parents, teachers, and administrators should develop skills in facilitation, coaching, mentoring, and active communication. Through diverse activities and interactions, students will be fully engaged inside and outside the classroom.

Another long-term goal of mine is to understand SDUHSD's assets, resources, and technologies. With my expertise, I will introduce innovative technological solutions with centralized qualitative and quantitative objective data. There should be a one-point-access, where institutional memory can be housed and accessed with ease. Technological platforms can help improve communication, transparency, accountability, and measure outcomes objectively to achieve our missions.

How can any of these goals be accomplished? My preferred approach to any solution is to establish a clear purpose, which I call "ONE--" Objectives, Needs, and Expected outcomes. When ONE is established, all stakeholders are aligned, and can swiftly begin the evaluation process. By collecting accurate data and facts, conducting research surveys and focus groups, and facilitating committees and other forums, we house more than enough information at our community's center. We would present the findings to all stakeholders for feedback. My e-LEADERSHIFT method will be applied to collaborating with fellow trustees and stakeholders to foster positive solutions. Afterward, each group can contribute to action plans with practical tools and support systems in place. Then, we submit the plan for review, garner feedback from relevant parties, and improve it until all parties sign off in agreement.

Explain the mission of the San Dieguito Union High School District.

The vision of SDUHSD is “to provide a world-class education for all students through quality programs that engage students, inspire achievement and service to others; prepare them to be lifelong learners and responsible members of society.”

Every community member and stakeholder should contribute to creating an environment where all students can reach their full potential. SDUHSD has done a phenomenal job in ranking highly in academics, however, we must continue improving to rank higher holistically. If children’s mental health continues to suffer, their performance will fall, their responsibility will plummet, and their aspirations will dim. The whole student must be accounted for not only on paper, but in action.

SDUHSD seeks to inspire students in achieving their aspirations, and I will do anything in my power to endow them with the tools to live their passions. Providing students with the necessary tools and resources to thrive, they can enter adulthood driven to be “lifelong learners” who are motivated to repair the world for the collective good. I share the vision of SDUHSD, however, we have yet to secure the well-rounded potential of our kids. With my competencies, professional experience, and diverse background, I believe that I can help integrate a more holistic vision into our community.

***One page of additional materials may be submitted. You will be required to sign into Google before you can upload a file (PDF only).**

See attached.

Signature of Applicant

lea wolf

Lea Wolf

lwolf@san.r.com 858.761.4941 5214 Seagrove Place, San Diego CA 92130

April 16, 2021

Dear Members of the Board of Trustees and Dr. Haley,

I'd like to thank each of you for your service to our community. I am grateful for your personal sacrifice over the past year as the District navigated through the uncertainty of COVID-19.

You all undertook a Herculean effort with the best of intentions and little precedence. You were each under immense pressure in trying to do right by both our students and their parents while securing the well-being of many adult employees at risk. I am grateful for your commitment and many hours invested to consider diverse perspectives in addressing each stakeholder.

It would be my honor to collaborate with each of you so we can find great solutions in the months ahead that support our student's wellness and academic success. I also deeply care about the district's employees and know that all of them should be treated with respect, dignity, and fairness.

My goal is to be your trusted colleague with open and honest communications where we infuse ideas into innovative solutions. I am committed to listening and learning from you, all the while contributing my competences so we can fulfill SDUHSD's mission and set the district's vision.

Together, as a team, we can put our best efforts forward and serve our community in good faith to earn their trust with highest integrity.

At this pivotal time, I believe my professional expertise and qualifications are most complementary to yours and are essential to strengthening student success.

I respectfully request your vote as the next Trustee for District 5.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of my application.

Respectfully,

Lea Wolf

San Dieguito Union High School District Trustee Area 5 Applications

Name

Julie Bronstein

Years of Residence in the San Dieguito Union High School District

16

Describe your educational, professional, volunteer and/or public service background. Please elaborate how your experiences would best qualify you to serve as the Area 5 Trustee?

Education: Patrick Henry High School (San Diego) graduate, 1986

Scripps College, BA, International Relations, 1990

USC, Master of Public Administration; focus: Intergovernmental Management, 1993

Professional:

UC San Diego - Executive Director of Development, Community Fundraising, 2016 – present

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion Committee for Advancement at UC San Diego, 2020 – present

Selected as Coaching Expert at UC San Diego, 2021

La Jolla Community Foundation (affiliate of The San Diego Foundation) – Executive Director – 2013 - 2016

Public service/volunteerism:

Autism Tree Project Foundation – Volunteer Advisor and Educator, 2007 - present

CCA Foundation Board member, Development Committee, 2019 – present

WASC Accreditation Process Community Focus Group member for CCA, 2018 - 2019

Parent representative for CCA COVID Safety Process, 2021

Volunteer for CCA Boys Basketball Team, 2018 - 2019

Volunteer for Girls Cross Country Team, 2019

Girl Scout troop leader, 2019 - present

Vista Hill Foundation, Mental Health Council, 2012 - present

Other:

Bilingual – Spanish

As a parent with two children currently attending schools in the district and a 2020 graduate, I am personally aware of the issues being faced by our schools and school district. My diverse background working in the nonprofit sector, in higher education, and as a longtime community volunteer provide me with the perspective, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills that will allow me to be an asset to the San Dieguito Union High School District. I am an optimist who is always focused on finding solutions to challenging issues. In addition, I believe my networking skills and connections would also serve as a benefit to the district. As a school board member, I will work to advocate and ensure that all students have access to the highest quality education and student experience possible.

Why do you wish to serve on the Board? Please describe your leadership style and describe your approach to being one of five members of the Board.

I am passionate about this district, and as a school board member I would be devoted to maintaining its academic integrity and high ranking schools for all students. I am the parent of two students currently attending schools in our district – one in middle school and one in high school and one who graduated from CCA last year. I also have personal experience with special education in SDUHSD and am personally invested in seeing the ongoing success of this district. My husband and I, along with our three children, have lived in Area 5 for the past 16 years. We are rooted in this community and this school district. Before living in Carmel Valley, I grew up in San Diego and graduated from Patrick Henry High School, a public school. I am firmly committed to fostering, growing, and cultivating public education in our community.

My leadership style is collaborative and inclusive. I am a problem solver who focuses on negotiating consensus on complex issues in a collaborative manner. Through a broad variety of board service opportunities and my position at UC San Diego, I have learned how to operate on a board in a productive and accountable manner which leads to results. My approach to being one of five members of the Board would be to focus on building consensus among my fellow trustees and on relying on district staff for their expertise and guidance. As described in the “Meeting Protocol” section of the board’s agendas, “The Board is a policy-making body whose actions are guided by the District’s vision, mission, and goals. Administration of the District is delegated to a professional administrative staff led by the Superintendent.” As a board member, I would focus on adhering to this best-practice approach with an eye toward positive impact and meaningful results for our students.

What qualities do you believe are important for a School Board Member to possess? What skills, abilities, and experiences do you have that would allow you to successfully serve Area 5 and carry out your duties with the other four Trustees?

It is critical for school board members to listen to the concerns of parents and students and to look for solutions to their concerns. As a strong advocate for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, I feel it is imperative for school board members to listen to and respect all voices in the district. I care passionately about strong public education, rigorous academics, athletics, STEM, the arts, mental health, special education, programs for English Learners, AVID, and Career-Tech Ed.

I am uniquely suited for this position based on my network and connections in the greater community which I will leverage to the benefit of students in SDUHSD. For example, given my work at UC San Diego, I have connections with faculty who focus on mental health in adolescents whom I can reach out to for access to resources and professionals who can assist with ensuring that our students’ mental health needs are being fully addressed. Since my children are attending two of the schools in Area 5 and one is a recent graduate of a school in Area 5, I have firsthand knowledge of what is working well in the schools and opportunities for growth.

As a school board member, I will be committed to being an effective fiduciary of taxpayer dollars and making sure that our Superintendent and district office are accountable to the public. The depth and breadth of my professional and volunteer experiences uniquely suit me for the role of school board trustee.

Describe your affiliation with SDUHSD. Please list your involvement in activities that demonstrate your understanding and support for public education and SDUHSD.

Firstly, my affiliation with SDUHSD is as a parent of three students in the district – one currently attending PTMS, one attending CCA, who graduated from CVMS, as well as a 2020 graduate of CCA. I have a personal interest in our schools and their top rankings. I have seen firsthand that the needs of all

students are vast and require different tracks of courses and experiences to inspire students to achieve their goals. The majority of families live in SDUHSD because of the quality of our schools and the future opportunities that a high quality education will provide.

I am also on the board of the CCA Foundation, where I serve on the development committee. In this position, I have provided strategic advice for our Giving Day campaigns which has led to a significant increase in monies raised over the past two years. I have a direct understanding of the importance of school foundations to enhance the academic, athletic, and social experience for students. I am firmly committed to the essential role foundations play at schools in our district. I also served on the WASC Accreditation Process Community Focus Group for CCA during the 2018 – 2019 academic year and as a parent representative for CCA's COVID Safety Process. My involvement with these volunteer activities has further developed my understanding of the multi-faceted nature of the schools within SDUHSD and the variety of issues which must be addressed by the district and schools.

What do you hope to accomplish? What are your short-term and long-term goals for the district? How would you propose solving some of these issues?

Given targeted and individualized support, I know every student can thrive. Our strength is in our educators and staff, students and their families. As a school board member, I will focus on pursuing a collaborative approach to our work and will rely on existing committees and advisory boards and ensure accountability for tasks. When a particular need is identified, I will consider additional opportunities for problem-solving and progress. Further, I will empower members of each of the afore-mentioned groups to provide their best ideas to help guide policy making. As Helen Keller said, "Alone we can do so little; together, we can do so much." By relying on the expertise of the significant number of intelligent, resourceful and compassionate members of our community, we will be able to lift up our students, the schools within the district, and the school district as a whole.

My goals include the following:

- Maintain the highest quality of education, extracurricular, and athletic programs at all of our schools.
- Ensure that the district is offering robust and meaningful programming for addressing students' mental health needs.
- Effectively allocate federal and state funding for maximum long-term impact for students and schools. Implementation could include enhanced summer school offerings for students experiencing learning loss due to the pandemic, improvements in technology, and professional development.
- Safeguard our tax dollars and serve as a watchdog over the district's budget.
- Become personally familiar with all ten schools in the district, their unique needs, and their goals for the future.
- Improve educational equity and maintain a high quality of education for students receiving special education services, English language learners, and low performing students.
- Expand opportunities for high-achieving students as needed.
- Guarantee that diverse students' voices are heard at board and district meetings and that their concerns are addressed.
- Ensure that the professional input of site area leaders and teachers is heard and recognized for its contribution to the excellence of our district.
- Secure high school foundations by providing the continued support they need in order to support our schools.

Explain the mission of the San Dieguito Union High School District.

The mission of SDUHSD is “to provide a world-class education for all students through quality programs that engage students, inspire achievement and service to others; prepare them to be lifelong learners and responsible members of society.”

“World-class education” and “quality programs.” To me, these words suggest that our schools are known for their academic excellence as demonstrated via test scores, college acceptance rates, high school graduation rates, course offerings, and more. These results are directly related to SDUHSD’s collaborative community of stakeholders, including the students, teachers, administrators, classified staff, parents, paraprofessionals, coaches, mentors, and community supporters. The mission of the district and role of the board connects all these stakeholders in meaningful and productive ways to support all students’ achievement. It must identify and support quality programs while recognizing that there are many complex and interrelated factors that impact those programs. Maintaining equity, access for all, high achievement, and balance is the mandate of every board member.

“Engage students, inspire achievement and service to others.” This speaks to the quality of our instructional program and the delivery of the “world-class education” described above. To engage and inspire students in classrooms, on athletic fields and courts, in extracurricular performances and competitions, in pursuing lifelong learning, in learning the importance of service and giving back, the mission of the district must be to create and support opportunities for all students to grow and succeed. This includes frequently updating and improving student resources, curricula, programs, and plans and using measurable goals and feedback from stakeholders. The district must be dedicated to the ongoing development of teaching staff, counselors, mentors, and administrators through professional development, collaborative working conditions, and layered accountability to identify and meet the needs of EVERY student.

The mission of the district is to support students, educational programs, teaching, and processes that support all learners in the development of skills, strengths, and character that go beyond the specific content of a given classroom. The board should work to apply the mission of the district to support students in learning how to learn, how to think critically, how to make meaning, and how to be responsible members of society. Like the district itself and the board that governs it, students need to be empowered to set goals and make plans to achieve them. In this way, graduates of SDUHSD will ultimately become productive and responsible members of society.

***One page of additional materials may be submitted. You will be required to sign into Google before you can upload a file (PDF only).**

See attached.

Signature of Applicant



Support for Julie Bronstein

“In the five years that I have worked with Julie Bronstein at UC San Diego, I have come to know her as a dedicated and experienced non-profit and educational leader. My three sons attended CVMS and CCA. In my 30+ year career in education, I recognize in Julie all the most important qualities needed on our district’s school board – knowledge, competence, empathy, passion, and commitment. Her experiences on the CCA Foundation Board, on the CCA WASC accreditation committee, and in supporting and leading non-profit and educational boards across our community make her an ideal candidate for the SDUHSD Board.” – Malcolm Aste, Senior Director of Development, UC San Diego

“Ms. Bronstein has been an ardent supporter and leader of the Vista Hill Council on Mental Health for more than a decade. Her strategic and collaborative methods to filling the unmet needs of special education students with intellectual and developmental disabilities has been invaluable to Vista Hill’s Stein Education Centers. We appreciate Julie’s empathetic and high-level of comprehension of the vulnerability of Vista Hill’s underserved populations and her proactive approach to resolving complex issues.” – Rachel Peniche, Executive Director, Friends of Vista Hill

“Julie has been such a guiding light for the Autism community since 2007. She has been a tireless advocate and leader in creating brighter futures for children with Autism and their families.” – Dayna Kay Hoff, MBA, Co-Founder & Volunteer Executive Director, Autism Tree Project Foundation

“I trust Julie’s perspective as a district parent, and her expertise in working in an educational institute will be tremendously valuable for the board. I have served on the CCA Foundation board with her and am very impressed with her positive, collaborative, and compassionate leadership style. She will make sure different views are heard and will be an excellent trustee on the SDUHSD board.” –Ying Yang, parent, CCA, Trustee Area 5

“Julie Bronstein brings both passion and perspective as a parent of three SDUHSD students to everything she does within this realm. Her dedication is evidenced by her involvement in the CCA Foundation, her participation in welcoming all students, and her willingness to volunteer in any capacity. She is a staunch supporter of teachers, public education, and particularly of special education. Julie’s wisdom, experience, and insight make her an asset to SDUHSD.” – Jennifer M.D. Ramirez, M. Ed., (she/her), CCA Special Education Department Chair, Licensed Be Body Positive Facilitator

“Julie is a great parent to three wonderful students who have attended CVMS, CCA and PTMS. She really cares about the quality of education for all students and can bring new perspectives and reasoned approaches to our school board.” – Negar & Bahman Yazdani, parents, PTMS and TPHS, Trustee Area 5

“Julie forms her opinions independently, using the best available information, and is an individual who is highly regarded within the community, through both her work at UC San Diego and through district volunteerism. As an advocate for all students, and a strong proponent of student mental health, Julie would be a fantastic addition to our school board.” – Patricia Lee, parent, TPHS and CCA, Trustee Area 5

“I’m happy to support Julie Bronstein as a school board candidate. Julie is dedicated to her community and is a poised advocate for issues she believes in.” – Emily Rubenstein Engel, MD, FAHS, FAAN, parent, CVMS, Trustee Area 5