

EAST SIDE UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Room
830 N. Capitol Avenue
San Jose, CA 95133

Citizens Advisory Committee Meetings
Provisional Appointment for Board Vacancy

AGENDA

January 12, 13 and 16, 2015

Beginning at 4:00 PM each day (*approximate end time 9 PM*)

Notice is hereby given that the Citizens Advisory Committee Meetings will be held on January 12, 13 and 16, 2015, beginning at 4:00 PM each day in the Board Room at 830 N. Capitol Avenue, San Jose, California, 95133.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance, disability-related modifications or accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in the public meeting of the Citizens Advisory Committee, please contact the office of the District Superintendent at (408) 347-5010. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accommodation and accessibility to this meeting. Upon request, the District shall also make available this agenda and all other public records associated with this meeting in appropriate alternative formats for persons with a disability.

1. Call to Order/ Roll Call

1.01 Roll Call

2. Welcome and Explanation to Audience by Board Member J. Manuel Herrera

Information explaining Citizens Advisory Committee meeting procedures and how citizens can address the Committee will be provided and/or read. Written information is located near the entrance to the Board Room.

3. Overview of Interview Process (January 12, 2015)

3.01 Briefing by Legal Counsel regarding Brown Act Provisions

3.02 Nomination/Selection of Citizens Advisory Committee Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

4. Public Members Who Wish to Address the Citizens Advisory Committee / Public Comment(s)

Any person may address the Citizens Advisory Committee on any item on the meeting agenda. Persons wishing to address the Committee must fill out a gold request form, which is located at the entrance of the Board Room. When your name is called, please come to the podium, state your name for the record, and limit your remarks to no more than two (2) minutes.

5. Interviews of Candidates and Nominees; Recommendation of Five (5) Finalists for Appointment to Board Vacancy

5.01 Committee conducts Interviews of Candidates and Nominees for Provisional Appointment to Board Vacancy

5.02 Committee Approves Recommendation of Five (5) Finalists for Interview by the Board of Trustees

6. Adjournment

INTERVIEW

QUESTIONS

East Side Union High School District
830 N. Capitol Avenue, San Jose, CA 95133

Community Advisory Committee
Board Vacancy Interview Questions

1. *Briefly share your previous experiences/involvement with the East Side Union High School District and/or other public school districts.*
2. *Briefly state why you are interested in serving as a Board Trustee for the East Side Union High School District.*
3. *Please state your vision for the future of public education. Identify three top issues you see facing the District in the next three to five years and your ideas for addressing those issues.*
4. *Briefly describe your perception of the role of an effective Board Trustee on a school board.*
5. *Please summarize your professional background and the qualities, experiences, and skills you possess that you believe will make you an effective Trustee and will contribute to the improvement of education in the East Side Union High School District.*
6. *Please give us a closing statement and provide any additional information that you would like to share with the Committee.*



Preparing every student to thrive in a global society.

East Side Union High School District Board of Trustees
Van Thi Le • Lan Nguyen • Frank Biehl • J. Manuel Herrera
Chris D. Funk, Superintendent

CANDIDATE

Tony Alexander

Tony Alexander

Cover letter

East Side Union High School District

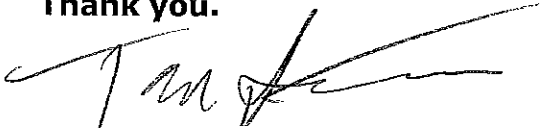
Nominations for Board Vacancy Seat

**Board of Trustees
East Side Union High School District
Re: Provisional Appointment Application
c/o Mary Guillen – Superintendent's Office
830 N. Capitol Avenue
San Jose, CA 95133**

I am a graduate of James Lick High School class of '78. I served on the Alum Rock Elementary School board as a Trustee for 3 years 1995-98 and was President of the Board in 1998. I am a past member of The Santa Clara County Committee on School District Organization as well as a past & founding Board member of the San Jose Conservation Corps.

I currently work as assistant to the President & Political Director for United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Local 5, the largest private sector union in Northern California. In this position I am responsible for working with the community and elected officials on local, State and Federal levels. I have a strong record of working together with all communities. I also have extensive experience working together with other Trustees and am quick to grasp new ideas as it relates to working as a team member. I am an active participant in the Eastside Union High School district community. My daughter is a freshman at Piedmont Hills High School and my two sons are graduates from the Eastside Union High School District. I believe in our kids, our district and the Eastside Union High District community. I will continue to serve and support our community.

Thank you.



**East Side Union High School District
Application for Board Vacancy Seat**

1. Briefly share your previous experiences/involvement with the East Side Union High School District and/or other public school districts.

I am a graduate of James Lick High School class of '78. I served on the Alum Rock Elementary School board as a Trustee for 3 years 1995-98 and was President of the Board in 1998. I am a past member of The Santa Clara County Committee on School District Organization as well as a past & founding Board member of the San Jose Conservation Corps.

I currently work as assistant to the President & Political Director for United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Local 5, the largest private sector union in Northern California.

2. Briefly state why you are interested in serving as a Board Trustee for the East Side Union High School District.

With my experience as a Trustee I believe I can hit the ground running working with the four other Eastside Trustees helping to serve the district students, employees and the Eastside Union High school district community. I was active as a student at James Lick serving on the Superintendent's advisory committee and also on the ASB student council. I have always been an active participant with my children's education. My son Brandon graduated from Silver Creek High School, my son Jordan graduated from Piedmont Hills High School in 2013 and my daughter Ashleigh is a freshman at Piedmont Hills High School. I want to continue to help my children as well as others to graduate and move on to higher education to be able to give back to the Eastside Union High School District and the community.

3. Please state your vision for the future of public education. Identify three top issues you see facing the District in the next three to five years and your ideas for addressing those issues.

- **Closing the student achievement gap/ Minority GPA working with our students of color to improve; continue working with the community through organizations that support our students by providing workshops in our schools to help our students. Working with other school board members in California and across the country learning, encouraging and participating in programs that help our students, education staff and community.**
- **Budget - Continue to lobby local, state and national elected officials assisting the district by getting more local control of our budgeting process.**
- **Policies and procedures – Continue to learn how we as trustees can continue to make good policy and procedures for our district, educate ourselves by attending local conferences and by taking advantage of participation in CSBA conferences to gain knowledge of new ways to improve policy.**

4. Briefly describe your perception of the role of an effective Board Trustee on a school board.

The Board consists of 5 individuals that work as a team through the Superintendent and their staff. We work together using our strengths from our connections from the community and life experiences. This helps us make good decisions regarding policies and procedures to serve the district students, employees and the Eastside Union High school district community.

5. Please summarize your professional background and the qualities, experiences, and skills you possess that you believe will make you an effective Trustee and will contribute to the improvement of education in the East Side Union High School District.

I work as the assistant to the President & Political Director for United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Local 5, the largest private sector union in Northern California. I understand how to work with the community and elected officials at the local, State and federal levels. Due to my role as a former Trustee and service as a former President Alum Rock school board 1995-98 I have experience working with other Trustees and will have a short learning curve. I live and participate in our Eastside Union High School District community. Yes, I am a graduate of James Lick High school and have raised two Eastside Union High school graduates and am currently raising an Eastside Union High School student in our home. I believe in our kids, our district and Eastside Union High district community. I continue to serve and support our community. I have a strong record working together with all communities. My letters of references are you. I have worked with most of you and I trust your judgment of the work you have seen me do with you or our community. I would be honored if you choose me to fill the Eastside Union High School District Board of Trustee vacancy.

CANDIDATE

Louis A. Barocio

LOUIS ALBERTO BAROCIO

January 5, 2015

To Whom It May Concern,

I am pleased to submit my application for the open vacancy in the East Side Union High School District Board. I believe my passion for positive change and equity will allow me to be an effective leader within your organization.

Presently, I am a bilingual Principal at Northwood Elementary School in the Berryessa Union School District in San Jose, CA. Before I worked in Berryessa, I was a student in both Berryessa and the Alum Rock Union School District. As a young student in the 4th grade I recall moving from Mayfair Elementary School (now known as Cesar Chavez Elementary School) in Alum Rock to Vinic Park in Berryessa. The difference in resources, adult support, and school climate was very evident and incredible. It was not until I attended college that I obtained the lenses to fully understand and name the "differences" I experienced as a child.

With that early experience in mind, I committed myself to focus my professional career and personal passion to ensuring that everyone in all communities has access and the opportunity to achieve academic excellence and to realize their life's work. This is not done overnight or by an individual. It requires discipline, leadership, and synergy at multiple levels and collaborative assistance by multiple people; all of which is something I work hard to accomplish everyday and in every action I make.

I look forward to providing you with further details regarding my experience, qualifications, and leadership abilities. Thank you for your time and I hope to hear from you shortly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'L. Barocio', written in black ink.

Louis A. Barocio

1. Briefly share your previous experiences/involvement with the East Side Union High School District and/or other public school districts.

My previous experience and involvement with East Side Union High School District (ESUHSD) goes as far back to the mid 1990s. I was a student of both Piedmont Hills High School (PHHS) from 1995 – 1997 as a freshman and sophomore, and Independence High School (IHS) from 1997 – 1999 as a junior and senior. During my academic tenure in ESUHSD I challenged myself by enrolling in various AP courses, was a student athlete, and held officer positions in school-sponsored clubs. Both schools prepared me well academically and prepared me to enroll as a freshman immediately after at the University of California – Berkeley (UCB).

While a student at UCB, I followed through on my commitment to give back to the school and community that gave me so much. Throughout my undergraduate experience, I would return to and give formal and informal talks to students, classes and clubs about the importance and best practices for college admission and life. I would assist students with dispelling myths about college and who gets to go, along with connecting them to the right people and offering informal guidance and direction.

As a professional, I also bring an extensive experience and involvement record with public school districts. My visits back to my community shaped that path. It did not take long after spending time with students and school personnel that wanted more for the next generation for me to decide to go into teaching. In my last year of undergrad, I was looking for a smooth transition back into my community as an educator and learned about Teach For America. Their vision of providing quality education for all students in predominantly low-income, communities of color grabbed my attention. I decided to apply and was fortunate enough to be accepted to teach middle school English and Social Studies at Lee Mathson Middle School in the Alum Rock Union School District (ARUSD), which is 2 blocks away from Cesar Chavez Elementary School where I was a student from 1st – 4th grade.

I learned a lot and enjoyed every minute of my teaching experience. While a teacher, I constantly collaborated with my colleagues and led my students to achieve significant growth. I wanted to do more and have a bigger impact on student achievement at a systems level. Subsequently, I pursued and received my Master in Education and Administrator's Credential at Teachers College, Columbia University in New York City. Upon my return from New York City, I went to work to fulfill my goal of creating a greater impact and applied for the Vice Principal position at Lee Mathson. Again, through hard work and collaboration, we made great strides in turning the school from a good school to a great school.

After two years of being a Vice Principal at Lee Mathson, I became Cureton Elementary School's Program Improvement (PI) Administrator and worked along side another great group of committed educators. That year we met all of our AYP and AMAO targets and set the foundation for exiting PI status the next year, which was extremely rewarding and exciting.

After a great year at Cureton, my professional career took me to Piedmont Middle School (PMS) in the Berryessa Union School District (BUSD); where yet again, I was brought back home and to the same middle school I attended as a student. While a Vice-Principal at PMS, I again applied everything I learned in Alum Rock and opened my mind to even more learning opportunities. While a Vice Principal at PMS, I maintained close communication with PHHS and IHS by attending monthly Safety Committee Meetings where I collaborated with ESUHSD site administrators, San Jose City Gang Task Force members, and San Jose City Police Officers. This role was especially rewarding to me because it connected me to my high school community and allowed me to assist in creating a safe educational environment for my students upon their middle school promotion.

Currently, I am in the middle of my second year as the Principal at Northwood Elementary School, a feeder Title 1 school in the Berryessa Union School District (BUSD) to ESUHSD. Along my professional journey in the East Side school systems, I have learned and gained a lot from colleagues, students, and community members and wish to continue to have a positive impact on as many students as possible in my community. Each step I have made has allowed me to have a greater impact on more students and I believe being on the ESUHSD Board of Trustees would allow me to do so at a district level.

2. Briefly state why you are interested in serving as a Board Trustee for the East Side Union High School District.

I am interested in serving as a Board Trustee for the ESUHSD to assist in fulfilling the district's vision and expectation for students to complete their K-12 experience ready for college and career. I am also interested in offering my years of professional experience as a former teacher and current administrator to support the Board's and District's current projects, measures, and policies. Everyday I see how district policy and the direction the Board takes on certain issues impacts the classroom and students. I am interested in being a part of that hard and honorable work for our students and community.

I also know the changing of the Board of Trustees mid-school year can be difficult and bring a level of uncertainty. By leveraging my first-hand knowledge and historical understanding of the educational system under No Child Left Behind (NCLB) and the new Common Core era, I believe I can offer the Board and District the smooth transition and stability it requires. I am optimistic that through my intimate understanding of the schooling system within and those feeding into ESUHSD I can support and collaborate with current Board members and educators throughout the system to support all our students.

3. Please state your vision for the future of public education. Identify three top issues you see facing the District in the next three to five year and your ideas for addressing those issues.

My vision for public education is for it to become a quality and sustainable system of excellent education that prepares all students to succeed in our diverse, 21st century academic and professional world.

Every school district is constantly working on addressing, resolving, and transforming itself to meet the needs of its students, community members educators, stakeholders, and partners. ESUHSD is no different. As a school leader, I have the opportunity to connect with many different people in our greater community and listen to their thoughts and perspectives. I am aware of many issues that need immediate attention and existing budget constraints. After data gathering and initiating input from the community, I would prioritize the following three areas of opportunities and possible next steps:

1. The first issue I identify as facing ESUHSD in the next three to five years is preparing students to meet the challenges of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). The implementation of these new standards is a national and state shift and I believe that ESUHSD can become the flagship high school district for others to learn from. There are many components to creating a strong foundation for Common Core so all students achieve great academic success. At the core, what is essential is the smooth roll out and clear implementation for the people in the front lines (teachers, paraprofessionals, instructional coaches, counselors) to cabinet level leaders (Superintendent, Assistant Superintendents, Directors, Coordinators). What is also necessary is to bring awareness to parents and support them in furthering their understanding of the new CCSS. By doing all the latter and more thoughtfully, I believe we have the opportunity to ensure that all our students will be college and career ready upon graduation.
2. The second issue facing ESUHSD is closing the opportunity gap. All students in ESUHSD, especially our historically lowest performing subgroups - Hispanics, African Americans, English Language Learners, Students with Disabilities, and Socio-Economically Disadvantaged students - can achieve the same high level of academic proficiency as their higher performing peers. and it is our responsibility to ensure they do. One such approach taken by the district through their LCAP plan was to create academic cohorts for underperforming African-American students in the district. Through similar identification of the areas of need and taking immediate action, other projects and initiatives like academic cohorts would raise the level of achievement for all students in the district.
3. The third issue I see facing ESUHSD is streamlining communication and alignment with its seven feeder elementary school districts by supporting the work they are doing through the East Side Alliance. Much of the academic success and what ESUHSD wants to accomplish with its students begins as early as Kindergarten and continues throughout their elementary and middle school educational experience.

4. Briefly describe your perception of the role of an effective Board Trustee on a school board.

As a former ESUHSD student, middle school teacher, and current Principal within ESUHSD boundaries, I have first-hand knowledge of what students need to

succeed. Through these experiences I believe I have the capacity and knowledge to effectively serve the students, staff, and families of as a Board Trustee.

I am also a long time resident of the East Side community and the father of a young child who will become an ESUHSD graduate. Like other parents in our district, I trust our schools to prepare my child with the experiences and tools necessary to be an engaged citizen, contributing member of society, and college and career ready. An effective Board Trustee can identify issues impacting parents, families, and community members and is resourceful in how they approach every situation.

Moreover, in order to fulfill the role and responsibilities on a school board, an effective Board Trustee must embody and act upon various beliefs, qualities, and characteristics. At the position's core, an effective Board Trustee must put students at the center of their work and build policies and systems that support their success. This enormous task is achieved by being a great listener, collaborator, mediator, communicator, innovator, critical thinker, and champion of the district's vision for its students, schools, stakeholders, and the community it serves.

5. Please summarize your professional background and the qualities, experiences, and skills you possess that you believe will make you an effective Trustee and will contribute to the improvement of education in the East Side Union High School District.

I feel I have the qualities, experiences, and skills needed to become an effective Board Trustee and know how to contribute to the improvement of the educational systems in ESUHSD. As I mentioned, I intimately know the ESUHSD educational landscape as a former classroom teacher and current Principal. I am wholeheartedly committed to the success of every student ESUHSD serves everyday. I am constantly listening and collaborating with teachers to provide them with valuable resources for their students. Ultimately, my entire career has been building my ability to best impact the education system and I would like to share that with the ESUHSD community.

LOUIS ALBERTO BAROCIO

EDUCATION

Columbia University, Teachers College

- ☛ M.A. Educational Leadership

Aug 2008
New York, NY

San José State University

- ☛ Multiple Subject Teacher Credentialing APEX Program

Dec 2005
San José, CA

University of California, Berkeley

- ☛ B.A. Sociology and B.A. American Studies: Urban Development (Honors)

May 2004
Berkeley, CA

PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS

California – Clear Administrative Services Credential

Renew Date: July 1, 2017

California – Clear Multiple Subject Teaching Credential (Includes CLAD)

Renew Date: Aug 1, 2015

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Berryessa Union School District

San José, CA

Principal, Northwood Elementary School

June 2013 – Present

- ☛ Lead school site's Instructional Leadership Team to create monthly professional development training for all staff
- ☛ Restructured school into two collaborative Professional Learning Communities (PLCs): K – 2nd grade and 3rd – 5th grade
- ☛ Created internal school website to improve communication and facilitate access to resources and key documents
- ☛ Reorganized computer labs school-wide and built one computer lab in every grade level pod
- ☛ Leading ST MIND online Jiji math program student completion percentage across the district
- ☛ Same responsibilities, duties, and expectations as Assistant Principal position in Berryessa Union School District

Assistant Principal, Piedmont Middle School

Oct 2011 – June 2013

- ☛ Collaborated with teachers, counselors, after school programs, truancy officers, campus police, and board members
- ☛ Observed, evaluated, and supervised teachers and staff at a Title 1 school and provide feedback and support
- ☛ Created and delivered multiple presentations on data analysis, English Learner instructional strategies, and school goals
- ☛ Disciplined and counseled students daily and build relationships with parents, guardians, and community partners
- ☛ Coordinated local and state assessments: CA English Language Development Test (CELDT) and CA State Test (CST)
- ☛ Followed the F.R.I.S.K. progressive discipline model during evaluation process of certificated and classified staff
- ☛ Promoted an equitable school culture where every student is recognized for their educational and personal achievements

San Leandro Unified School District

San Leandro, CA

Assistant Principal, John Muir Middle School

Aug 2011 – Oct 2011

- ☛ Supported staff in Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) and directed athletics program
- ☛ Same responsibilities, duties, and expectations as Assistant Principal position in Berryessa Union School District

Alum Rock Union School District

San José, CA

Program Improvement Administrator, Cureton Elementary School

July 2010 – June 2011

- ☛ Directed City Year corps program, PTA, School Site Council, Mouse Squad technology club, and VAPA committee
- ☛ Same responsibilities, duties, and expectations as Assistant Principal position in Berryessa Union School District

Principal, Special Education Extended School Year (ESY) Summer School Program

Sum 2009 & Sum 2010

- ☛ Ensured all aspects of a student's Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) were followed and implemented
- ☛ Same responsibilities, duties, and expectations as Assistant Principal position in Berryessa Union School District

Dean of Academic Affairs, Lee Mathson Middle School

Jun 2008 – July 2010

- ☛ Directed Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program, Math Data Team, and School Leadership Team
- ☛ Same responsibilities, duties, and expectations as Assistant Principal position in Berryessa Union School District

Teach For America Classroom Teacher, Lee Mathson Middle School

Aug 2004 – Jun 2008

- ☛ Taught 7th grade English Language Arts, Social Studies, and Math to students on a 7 period, extended school schedule
- ☛ Improved students reading comprehension level by 1.5 – 2+ grade levels in one school year

Los Angeles Unified School District*Watts, CA***Teach For America Classroom Teacher**, Samuel Gompers Middle School

July 2004- Aug 2004

- ☛ Taught middle school English Language Arts to students 3 - 4 years behind in reading comprehension
- ☛ Raised student's reading level by an average of .5 grade level in one summer

Chair, English Department, Lee Mathson Middle School

Sep 2007 – Jun 2008

Founder, Beginning and Veteran Teacher Mentorship Program, Lee Mathson Middle School

Sep 2006 – Jun 2007

Lead, English Language Learner Committee, Lee Mathson Middle School

Sep 2006 – Dec 2006

School Newspaper Advisor, Lee Mathson Middle School

Aug 2006 – Dec 2006

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Berryessa Union School District*San José, CA***Member**, District Technology Team

Aug 2013 - Present

- ☛ Recommend technology for district-wide purchase, attend technology presentations at district office, Google and Apple

Member, District Wellness Committee

Aug 2013 - Present

- ☛ Collaborate with director of Child Nutrition Services on updating district and school board nutrition and wellness policy

Member, District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC)

Oct 2011 – June 2013

- ☛ Advised and presented district English Language Learner policy and best practices to parents and district personnel

Alum Rock Union School District*San José, CA***Chair**, Kindercominata

Oct 2010 – June 2011

- ☛ Organized 1,500+ kindergarten students from 19 schools to attend an all day event at two local colleges

- ☛ Facilitate monthly committee meetings with kindergarten teachers, principals, and university Student Life directors

Co-Chair, Cesar E. Chavez March and Assembly

Jan 2010 – Mar 2010

- ☛ Organized a district-wide march and assembly involving 27 school and 1,000 elementary and middle school students

- ☛ Facilitated weekly committee meetings with principals and district office administrators

Teach For America (TFA)*San José and Los Angeles, CA***Curriculum Writer**, Los Angeles Summer Institute

Jan 2007 – May 2007

- ☛ Created and mapped out essential learning objectives for English language learners and at-risk students

- ☛ Designed diagnostic, formative, and summative assessments to monitor student academic progress

Corps Member Advisor, Los Angeles Summer Institute

Jun 2006 – Aug 2006

- ☛ Managed and mentored 12 newly inducted TFA Corps Members in a low performing, urban school in Los Angeles, CA

- ☛ Facilitated daily workshops on classroom management, instructional strategies, and educational leadership

Co-Chair, Bay Area Leadership Action Committee

Dec 2004 – Jun 2006

- ☛ Co-created monthly "Critical Conversations: Equity in Education" workshops for 200 TFA Bay Area corps members

- ☛ Organized "End of the Year Celebration" for 50 TFA teachers and 200 students at San José State University

Panelist, District Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services and Director of Technology interview panel

May 2013

Fellow, School Board Fellows Program

Aug 2009 – Jun 2010

Protégé, California Association of Latino Superintendents and Administrators Mentors Program

Mar 2009 – July 2011

Fellow, Pivot Learning Partners Leadership for Equity Program

Jun 2009 – June 2011

AWARDS AND HONORS

- ☛ Afterschool Partner Administrator Award, Santa Clara After School Collaborative
- ☛ Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE) keynote speaker
- ☛ San José Latino/a Role Model Conference panelist
- ☛ Hosted CA Superintendent Jack O'Connell for classroom visit
- ☛ Multicultural Education Award recipient, San José State University
- ☛ Teach For America Opening Ceremony keynote speaker

Oct 2014

Nov 2011

Oct 2009 & Oct 2010

Nov 2005

May 2005

Aug 2005

EXTRACURRICULAR

- ☛ Two-time T-Shirt Design Contest Winner, UC Berkeley
- ☛ Traditional Mexican Ballet Folklórico Performer, UC Berkeley
- ☛ Intramural Softball Team *Los Osos*, UC Berkeley

Oct 2003 & Oct 2004

Jan 2000 – May 2003

Jan 2002 – May 2002

CANDIDATE

Maribel Caballero

Mariel Caballero

Dear East Side Union High School District Board of Trustees:
830 North Capitol Avenue
San Jose, CA 95133

I was born and raised in East Side San Jose. I am a proud graduate of Mt. Pleasant High School, Santa Clara University and Golden Gate University. I work every day on behalf of the youth and families of Santa Clara County and I am excited to seek appointment to fill the vacancy on the East Side Union High School District Board.

My interest in education and public service dates back to my own school experience when my mother encouraged me to speak out on issues that I cared about at city council and school board meetings. In those days, I was concerned about access to library services, health and hygiene on school campuses, the quality of textbooks and access to arts education. I was blessed to have the support of some amazing teachers throughout my education who helped me shape my voice, taught me critical thinking skills and the importance of having a well-rounded education. The encouragement I received in my formative years set the tone by which I have guided my career in public service.

Over the last 12 years, I've been blessed to work for strong social justice/education leaders and organizations like Congressman Mike Honda, Supervisor Blanca Alvarado, the Santa Clara County Office of the Public Defender and the Probation Department. In my capacity with each of these offices and departments, I have been involved in education policy, juvenile justice policy, and the development of programs and services. Most importantly I strive to improve the lives of young people and families in Santa Clara County every day. Through this work, I have become more grounded in my passion and conviction that a strong education can raise our families and communities out of poverty, can support neighborhoods and improve access to health services. I strongly believe that all children deserve an education that engages and prepares them for the 21st century workforce. I would be honored to serve the students and families of the East Side Union High School District.

I currently serve as the Vice Chair of ESUHSD Citizen's Bond Oversight Committee and I have worked with ESUHSD high school administrators through the School Engagement and Suspension Alternatives Project (SESAP). I am a past President of the Latina Coalition of Silicon Valley and the Silicon Valley Young Democrats. I think that my public policy and program development skills, along with my unique ability to navigate systems and services will be an asset to the district. I appreciate your consideration of my application and I look forward to meeting with you through the interview process.

Thank you,



Mariel Caballero

1. Briefly share your previous experiences/involvement with the East Side Union High School District and/or other public school districts.

For approximately the last two years I have been a member of the ESUHSD Citizen's Bond Oversight Committee. I was elected Vice Chair at the most recent meeting of the Committee. The Committee is responsible for the oversight of appropriate spending of the parcel tax bond dollars. It has been an informative experience reviewing the financial documents related to the bond projects and touring the schools where improvements have been made. I've learned so much more about the district and have been excited to see the many needed improvements both structurally and technologically that have been implemented using local parcel tax dollars. I'm proud of the work of the committee, the district and the many people associated with the various projects. These improvements will have a lasting impact on the facilities where students learn and the way that they will engage in their education. I was interested in the work of this committee in particular because I feel that when students see improvements on their campuses they understand that their community values and invests in youth.

Beginning in 2010, as a Management Analyst with Santa Clara County Office of the Public Defender, I analyzed data related to suspensions and expulsions of youth throughout the County, which led to the development of the School Engagement and Suspension Alternatives Project (SESAP). The data showed that across the County, children of color and special needs children were more likely to be suspended, and for longer periods of time. With support from Supervisorial District 2, local and national education leaders and ESUHSD Administration, the Juvenile Justice System Collaborative Prevention and Programs Workgroup hosted a series of trainings and meetings with local educators and advocates regarding the importance of suspension alternatives and school engagement. Over the last two years, I have worked with administrators at five schools within ESUHSD to improve suspension alternatives, while encouraging that youth be held accountable for their actions, but when appropriate remain on campus. One of the overarching tenets of SESAP is that withholding education should never be a form of punishment. What I've learned from this project is that teachers and administrators need many tools at their disposal to work with youth that often have underlying trauma, or other unaddressed needs that can lead to behavior that is unacceptable and at times illegal. I firmly believe that a mistake should not be a dead end, but a learning experience.

Through the Santa Clara County School Linked Services (SLS) program I have worked with several school district administrators and staff, including Santa Clara Unified, Alum Rock Union and ESUHSD, as well as many others. From 2011-2013 I served on the Data and Evaluation Committee, looking at what measurements schools and service providers could collect to provide information regarding the impact of school linked services on youth and families. Since June 2013 I have served on the Parent Engagement Committee which has been tasked with identifying and promoting best practices related to the engagement of parents on school campuses and in the community. These best practices are currently being put into effect on campuses where a School Linked Coordinator is deployed to help connect youth and families to needed services. One of the many goals of

SLS is to improve the health, wellbeing and educational attainment of youth and families through access to and engagement in mental health and social services. The best way to reach these families is through the many people who interact with them on a school campus on a daily basis. Our hope is that by making the school the hub of the community we can build trust and encourage families to engage in needed services.

In the 2010-2011 school year as a Management Analyst with Santa Clara County Office of the Public Defender, I began working on the School Engagement Improvement Project (SEIP). A four-school pilot project, was formulated as a Pilot-Collaborative focused on reducing truancy, improving attendance, and improving schools' ability to engage students. Sponsored by the Santa Clara County Juvenile Justice Systems Collaborative and Department of Mental Health, this Pilot-Collaborative supported the development of innovative and targeted solutions to improve school attendance and reduce truancy on an individual school and classroom basis, as well as, strengthen student and family engagement at the middle school level. In June 2010 four schools, representing three school districts were selected from a competitive process to participate in SEIP. The identified schools in San Jose Unified School District, Alum Rock School District and Franklin McKinley School District each received \$62,500 to support their involvement in the pilot, particularly to enable hands-on teacher/staff participation. The SEIP school teams attended four collaborative learning sessions with experts on school engagement and the Model for Change. More information about the project can be found in the report on the Public Defender website at www.sccpdo.org.

During my employment with Congressman Mike Honda's Office, I worked with the Congressman and a local education consultant to conduct a series of research/policy interviews with school teachers, administrators and Special Education professionals regarding the impact of No Child Left Behind. These interviews were later used to shape the Congressman's legislative education initiatives and to help implement improvements to the NCLB legislation.

2. Briefly state why you are interested in serving as a Board Trustee for the East Side Union High School District.

I'm a proud graduate of Mt. Pleasant High School and I have had a long time interest in education policy. I've recognized the amazing impact that a quality education has had on my own life, first through my ability to attend college, practically loan free, and my ability to compete for and obtain jobs that have led to a career in public service. I want youth in my neighborhood and throughout San Jose to have the same quality education, from encouraging and caring teachers, that I experienced. Through my work with both the Santa Clara County Office of the Public Defender and the Probation Department, I've recognized youth that have fallen through the cracks in our school system and lack the encouragement at home or at school to choose a different path. The effects of their decisions have disastrous consequences on their ability to successfully contribute to society and improve their own life situations. Throughout my career my overarching goal has been to improve the lives of families and youth in our community. I think that serving on a school board is one of the most direct ways that a person can impact policies and

funding to create an education system that values all of our students and helps them discover the best version of themselves.

3. Please state your vision for the future of public education. Identify three top issues you see facing the District within the next five years and your ideas for addressing those issues.

I believe that a quality public education is the ultimate opportunity for young people. Regardless of race, ethnicity or socioeconomic status, it should be a place where youth feel engaged by the topics they are taught, learn critical and creative thinking skills that prepare them not only to enter the college of their choice, but thrive in an ever changing workforce. Public education is not only about memorizing dates, facts and figures, but about encouraging students to dream about what isn't possible today, but one day might be. A quality public education not only feeds a child's brain, but their soul by exposing them to wonderful works of art, music and books, but also places, people, and things that inspire them. A public education should strive to help create good global citizens that understand how their contributions impact their families, their friends and the world around them. A quality public education values and invests in every student.

I agree with the goals and key performance measures set out by the 2014 Strategic Plan adopted by the Board of Trustees. Three issues that are currently facing the district include, but are not limited to, the continued strain of standardized testing on teachers and students, re-engaging students who have been involved in the juvenile justice system or become chronically absent, and educating the future workforce for jobs that don't exist yet.

The continued strain of standardized testing on teachers and students has created learning environments that squash innovation. Increased support for teachers around competencies regarding the new common core standards through professional development, coaching and communities of learning should be a priority for the district. For both students and teachers, skills regarding stress relief and mindfulness can be extremely helpful in helping youth focus as well as give teachers and staff tools to manage their own personal wellbeing.

Both through my personal high school experience and through my work with the juvenile justice system I've seen many students who have been left behind by the education system. According to the County Office of Education, youth coming into the juvenile hall are between two and seven years behind their grade level peers. The district needs to do a better job to identify and remediate these gaps that primarily impact male youth of color. The modern public high school can't be a one-size fits all model, but must adapt to address the needs of all youth so that Silicon Valley can continue to have an educated and available work force. Innovative learning environments that increase the acceptance of project based work can be one step to alleviate the achievement gap. Technology based curriculums can be used to increase the ability of students to work at their own pace and impart missing concepts to catch a student up to grade level. Technology can also be used

to increase the capacity of teachers have to be hands on and project oriented, rather than lecture based.

Educating a generation of youth for jobs that don't exist yet is a difficult goal, it requires emphasis on critical and creative thinking skills, as well as the ability to collaborate with others. In my own professional experience half of my jobs didn't exist prior to my hiring. I had to have to the ability to evaluate my environment in a swift manner to create my own jobs specifications and performance measures. The critical thinking, problem solving and leadership skills that I developed in college gave me the foundation I needed to be successful in these endeavors. It was also the ability to study my environment and inquisitive nature that I honed in my formative years that gave me the skills needed to know where to begin. We should work to develop similar skills in students in order to empower a generation of employees that are ready to deal with any situation in an ever changing workforce. Students and teachers need to have room to be innovative and to make mistakes, because when we fail we often learn more than when we succeed. Learning communities, technology and project based curriculums are just some of the tools can help develop these needed skills.

4. Briefly describe your perception of the role of an effective Board Trustee on a school board.

Primarily an effective Board Trustee is someone who works well with others to accomplish the common goal of providing the best education possible for our youth, while valuing the teachers and staff. An effective Trustee takes the time to meet with people who are impacted by the education system, from teachers, students and parents, to business leaders and community members. A Trustee needs to listen to the experiences of our stakeholders, gather the necessary information needed to make tough decisions and to understand the outcomes that those decisions may have. An effective Trustee can balance their own personal experiences with the interests and needs of others, remaining true to the goal of improving public education.

5. Please summarize your professional background and the qualities, experiences, and skills you possess that you believe will make you an effective Trustee and will contribute to the improvement of education in the East Side Union High School District.

I've spent over 12 years in public service and throughout those years I've come to realize that the biggest impact we can have on society is educating and caring for our youth. My professional career has focused on the analysis of data to improve services and develop programs that fill gaps in the lives of youth and families. Whether it is the analysis of data related to suspensions, delivery of public defender services or examining the overrepresentation of youth of color in the juvenile justice system, my analytical skills have served me well in my decision making and program development. Over the course of my career I have had the opportunity to oversee the provision of millions of dollars in federal, state and local tax dollars for public safety and justice. Most recently I have

managed a budget of \$20 million annually for services for youth involved in the juvenile justice system. I've participated in the acquisition of multi-million dollar data management systems, and written scopes of works for request for proposals. These experiences have given me a unique understanding of the role that technology can play in improving lives as well as how to go about acquiring the personal goods and services needed to sustain a community. Throughout my career I've had the opportunity to convene, participate in and lead large collaborative efforts. Ultimately, it has been my ability to understand systems and navigate through bureaucracy that has allowed me to serve the community in which I live. I think all of these skills could be useful and beneficial to contributing to the improvement of education in the district.

The following community and county leaders support my application and attached is my resume for your consideration.

- Blanca Alvarado, former County Supervisor District 2
- Teresa Alvarado, past President & Founder Latina Coalition of Silicon Valley
- Chris Arriola, past President Santa Clara County La Raza Lawyers Association
- Andrea Flores Shelton, former Alum Rock School District Board Trustee and past President Latina Coalition of Silicon Valley
- Victor Garza, President, La Raza Roundtable
- La Raza Roundtable
- Molly O'Neal, Santa Clara County Public Defender
- Ellen Wheeler, Trustee, Mountain View Whisman School District

MARIEL CABALLERO

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Program Manager II, Violence Reduction Program, Probation Department 5/2013 – present

- Budget, manage and develop programs for state block grant funding in excess of \$20M annually
- Provide executive support in the areas of policy; board relations and liaison with community based organizations.
- Provide leadership and support in efforts related to Juvenile Justice Policy; specifically coordinate the Juvenile Justice Systems Collaborative Case Systems & Processing Work group and subcommittees.
- Support and staff city/county policy level collaborations at the intersection of juvenile justice, education, health, and community development.
- Identify needs and develop programs for out-of-custody youth served by the Probation department in the community.
- Develop Request for Proposals and participate in the procurement of goods and services for youth served by the Probation Department.
- Analyze and report data related to programs and services provided by the Juvenile Services Division of the Probation Department. With stakeholders, draft, publish and present the Juvenile Justice Annual Report.
- Assist in development and maintenance of evaluation plans and logic models for Juvenile Services Division programs and services.

Senior Management Analyst, Office of the Public Defender

San Jose, CA

4/2012 – 4/2013

- Provide executive support in the areas of policy and board relations.
- Provide leadership and support in efforts related to Juvenile Justice; specifically coordinate the Juvenile Justice Systems Collaborative Prevention and Programs Work group, the School Engagement Improvement Project and the School Engagement and Suspension Alternatives Project.
- Provide data and analytic support for the Juvenile Justice Systems Collaborative Prevention and Programs Work group.
- Provide technical, analytic and policy support in the areas of Criminal Justice Realignment (AB 109), Re-Entry Network and Three Strikes Reform.
- Develop and participate in the RFP process for a new case management system for the office, document work processes and research tech innovations.
- Participate in county-wide efforts to implement business technology that improves effectiveness and efficiency of county agencies.
- Implement and train attorney staff on the use of SharePoint for project collaboration.
- Duties listed below under Management Analyst.

Management Analyst, Office of the Public Defender

San Jose, CA

9/2008 – 3/2012

- Provide executive support in the areas of policy and board relations
- Develop and maintain databases for tracking of performance measures, development and analyses of performance measurement reports, including legal case data, caseload and case complexity, on a quarterly and annual basis.

- Review, analyze and revise current administrative policies and procedures.
- Conduct fiscal and statistical analyses to support management.
- Create, conduct, evaluate and provide analysis of surveys for management.
- Develop fiscal and personnel forecasts for management.
- Provide data and analytical support for the Juvenile Justice Systems Collaborative Prevention and Programs Workgroup – Core Team School Engagement Project.
- Special projects as assigned

Policy Aide, Office of County Supervisor Blanca Alvarado

San Jose, CA

6/2005 – 8/2008

- Provide the Supervisor with strong policy analysis on issues related to County government. Particularly in the areas of Public Safety and Justice, Children, Seniors and Families, Legislative Affairs, and First 5 Santa Clara County.
- Provide the Supervisor with budgetary analysis of the Public Safety and Justice departmental budgets totaling over \$600 million annually.
- Work with County staff on policy, constituent issues and large district projects.
- Develop positive working relationships with community members and stakeholders.
- Write memoranda.

Field Representative/Caseworker/Staff Assistant, Office of Congressman Mike Honda

Campbell, CA

6/2002-6/2005

- Served as policy aide to Congressman Honda on the following issues: education, defense, foreign affairs, middle east, energy, homeland security, labor, law enforcement, Latino issues.
- Drafted speeches for all events within the district on issues listed above.
- Established and maintained relationships with constituent and stakeholder groups within the district.
- Planned events and meetings related to the issues above including: yearly town halls, Superintendent’s Roundtable, Student Advisory Council bi-monthly meetings and yearly community presentations, and issue specific community meetings.
- Managed constituent inquiries to federal agencies.
- First point of contact with constituents for casework and policy questions.
- Recruited and supervised interns.

RECENT PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Children’s Agenda Vision Council	2013 – present
Children’s Summit Planning Committee	2014
Collective PRIDE: Promoting Respect, Inclusion, Diversity and Equality	2013 – present
Youth, Family & Community Engagement Committee, Chair	
Commercially & Sexually Exploited Children Committee	2013 – present
State Action Committee – Data & Protocol Development	
Juvenile Justice & Education Working Group	2014 – present
Opportunity Youth Partnership	2013 – present
San Jose Mayor’s Gang Prevention Task Force	
Interagency Subcommittee – Staff support	2008-present
Female Gang Intervention Program development	2014
Santa Clara County Juvenile Justice Systems Collaborative	
Case Systems & Processing Workgroup (CSP) Leadership Team	2013 – present
CSP – RAI Subcommittee Chair	2013 – present

95122 Committee	2013 – present
Prevention & Programs Workgroup (PPW) Leadership Team	2008 – present
PPW – School Engagement & Suspension Alternatives Project	2012-2014
PPW – School Engagement Improvement Initiative	2010-2011
Santa Clara County School Linked Services	
Data & Evaluation Subcommittee	2011-2013
Parent Engagement Subcommittee	2013 – present
Santa Clara County PBIS Leadership Team Member	2014 – present
Santa Clara County Office of Cultural Competency	
Strategic Plan on Youth Development	10/2014 – present

EDUCATION

Golden Gate University – San Francisco, CA	2008-2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Masters of Public Administration (EMPA) • Emphasis on budgeting and human resources • Capstone - Effective Justice: Performance Measure Usage and Technology Integration by Public Defense Providers 	
Santa Clara University – Santa Clara, CA	1998-2002
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor of Science, Political Science • Minors in Anthropology and Music 	
Santa Clara University – Casa de Solidaridad, El Salvador	Spring 2002
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immersion experience in Central America studying culture, religion and politics • Internship participating in community organizing and development • Senior project analyzing the effect of music on culture and politics of El Salvador 	
American University - Washington Semester Program	Fall 2000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Seminar in American Politics • Senior Thesis Disproportionate Minority Confinement of Death Row Inmates • Internship with the National Criminal Justice Association 	

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Glow Foundation, Volunteer	approx. 2012
SCU Class of 2002 Reunion Committee	2007, 2012
City of San Jose Project Diversity Commissioner	5/2007-2008
Latina Coalition of Silicon Valley Board Member	9/2002-6/2008
President	1/2006-6/2007
Treasurer	1/2005-12/2005
Secretary	9/2002-12/2005
Silicon Valley Young Democrats, President	7/2004-7/2005
Santa Clara University (SCU) Ambassador	2005-present
Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE) Latina Action Day Regional Leader	2013
Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE) Leadership Institute	2005

CANDIDATE

Pattie Cortese

January 5, 2015

Board of Trustees
East Side Union High School District
c/o: Mary Guillen – Superintendent's Office
830 N. Capitol Avenue
San Jose, CA 95133

Re: Provisional Appointment Application

Greetings Honorable Member of the ESUHSD Board of Trustees;

Thank you for the opportunity to be considered for an appointment to the board. High School is such a formative time in the lives of youth; I hold in very high regard the work you do as I understand the profound impact it can have on a person's whole life. I have lived in the district for over 20 years and through various roles have witnessed and participated in school-based programs that have made a real and lasting difference for kids. I've also built relationships with leaders in our community that can serve to enhance the effectiveness of education in our district.

I have had the pleasure of knowing each of you on the board for many years and, based on our interactions, I believe we share the same values. I welcome the opportunity to be a part of your team, working collaboratively to build consensus on what is best for the district. It would be an honor and a blessing to be able to join you, bringing with me my passion and dedication to the youth of this community.

Gratefully,



Pattie Cortese

**East Side Union High School District
Application for Board Vacancy Seat**

1. Briefly share your previous experiences/involvement with the East Side Union High School District and/or other public school districts.

My first direct experience with the East Side Union High School District was at Foothill High School in 1994 when my husband Dave Cortese, then a Trustee with ESUHSD, encouraged me to volunteer as a mentor with the Santa Clara County Youth Foundation—a nonprofit partner that was brought on campus to support at-risk youth in achieving their goals. The experience so profoundly impacted my life, I've been involved in that work in various capacities ever since. The program has been through several manifestations including California Community Partners for Youth (CCPY) and currently Bright Futures (a program of CTC). In addition to mentoring, some of these organizations have also provided afterschool programs at both Overfelt and Yerba Buena High Schools. This experience has given me a unique and personal view into the lives of some of the District's most challenged students.

Through my involvement in community politics and volunteer endeavors, my additional experience with the District includes positive relationships with current ESUHSD Trustees, as well as many teachers, administrators, union leaders, and parents. Outside the District, I have personal and positive relationships with elected officials at the City of San Jose, the County of Santa Clara, the State Legislature, and members of Congress, as well as nonprofits such as the Silicon Valley Education Foundation and the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, which have and can continue to help build strategic partnerships to support the District's mission.

2. Briefly state why you are interested in serving as a Board Trustee for the East Side Union High School District.

High school is a tumultuous time for many (if not most!) young people as they navigate this bridge from childhood to adulthood. This period is ripe for learning—academically as well as socially and emotionally. Kids in high school are beginning to discover who they are. I believe that our schools have a moral obligation to support all these areas of learning. In my experience, supporting students in their social and emotional growth also leads to greatly enhanced academic learning. One of my primary interests in serving on the Board of Trustees is to look at the District's student disciplinary policies and practices and the long-term impact they have. Given that our students are new to their emerging role as adults, they are going to make mistakes as they experiment with what works and doesn't work in achieving their aims in life. What do our policies and practices tell youth about making mistakes? Rather than punishing students for their mistakes, is there a way to allow the mistakes themselves to become learning opportunities? Can we look at a Restorative Justice model of disciplinary action to bring healing among victims, offenders and the community, so that each comes away actually strengthened by the experience? A restorative approach fosters integrity and accountability rather than shame and guilt, which tend to exacerbate future episodes of acting out and can disrupt academic efforts. Through healing the wounds of the past, students are empowered to look to the future with a greater sense of what's possible for them.

An additional interest in serving on the Board of Trustees is looking at how we can further enhance our students' educational experience through expanded partnerships with the larger community. How can businesses, nonprofit organizations, faith communities, and other

governmental entities participate in supporting our students' success? By cultivating relationships with the larger community, we can create or expand low- or no-cost programs that provide tutoring, mentoring, life skills training and mental health services on our own campuses. We can also look to these partnerships to create opportunities out in the community for our students such as internships and service learning experiences.

3. Please state your vision for the future of public education. Identify three top issues you see facing the District in the next three to five years and your ideas for addressing those issues.

Silicon Valley is the innovation capitol of the world. My vision for the future of public education in Silicon Valley includes bringing that spirit of innovation to our classrooms as well as our boardroom. For innovation to flourish we need a culture of openness to new ideas and the perspective of others, curiosity about what is possible, courage to take risks, encouragement when risks fail, and a commitment to not giving up. How can we use technology and the vastness of the Internet to support the learning experience of our students and the teaching experience of our teachers? We must look to all our stakeholders, including students, teachers and parents as well as the best practices of other educational entities, to answer these questions. To be sure, technology is transforming the way education is delivered and experienced.

Within this evolution in education, some key challenges remain, with the budget being among the greatest issues facing our District. Since funding for schools is primarily channeled through Sacramento, it is imperative to work with our legislators to ensure that education remains a top priority. Good governmental practices such as open communication and transparency as well as eliminating wasteful spending are also essential to foster trust with local voters/taxpayers who ultimately fund our schools.

Another important challenge is caring for our teachers. The constraints of the budget have impacted teachers who struggle with the Valley's high cost of living yet often augment limited classroom resources out of their own pockets. Teachers are where the rubber hits the road in terms of education delivery. It is imperative that we listen to their needs and do our best to address them. Most importantly they need to be included in the decision-making process. I am consistently amazed by the generosity and willingness to find solutions by people who experience being truly heard.

Lastly, student achievement is the District's sole purpose. Our schools need to demand excellence for—and from—all students, regardless of ethnicity, socio-economic conditions, or language skills. Examining performance measures for trends can help eliminate systemic biases, such as tracking students of color into certain courses or vocational paths. Looking to outside partnerships and restorative disciplinary models can help shore up the socio-emotional needs of low performing students, eliminating their internal barriers to success.

4. Briefly describe your perception of the role of an effective Board Trustee on a school board.

The role of an effective Board Trustee is ultimately to be a good steward of the public's resources and to ensure, through good policy and personnel decisions, excellence in service delivery, namely the education of our students. As in a business, the Board is accountable to its shareholders (taxpayers), its workforce (teachers and administrators) and its customers

(students and their parents). These are like the three legs of a stool and must be balanced in order to achieve stability and effectiveness. Collaboration with each of these “legs” as well as between board members themselves will, I believe, produce optimal results.

5. Please summarize your professional background and the qualities, experiences, and skills you possess that you believe will make you an effective Trustee and will contribute to the improvement of education in the East Side Union High School District.

I am a product of our public school system, graduating from Lynbrook High School in San Jose then attending DeAnza College for two years before transferring to San Jose State University where I received a Bachelor’s Degree in Occupational Therapy. Later, I earned a Master of Divinity in Interfaith Studies from the Center for Spiritual Enlightenment in San Jose, giving me a deep appreciation for the ethnic and religious diversity here in this Valley.

Professionally, I began my career with Catholic Charities in their Vocational Learning and Treatment Center, working with chronically mentally ill adults to gain skills and employment. From there I joined a high-tech laser and optics start-up called New Focus where I worked in customer service, facilities management and human resources for nearly ten years. Over the past several years, I have held several part-time positions primarily in volunteer recruitment.

My volunteer work has been a big focus over the last 20 years. Perhaps one of the most relevant experiences was working with the County of Santa Clara in the early 2000s to help implement their Restorative Justice Program in the Evergreen area. This program diverted youth first-time offenders away from the courts to Neighborhood Accountability Boards, who formed contracts with the young people to address the damage their actions caused to the victim, the community and to themselves. I was awed by the effectiveness of this program.

The bulk of my volunteer efforts have focused on teenage youth. Other past and present volunteer positions include:

- Bright Futures/CTC, mentor trainer and recruiter
- California Community Partners for Youth, mentor trainer and recruiter and advisory board member
- St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, youth and adult spirituality leader
- Restorative Justice Council for the Diocese of San Jose, board member
- Juvenile Hall Flower Program, volunteer coordinator
- Carry The Vision Community Nonviolence Conference, event manager and youth program coordinator
- South Bay Mentoring Coalition, co-founder
- Matsumoto Elementary School, classroom tutor and teacher’s aid

The skills I have gained through these various experiences include: community outreach and communication, volunteer recruitment, and fundraising. I look forward to the opportunity to apply these skills in serving our young people in the ESUHSD.

CANDIDATE

Toan Dang

Toan Dang

Toan Dang

To: **Board of Trustees**

East Side Union High School District
Re: Provisional Appointment Application
c/o: Mary Guillen – Superintendent's Office
830 N. Capitol Avenue, San Jose, CA 95133


I am writing to express my interest in serving as a Board Trustee for the East Side Union High School District.

Having been active in our children's school' PTA and other volunteer's activities, and concerned with many challenges and changes facing the District, our students, and their parents such as the adoption of the Common Core State Standards, the newly re-designed SAT over the next few years, I would be honored and interested in serving as a Board Trustee for the East Side Union High School District.

I trust my professional background and experiences working in the private sector combined with the strong interest in working with the District, our students, and their parents, I trust to be able to utilize my background and skills to add values and contribute to our School District.

Thank you and best regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "TOANDANG". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Toan Dang

Answers to the Questionnaire

1. Briefly share your previous experiences/involvement with the East Side Union High School District and/or other public school districts.

Having a ninth grade son and a sixth grade daughter while living near the Evergreen Valley High School (in the East Side Union High School District) and Carolyn Clark Elementary School (in the Evergreen School District), I having been involved with the above school districts as a concerned parent and volunteer participating in the following activities:

- an active member of the respective school PTA since 2006
- volunteering as a judge in the Speeches & Debates tournaments for Novices/Varsity Evergreen High School Teams in the 2014-2015 school year
- coaching Science Olympiads for eighth graders and fifth graders in 2014
- teaching One Hour of Code to introduce computer programming to six graders in 2014
- continuously coaching my son and daughter in their annual Science Fair projects from 2006 to present, and volunteering as a judge in the grade level competitions when requested

2. Briefly state why you are interested in serving as a Board Trustee for the East Side Union High School District.

The East Side Union High School District, its students and their parents are facing many changes in the upcoming years such as the adoption the Common Core State Standards and the newly re-designed SAT. As a concerned parent and active member in the PTA and other volunteer's activities in my children's school, and strongly believe I can utilize my professional knowledge and experiences working in the private sector to contribute and make an impact in serving as a Board Trustee for the East Side Union High School District.

3. Please state your vision for the future of public education. Identify three top issues you see facing the District in the next three to five years and your ideas for addressing those issues.

My vision for the future of public education is one in which every child from pre-school through college or trade school can learn and master the knowledge and skills that enable them to be productive and thrive in an increasingly global economy at an expense that a child and his/her parents could afford.

I identify the following three top issues facing the District in the next three to five years:

- Adopt and ensure successful transition to the Common Core State Standard
- Prepare students for the newly re-designed SAT
- Maintain sound and viable financial health in the District's operational budget

Regarding the successful transition and adoption of the Common Core State Standard, we need to ensure adequate teacher's training and development. Share and promote best practices in teaching and learning. Maintain open and up-to-date communication to keep students and parents of the changing requirements.

In preparing students for the newly re-designed SAT, create workshops, seminar to communicate and familiarize students and their parents of the new test requirements and formats. Organize regular trial tests to help students master the skills required to successfully handle and master the tests.

Maintaining sound and viable financial health in the District's annual operational budget requires a disciplined and continual mindset and approach to regularly review operational expenses to identify where cost reductions, innovations, and creative ideas can help eliminate wastes and inefficiency

4. Briefly describe your perception of the role of an effective Board Trustee on a school board.

In my opinion an effective Board Trustee through his/her engagement with the school board and their collective action and decisions:

- *Promotes and creates a safe, dynamic, and stimulating learning environment that inspires critical and independent thinking, innovation, academic rigor, and global awareness.*
- *Allocates and ensures adequate resources for teaching and learning. Promotes collaboration and cooperation among school districts and PTAs to ensure successful transitions among grade levels.*
- *Develops practices and ensure adherence to national, state, and local academic standards and requirement.*

5. Please summarize your professional background and the qualities, experiences, and skills you possess that you believe will make you an effective and will contribute to the improvement of education in the East Side Union High School District.

Majoring in *Electrical Engineering as an undergrad* and later attaining my MBA degree while working full time, I have been working as a computer-aided design engineer and later as a business systems analyst for more than twenty years in the high-tech and financial services industries, I possess

- the ability and skills required to work as a software and hardware engineer in developing the next generation of microprocessors that power virtually any electronic devices, or implementing the enterprise business applications that help a software or hardware company with its global workforce to design, manufacture, and market its products and continually improve its operational efficiency.
- an ability to work collaboratively and effectively in a team environment with diverse cultural and technical backgrounds, and often with competing priorities and constraining resources
- an appreciation for the importance of continually learning and mastering the science, technology, math, and engineering skills that are required of every student and later in every employee in order for them to thrive and remain competitive in a global economy.

On a personal level, having a high school freshman son and a six grade daughter, I can empathize with working parents with school age children as they learn to navigate the changing landscapes of curriculum standards and requirements. I am also motivated by the need to know how to guide and prepare my children academically and financially from high school to college

CANDIDATE

Alberto Galindo

Alberto Galindo

ESUHSD APPLICATION FOR BOARD VACANCY SEAT

My name is Alberto H. Galindo (Burt) and I am applying for the vacant seat on the Governing Board of the ESUHSD for the following reasons:

- 1. I have a BA and MA in Education (Educational Administration)**
 - a. 46 years of successful teaching/administration in grade levels 2-12**
 - b. 14 yrs. of teaching in Elementary education**
 - c. 6 years teaching in Middle School**
 - d. 6 yrs as V.P of discipline in Middle School**
 - e 20 years High School as a teacher of mathematics.**

I hope to bring this wealth of knowledge, insight and proven experience in all levels of Education to the Governing Board of ESUHSD, as it strives to give all of our students the requisite skills for success in the 21 st. century

Alberto H. Galindo

- 1. Briefly share your previous experiences/involvement with the East Side Union High School/or other public school districts.**

I have worked in two public school districts during my 46-year career. The first 14 years were spent in Berryessa Union School District including 6 years as a teacher's aide then as a classroom teacher in grade levels 2-8. In addition, I was a Vice Principal of discipline at two middle schools. A highlight of that experience was serving as the Vice President of the District's GATE parent advisory committee. Having written my master's thesis on "The Identification of Mentally Gifted Minorities" in 1985, my knowledge, insight and experience led to the implementation of more equitable participation by all ethnic groups and a dramatic change in curriculum and instruction in gifted and talented education that continues to thrive in Berryessa schools.

The remaining 20 years were spent at San Jose Unified School District as a middle school math teacher and then at San Jose High School as a mathematics teacher. In 2007, I was selected Teacher of the Year.

During this time, I was involved in implementing the Accelerated Schools Program in cooperation with Stanford University as well as the International Baccalaureate Program and the innovative and visionary Instructional Coach Strategic Plan for San Jose Unified School District. As an instructional coach it was my responsibility to assist teachers in my math department in improving their quality of curriculum and instruction using data driven analysis and directed teaching.

- 2. Briefly state why you are interested in serving as a Board Trustee for the East Side Union High School District.**

As a 30+ year resident of Evergreen, and with the educational experiences that I've had, I believe that I can provide the knowledge, insight and experience that is required of a Board Trustee to make policies and decisions for the improvement of the quality of curriculum and instruction in our high schools,

- 3. Please state your vision for the future of public education. Identify three top issues you see facing the District in the next three to five years and your ideas for addressing those issues.**

My vision for the future of public education is based upon the changes that I have observed during my lifetime and during my tenure as teacher, union leader and administrator.

I believe that, as our society becomes even more technology dependent, our students must have the requisite skills to compete in such an advancing global society. Gone are the days when students could graduate with a high school diploma and hope to gain the type of employment that would allow them to have the kind of life that we all aspire to. Having come from a background of migrant farm workers in Arizona and achieving the life I now have, can only be explained by the fact that I had the opportunity to gain a quality education. My vision for the future is to prepare our students in the same way.

In East Side Union High School District, I foresee 3 major issues that must be addressed.

- 1. Increased enrollment based on current immigration changes and trends**
- 2. Increased demand on educational changes in curriculum and instruction and class size as a result of that increased enrollment**
- 3. Labor strife**

It is clear that anticipation; a clear understanding of the issues and preparation are the keys to addressing each of these issues. Increased enrollment will require a plan to allow for the growth that is to come. Such things as opening new school(s) and changing boundaries will become necessary. A strategic plan for funding is an obvious initial solution.

The majority of new students will be Hispanic who will require a second look at the curriculum and methodology that they are taught. (A recent study (see attached document) indicated that 61 percent of Hispanic students repeated Algebra in East Side Union High School District and its feeder schools.) This serious condition must be addressed in a better way than that which is currently in effect.

As the demands in the classroom increase, teachers will be seeking to be compensated for the dramatic changes in the classroom and because of an ever-improving economy in the nation and California.

In San Jose Unified I was a union representative for 20 years and my recollection is that negotiations were relatively strife free. In looking back, I believe that was because of the willingness of the Administration

and the Board to provide transparency in all aspects of negotiations. Each side respected the other and tried to work in a collegial vs. an adversarial posture. I believe the same can be done in East Side Union High School District.

4 Please describe your perception of the role of an effective Board Trustee for the East Side Union High School District.

“The Board of Trustees and administrators of the East Side Union High School District are deeply committed to improving our schools. We are committed to providing support for each and every child to be successful, in school and in life. We are committed to giving our students the tools and skills to thrive in the global economy and to be life-long learners who can successfully adapt and contribute to society’s changes.”-ESUHSD Strategic Plan

It is my firm belief that a Board Trustee must make every effort to work with the other members to implement the basic tenets of the district’s Strategic Plan as stated above along with State mandates and Board policies.

As a teacher it was my responsibility to put into practice those decisions made by San Jose Unified School District Board Trustees. As a Board Trustee in East Side Union High School District, it would be my duty to help create such policies.

5. Please summarize your professional background and the qualities, experiences, and skills that you believe will make you an effective Trustee or will contribute to the improvement of education in the East Side Union High School District.

As an experienced and successful union leader, teacher/administrator of 46 years, I have developed leadership and communication skills both in the school environment as well as in the community. Teaching a diverse population has enabled me to learn about the concerns that parents have about the education of their students. As an administrator, I gained a unique perspective on leadership at the district level, in the schools, and of the responsibilities of the Board of Trustees.

I offer the unique knowledge, insight and expertise gained in those years.

Study: Nearly 45 Percent of Students in California District Repeat Algebra

By [Liana Heffin](#) on November 26, 2014 10:43 AM

More than four out of every 10 students in a California district repeated Algebra I, according to a **new study by the Regional Educational Laboratory West**. On average, repeating the course improved students' achievement—though high-performing students who repeated saw some declines.

The study, conducted for the federal Institute of Education Sciences, looked at six years of data from 3,400 students in the East Side Union High School District and its elementary feeder schools in San Jose, Calif. Researchers found that 44 percent of the students, who were in 7th grade when the study began in 2006, repeated Algebra 1. The percentage of repeaters was even higher among Hispanic students (61 percent), English-learners (57 percent), and students with special needs (70 percent).

The most common reasons for retaking the course were low test scores and grades, though not all students who repeated it were low-performers. Eight percent of students who received an A or a B the first time they took Algebra I ended up taking the course again the next year. And 3 percent of students who scored "advanced" on the state standardized Algebra I test retook the class.

On average, students improved by half a letter grade when they retook the course and nearly a third of a performance level on the state standardized test.

However, improvement varied based on how well students performed the first time they took Algebra I. The report states that students who initially received a low grade in Algebra I got a higher grade and higher test scores on average when they repeated. Yet students who initially received a high grade in Algebra I tended to receive higher test scores but a worse grade the second time around.

"For instance, a student with initial Algebra I grades between C and B may experience a decline in average grades of approximately 0.4 (almost half of a grade) but an improvement on average in CST [California Standards Test] performance levels of approximately 0.3," the report states. "Equipped with this information, educators can then decide whether a student with this particular prior achievement history should repeat the course."

The researchers write that more information is needed to determine why high-performers retook Algebra I. "For instance, repeating students may not have grasped certain content standards that the educators considered critical for success in future math classes," the study says. "A further study could analyze student performance on these content standards when students repeated the course,"

Categories: Math and Science Research

Tags: algebra math research

1 comment

Sort by: Oldest to Newest



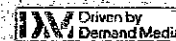
margosmathandmore

Score: 0

Report Abuse

8:31 AM on December 4, 2014

Did students repeat the course because they didn't have the necessary foundational skills such as being able to access memorized multiplication facts?



Ground Rules for Posting

We encourage lively debate, but please be respectful of others. Profanity and personal attacks are prohibited. By commenting, you are agreeing to abide by our user agreement. All comments are public.

CANDIDATE

Wm. Derek Grasty

Wm. Derek Grasty

Board of Trustees
East Side High School District, Silicon Valley
Re: Provisional Appointment Application
c/o Mary Guillen-Superintendent's Office
830 N. Capitol Avenue, San Jose, CA 95113

Wm. Derek Grasty

Dear Board of Trustees,

I am honored and privileged to submit my application for the vacant Board seat of the East Side High School District, Silicon Valley.

My experiences as an educator, community leader, and parent of two East Side graduates make me uniquely qualified for this appointment.

I currently serve on the East Side Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee and President of the Bella Madeira HOA and Mutual Water Company. My resume includes membership of District 8 Community Roundtable, LaRaza Roundtable, and 100 Black Men of Silicon Valley. I am also an educator with experience in two districts that feed into the District.

My on-going communication with parents, administrators, and community members of the East Side District has provided useful knowledge as to the needs of the District. I also have visited every school within the East Side District and seen first hand the new facilities and upgrades.

I support the the goal and mission of the district to prepare every student to thrive in our global society. Additionally, doing my part to ensure safe relevant learning environment that inspires all students to be problem-solvers and innovators.

My commitment and support will be toward the core values of Equity, Inclusiveness, Commitment to Excellence, Diversity, and Professional Capacity and the implementation of the East Side Strategic Plan.

In 2010, I ran for a school board seat and received an endorsement from the CSEA Foothills Chapter Local 187. During my campaign, I was an advocate for adoption of A-G requirements. Though I did not win the election, the ideas that I stood for were implemented.

I look forward to joining the East Side District Board and providing joint leadership as we move further into the 21st Century.

Educationally yours,

William Derek Grasty

Wm. Derek Grasty

- 1) Briefly share your previous your previous experiences/involvement with the East Side Union High School District and/or other public school districts.

I have 10 years experience with the East Side Union High School District. This includes being a parent of two high school graduates of the East Side District, serving on the local African American and Latino parent groups, and currently a member of the East Side Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee. I have volunteered at football games and scored at basketball games as my sons played sports. I support the sports programs at through the annual Crab Feed, the Silicon Valley Math Symposium with middle schools that feed into the East Side District. I am an educator that has served in two districts that feed into the East Side District. My experience with schools include serving on school site councils, English Language Advisory Councils, PTAs and numerous parent and community groups.

My experiences also include serving on classified and certificated (teacher rep.) negotiation teams, grant writing, and as a community liaison. I have also experience at managing school budgets, LCAP, Common Core State Standards, working at Title 1 schools, and communicating effectively with all community stakeholders.

- 2) Briefly state why you are interested in serving as a Board Trustee for the East Side Union High School District

I believe my experiences as an educator will add to the dynamic and diversity of the Board. I am a good listener and believe in the academic vision of the district. I am a life long educator and want to be able to share my knowledge and experiences that will make a positive impact on the students, teachers, employees parents and business community of the ESUHSD.

- 3) Please state your vision for the future of public education. Identify three top issues you see facing the District in the next three to five years and your ideas for addressing those issues.

The three top issues are: 1) remaining fiscally solvent, resolving contract negotiations in an equitable manner, 2) maintaining a top classified and certificated work force and 3) ensuring all students receive a quality education and are prepared for college and career, particularly high tech opportunities in silicon valley.

I believe these goals can be attained with open dialogue, collaboration, active listening and putting our students at the forefront of our decision making. Above all, we must have trust in how we relate to each other and all be on the same page and mission for district success.

Wm. Derek Grasty

My vision involves all stakeholders having a voice in the education, work and learning environment of our district, as we prepare our students for a global society. We will implement the LCAP requirements and look at creative ways to provide services for students, including library and counseling.

4) Briefly describe your perception of the role of an effective Board of Trustee on a school board.

An effective Board member is one that stays active in the community, is a willing listener to all stakeholders, and help make decisions in the best interest of the District. An effective Board member is flexible, and able to work with all Board members to achieve consensus and group success. Board members make policy and provide the governance necessary for a school district to be successful.

5) Please summarize your professional background and the qualities, experiences and skills you possess that you believe will make you an effective Trustee and will contribute to the improvement of education in the East Side Union High School District.

I have served as a teacher, teacher representative, school administrator, and student advocate for over twenty-five years. My background includes knowledge of curriculum and instruction, technology, and closing the opportunity gap.

My understanding of the needs of schools, students, teachers, administrators and the East Side Community will be an asset to the Board. My listening skills, willingness to work with all stake holders, and collaborative style will serve me well as a Trustee, as we move toward continuous improvement of our systems and educational programs.

CANDIDATE

Nga Huynh

Nga Huynh

January 5, 2015

Board of Trustees
East Side Union High School District
Re: Provisional Appointment Application
c/o: Mary Guillen – Superintendent's Office
830 N. Capitol Avenue
San Jose, CA 95133

Dear Board of Trustees:

I am a small business owner in the city of Santa Clara residing in the East Side Union High School District and am writing to apply for a position as Board Trustee. I have two small children that will one day become students in this school district and therefore have a vested interest in this school district and its ability to serve all the children in the community. Having lived in Santa Clara County, where my husband was a police officer for the Milpitas Police Department, I too hope to use my skills to contribute to our community and have a positive impact on local education.

For six years I worked as a substitute teacher for the San Jose Unified School District, some of that time was spent at Burnett Academy as a long-term substitute teacher. I was able to see firsthand the issues facing the schools, its administrators, teachers, including the effect board policy can have on the school and mostly our children.

My vision for the future of public education is one where all children regardless of their abilities and backgrounds will have the necessary tools to succeed in life. To that end, three top issues that face the school district in the next three to five years are technology changes, teacher retention, and budget cuts. These same three issues are intertwined in ways where any changes to one affects the other two. I think its through a fine balancing act that these three top issues can be resolved. First, by working with nearby tech companies and encouraging them to invest in technology infrastructure and access for our students can free up some funds to invest in hiring and keeping talented teachers. By making these early investments in teacher retention, the school board can look to passing bonds to ensure budget cuts are at a minimum and school programs that have been put in place, continue to be there for students.

I believe the role of an effective Board Trustee on the school board is one that has a desire to work toward building a strong and transparent relationship between the school district and the community it serves. That means meeting with stakeholders, asking the community for its input

in key decisions, and fostering an atmosphere of trust and dialogue between the community and the school system. I think its through this desire along with a belief in the democratic process, an unequivocal belief in the value of public education, respect for diverse view points, and a commitment toward serving the needs of all children that makes one an effective Board Trustee.

In my job as a small business owner, I have developed practical monetary skills that ensure my business is operational. I am also a vice chair commissioner for the City of San Jose. From this experience, I have navigated through different viewpoints and learned how to arrive at a best outcome for the group. In addition, I have worked at different schools throughout the San Jose Unified School District that have given me firsthand knowledge that each school has its own obstacles and challenges. Furthermore, I have had the opportunity to chair meetings and know how to operate under the Brown Act. I would now like to apply my experience and skills in working as a Board Trustee.

I believe I could make a substantial contribution to your Board if offered the opportunity. I hope to meet with the Board in person to discuss my qualifications for Board Trustee with the East Side Union High School District. I can be reached at

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nga Huynh

CANDIDATE

Merryl Kravitz

Merryl Kravitz

To Whom it May Concern:

By means of this letter, I respectfully declare my interest in the Governing Board position in East Side Union High School District. A life-time educator with experience in both K-12 education and teacher preparation, I bring a unique perspective to this position.

I began my career in Education at a community college in Albuquerque, New Mexico. There, teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) and Adult Basic Education (ABE), I first formulated my philosophy of education. I believe, even after 34 years of teaching and leadership in education, that all students can learn and all students are entitled to an excellent education to enhance their skills.

My next teaching experience took me to the “other side of the tracks” in Albuquerque, where I taught middle school Language Arts for twelve years. There I learned about curriculum, pedagogy, and, perhaps most important of all, addressing the needs of students.

During this period, I completed a license in Educational Administration. My program provided me insight into the functioning of schools, from school law, to business, to facilities and, of course, curriculum and personnel. Under the mentorship of the principal and the district coordinator of transportation, I applied the theories in the school and district office settings.

Teacher preparation at the university level called me away from the middle school classroom. At New Mexico Highlands University, I prepared teachers for the classroom setting. I taught primarily courses in Secondary Methods and Language Education. During that time, I also supervised student teachers in the classroom, thereby maintaining my currency in the schools.

My current position is that of Dean of Language Arts, Library and Learning Resources at Evergreen Valley College. Through this position, I have become acutely aware of the many needs of students in the area. From language education issues to mathematics instruction to transition to college and career readiness, I am well-versed in both challenges and solutions.

My educational background will also serve me well in the position on the Governing Board. I hold a Ph.D. in Educational Foundations/Linguistics, with a BA and MA in Anthropology/Linguistics. I have taught abroad as a Fulbright scholar and am bilingual in Spanish/English. Thus, I bring strong educational credentials, recognition as a scholar, sensitivity to diversity issues, and extensive quality experience in the field.

I enthusiastically respond to the questions posted for this position.

1. Briefly share your previous experiences/involvement with the East Side Union High School District and/or other public school districts.

Public school and education are my passion. I have a total of 34 years of experience in K-16 education, including middle school and high school teaching and teacher preparation. As a Professor of Education, I worked closely with the local schools to ensure currency of instruction and a teamed approach to teacher preparation. My relationship with the local schools was excellent. I knew most of the principals well and they felt comfortable calling on me at any time. Probably the most telling incident, however, was when I entered the middle school one day and the secretary announced, "You have mail". I valued that moment because I knew that I had become an integral part of that school, by virtue of the work that I did there, and the training that I did with them and for them.

Although I have not yet had the opportunity to work that closely with East Side Union High School District in my short 1-1/2 years in San José, I have served on an AB86 team that has met at the Adult School and also participated in planning for Early Childhood initiatives. I look forward to having the opportunity to serve East Side Union High School District, using skills and experiences I bring with me.

2. Briefly state why you are interested in serving as a Board Trustee for the East Side Union High School District.

Because of my long history in Education, I would enjoy the opportunity to continue to serve the educational community. I especially appreciate the multicultural nature of San José and value the diversity of the communities that East Side Union High School District serves. Finally, I would like to be a member of a team that helps move East Side Union District forward

3. Please state your vision for the future of public education. Identify three top issues you see facing the District in the next three to five years and your ideas for addressing those issues.

A product of exceptional public education, I am a true advocate for excellent education for all. I believe that public schools do a good job providing education to a very diverse population; but we should always strive to do better. I believe that the three top issues facing the District will be:

a. Closing the achievement gap

Not all students arrive at the school gate with the same preparation, experience, and background in education. It is incumbent on the school to bridge those gaps to ensure success for every student. In the case of San José, much of the gap can be attributed to language issues. In addition to English learners, there are many native English speakers who do not have the exposure to or facility with academic English. This is an area of strength for me and I would be excited to get involved in helping East Side Union High School District work to close that gap.

b. Continued professional development for the Common Core

The Common Core standards are still in the early stages of implementation. As tests that are aligned with the CCSS start to roll out, more professional development will

be needed for teachers and administrators. Again, this is an area with which I am very familiar, having presented Common Core standards to my students, prospective teachers, just a couple of years ago. Furthermore, my many years in the classroom have made me attuned to teacher issues and I would be a good listener as teachers identify their needs.

c. Achievement in the STEM fields

Living in the Silicon Valley has made me acutely aware of the math/science/engineering/technology needs of the area. A student with strong skills in any or all of these areas has excellent prospects for employment. However, in perusing the test scores in math for East Side Union High School District, it is apparent that many students struggle in this area. Developing and modifying curriculum, seeking additional grant funding, and providing professional development in the STEM fields will help East Side Union High School District meet the challenge of preparing students for careers and college programs in these fields.

d. Budget, financing and collaboration

When I taught Education classes at the college level, I asked my first-year students to design the ideal school. I gave them unlimited funds with which to work. Creative juices flowed and innovative ideas developed. In reality, every district struggles with finances and allocation of funds. One way to address this is through collaboration with other educational institutions, community organizations, and businesses. Partnerships within the community provide students with additional opportunities and experiences. Forging and maintaining such relationships will be one way to provide students with more for less.

4. *Briefly describe your perception of the role of an effective Board Trustee on a school board.*

An effective Board Trustee strives to improve the quality of education for every child who enters school in the district. With an eye on the target, he/she must make decisions as part of a team. One must act with honesty and integrity, be collaborative and a good listener. Finally, the Board Trustee must remember his/her role as a public servant, to meet the educational needs of the community.

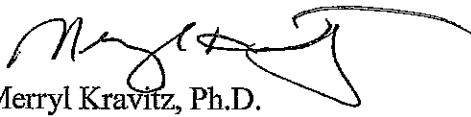
5. *Please summarize your professional background and the qualities, experiences, and skills you possess that you believe will make you an effective Trustee and will contribute to the improvement of education in the East Side Union High School District.*

As a Board Trustee, I will bring a wealth of background in the field of Education, both formal instruction and hands-on experience, in a variety of roles, from teacher to educational leader. I understand the issues, am current in the field, and recognize the importance of preparing high school students for the next stage of their life, college or career. I value collaboration and am known as a resourceful person, able to develop and nurture internal and external relationships that promote student success. I have worked with businesses, hospitals, other educational institutions, and community organizations to increase opportunities for students.

My Educational Administration background provides me with understanding of the budgeting process, legal issues, and leadership processes. My degrees in Anthropology and Linguistics, coupled with my extensive international experience, will ensure sensitivity to the diversity found in the East Side Union High School District. My fluent knowledge of Spanish will allow me to reach out to a large sector of the community served by ESUHSD. I will seek to do the same for all members of the community.

In short, I bring a wealth of educational background and experience to the position of Board Trustee. I would very much appreciate the opportunity to serve the ESUHSD.

Sincerely,



Meryll Kravitz, Ph.D.

CANDIDATE

Jose Lujano

Jose Lujano

José J. Lujano

Board of Trustees
East Side Union High School District
Re: Provisional Appointment Application
c/o: Mary Guillen – Superintendent's Office
830 N. Capitol Avenue, San Jose, CA 95133

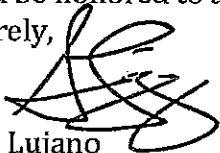
Dear Members of the Board of Trustees and Appointment Committee,

In the spring of 2010, I stood before the Board of Trustees as a student of W.C. Overfelt representing the first ever teach-out in protest of spending cuts to essential student services and staff. College-bound and with strong ambition to make an impact before graduation, my friends and I set out to send a message to the board that would resonate with them and other elected officials in Sacramento. It was in this occasion that I felt my passion for public service was ignited. With this in mind, I am here today to ask for your humble consideration to be appointed to this incredible board.

My dedication to my community has reflected in everything I have done since graduating from East Side schools. I care about being a good public servant that dedicates himself to communicating with constituents and collaborating with them to advance our community. Whether it is working for local Councilmembers, Assembly members, or the Mayor-elect, I have made it my purpose to better understand the way this community is organized and led, and will continue to grow. My efforts have allowed me to do some of the most fulfilling activities in my life and I hope to give back and to provide more opportunities to students across this district.

As a board member, I will fight to properly enact educational equity throughout all of our schools, informing parents and students about their rights and encouraging them to speak out and lead. Everyday, I will vigorously fight to identify and empower students seeking to grow their leadership potential, introducing them to incredible opportunities to get involved in their communities, and pair them with a functional alumni network of active members seeking to give back. In addition, I will encourage participation from neighborhood leaders and elected officials to form a strong "Role Model" program aimed at working with our at-risk students, helping them navigate through high school. I will seek collaboration across this district and across the state with people fighting for similar initiatives, ensuring that our impact is felt statewide and translates to meaningful reform. I submit this document to you in the hopes that current members are open to my collaborative spirit and fresh perspective. I humbly thank you for your consideration and would be honored to answer any questions from you.

Sincerely,



José J. Lujano

- 1) I have been educated by the very best East Side Schools possible. I was born and raised in San José and attended Alum Rock School District schools K-8. In 8th grade, I was encouraged to apply to Bellarmine College Preparatory by my middle school counselor because of its Jesuit reputation of creating men in service of others. While that certainly stood out to me, Principal Dino Certa of Overfelt High School approached me and told me that what Bellarmine offered me in curriculum, he could offer me in academic and personal development. I chose Overfelt and to this day I do not regret this decision. Early on, I knew that Overfelt was a perfect fit. Then Vice Principal Vito Chiala told me to seek out opportunities for growth because they would not come to me. I took his advice and subsequently joined the PUENTE project by running for their leadership program. The next year, I joined leadership and became very involved in extra curricular programs at school. Pretty soon, my normal school day went from 7am-3pm to 7am-7pm. In other words, my life revolved around Overfelt High School. Whether it was practicing for an assembly, preparing a fundraiser, or simply socializing on campus, I was there. After graduation, while I was certainly afraid of leaving behind my very comfortable high school life, I pursued a degree at Santa Clara University. Despite the difference in schooling, my separation from Overfelt would be short lived. Only one year into my college education, I went back to teach freshmen at the Camelot Summer Institute about Overfelt and its benefits to a fulfilling education. I continue to be in contact with my students, offering mentorship and life advice. I realized that this summer program was rewarding not only to my students, but also for me. For this reason, I returned to teach a few summers later. However, this time Overfelt was a different, more improved school. With a focus on small classes and academies, students now had a wide array of choices when it came to *their* education. The students I mentored understood this clearly and my responsibilities as a college tutor were focused on academic achievement and college preparation, two factors that I felt Overfelt was prepared to do now more than ever. Thanks to incredible administration, I learned about a great model for what makes schools successful and have carried that knowledge with me to this day.
- 2) Over the years, I have had the opportunity to observe a wonderful school board execute the incredible task of decreasing the achievement gap through a more equitable distribution of student services and professional development. These initiatives have led the district to improve great teacher retention and encouraged existing educators to be even better at their jobs. I am interested in joining this board because I would like to continue this legacy of progress and see that we innovate the way we conduct board initiatives that empower students and members of the community to get involved in the process.
- 3) This school board is in a very good place to cultivate leadership at all levels of the District, allowing everyone from students to parents to take ownership over their district and work together to improve it. My vision for this board is to grow upon the existing momentum by expanding our listening and learning campaign throughout the state, identifying common ground in school districts across the state and establishing or solidifying partnerships aimed at reforming education throughout the state. Our goals are not unique and today there are people fighting for similar reforms to school districts across California--we should work together. I

envision a district that builds its network of teacher recruitment programs, while also striving to recruit educators that not only wholeheartedly seek to make a difference in a community of need like East Side, but are prepared to lead on and educate students from this very unique community. In order to do this, we will leverage our existing partnerships and demand more from existing teaching programs. We will seek out innovative partnerships with universities with current teaching programs and learn about their curriculum and suggest ways it can be improved to fit the model of the East Side Union High School District in order to recruit more prepared educators. Furthermore, I would like to build up the fiscal capacity to *pay* these teachers and teachers seeking to improve their skills. Educators give their all in the classroom, and while that work is priceless, I would seek to compensate them for their services accordingly. If this means negotiations with labor unions and teacher leaders, I welcome this challenge with the common principle being to increase student educational opportunity. Additionally, I envision a district that is directly involved in the creation of a universal preschool program, working with legislators across the state to achieve quality preschool services with a high priority on high-need areas like East San José. While this is a monumental task, the momentum towards this happening is present, and I plan to leverage every partnership possible and create new partnerships to see that our board is leading the conversation to make this happen. Lastly, there is a significant movement to localize educational reform. I believe wholeheartedly that, in conjunction with statewide partnerships for reform, we can work towards strengthening our high school communities and making school-specific communities. Walking into our high schools should epitomize the epicenter of a budding community development effort that is centralized on education. Pretty soon, the East Side area once known for crime and poverty will turn into unique school-specific pockets of revitalization identifiable by the nearest high school. We could work with our local elected officials to carry out these changes to our image with the focus on educational achievement of students belonging to each distinct community. This goes a long way towards achieving a sustainable, active, community.

- 4) A school board member should have the knowledge to understand the way students see things. He or she should be able to communicate with students what their role is in a successful school environment, and what the board is doing to ensure that their education is the best possible. A good board member empowers students to be leaders to act, making sure that there are appropriate venues for leadership to develop. When I first started meeting elected officials to tell them my story and the stories of others in the East Side, a board member took me under his wing and helped develop me into a more effective leader. Because of this board member, I felt confident that my voice mattered. Truly, that makes all the difference to students, someone simply showing an interest in their well-being. A sound grounding in educational policy is extremely necessary, but this knowledge can, and should be, grounded in the reality of what it is like to live and learn in San José's diverse communities. It is even more important for a Board appointee to take into consideration the great amount of work that is being put into alleviating many of the issues this community cares about. I do not doubt that all members of the board care about increasing the quality of education in the East Side; however, we also

have to reach a growing population that has even more options than before in terms of what school environment is available to them. This means being open to learning from competitors to ensure best practices are met. Collaboration and active listening are essential for a trustee, and I promise to bring these qualities to this board.

- 5) I am a student at heart, eager to learn from as many people as I possibly can. The day I cease to learn is the day I die. This mentality has led me to seek out growth opportunities at every step of my career. Throughout my four years of college, I was honored to serve at many levels of government. This led me to an astute understanding of our city, county, state, and federal governments. I participated in the very competitive Panetta Congressional Internship program where I learned from leaders of every policy and industry relevant to the gridlock we see in today's government. Former Superintendent Jack O'Connell remarked that our current educational system depends on student leaders who have lived through the budget cuts and the skyrocketing tuition costs to lead with a different perspective. I believe this is the perspective I bring. I have never been dissuaded to a challenge because of a potential loss; contrarily, it is a step in the right direction. Though I have failed many times, it has humbled me to focus on my existing priorities and center myself as to why I sought out public service in the first place. I want to help my community and make it better, starting with our community's assets. Our students have the *ganas* to succeed, and this desire to seek out success should be supplanted by a board that gives them resources to succeed. My story is not unique, it is chronic in the many students seeking out their voice in pursuit of success. My experiences have led me to the most life-fulfilling experiences of my life, and I'd like to lend a hand in making this happen for as many students like me. In my role as a policy analyst for Mayor Sam Liccardo, I will focus on increasing educational opportunities for students in the East Side, since it is a top priority for Mayor Liccardo's administration, and my own goals as well. I would welcome a partnership between the Mayor and this District to serve this unique constituency.

CANDIDATE

Patricia

Martinez-Roach

Patricia Martinez-Roach

January 5, 2015

Board of Trustees

East Side Union High School District

Re: Provisional Appointment Application

c/o: Mary Guillen – Superintendent's Office

830 N. Capitol Avenue, San Jose, CA 95133

Dear Members of the Board,

Please accept this application as a formal request to be considered for the provisional appointment to the Board of Trustees vacancy.

I am very honored and humbled to have received over the years, many votes from the community which I live, work and volunteer for. This past election, I received over 28,000 votes without campaigning (only Facebook).

Being on a school board is not an easy job and I know firsthand the dedication and time commitment needed in order to represent the district well.

I am prepared, experienced and most importantly, I love East Side!

Sincerely,

Patricia Martinez-Roach

Patricia Martinez-Roach, candidate for consideration for nomination of a provisional appointment to fill the vacated seat on the Governing Board of the East Side Union High School District.

1. Briefly share your previous experiences/involvement with the East Side Union High School District and/or other public school districts.

I had the honor of being elected and serving on the East Side Union High School District, Board of Trustees from 1994-2006, 2008-2012. I Represented East Side on the Metro Ed ROP/CCOC Board for several years. Served as an officer to the Board as; President, Vice-President, Clerk and Audit Committee. I chaired many district committees; budget, parent, student, technology, etc. I became involved as a parent volunteer and served on various district committees prior to being elected.

I had the honor of being elected and serving on the Alum Rock Board of Trustees from 1983-1992.

I served as a City of San Jose as a Commissioner for 7 years in various committees (appointed).

2. Briefly state why you are interested in serving as a Board Trustee for the East Side Union High School District.

I believe in public education and that all students can succeed. I have the passion, time and experience to dedicate countless hours to the position which requires many meetings, thorough study of the agendas and items presented and most importantly, the ability to weigh all the issues at hand and cast a vote which will best serve the entire district.

3. Please state your vision for the future of public education. Identify three top issues you see facing the District in the next three to five years and your ideas for addressing those issues.

Public education has gone through many drastic changes which have caused unprecedented reforms which have forced districts to rethink how students learn and provide the same level of education as high wealth school districts. School boards have had to be visionaries and think outside the "box" in order to afford students excellence in education and guarantee a free public education and graduation to a four year university or career path.

Top issues:

Fiscal Stability including bargaining units negotiation; Safety; Student performance accountability.

Adopting sound policies and guidelines which will guarantee prudent spending, Negotiating employee contracts which will not burden the unfunded liability for the district but which guarantee a decent cost of living adjustment.

Following the district's safety plan and monitoring best practices throughout the district and working with community based organizations.

Continuing to monitor student performance through board study sessions which will trigger policies and procedures for implementation.

4. Briefly describe your perception of the role of an effective Board Trustee on a school board.

Good listener, dedicated and open minded.

5. Please summarize your professional background and the qualities, experiences, and skills you possess that you believe will make you an effective Trustee and will contribute to the improvement of education in the East Side Union High School District.

I am a public school teacher with 40 years of educational experience. I am bilingual, community organizer and strongly believe in a transparent and open process for inclusive dialogs between the district and the community.

I have a good relationship with bargaining units, parents, students and administration. I am experienced in every capacity and will be ready to take the oath of office and begin to work, without any need for a learning process. I have a very strong electoral base and with an organized campaign, I should be able to win election for a full term upon the completion of the appointment. I also have worked side-by-side with all of you in the past.

For more information; please visit my website:

www.LatinasNow.Com

Thank you for your kind attention and consideration.

CANDIDATE

Anthony Munoz



Guillen, Marylou <guillenm@esuhsd.org>

Cover letter

1 message

Anthony Munoz <anthonymunoz1964@gmail.com>

To: guillenm@esuhsd.org

East Side Union High School District Board and to whom it may concern:

My name is Anthony Munoz. I am a resident of Eastside Union School District district 5. I graduated from Eastside Union High School District in 1983. I would like to become a school board trustee. I feel that someone from the same environment would do well on the board. I would like to serve the children in the community which I came from.. I strongly believe my experience as well as my coming from the same environment would be an asset to the board. Furthermore, I have strong moral convictions that the above will separate me from the rest of the candidates.

Cordially yours,

Anthony Munoz, 1/05/2015



Guillen, Marylou <guillenm@esuhsd.org>

Five Questions

1 message

Anthony Munoz <anthonymunoz1964@gmail.com>

To: Marylou Guillen <guillenm@esuhsd.org>

Question 1: I have vast experiences as a Trustee for the Santa Clara County Board of Education for 4 years. Served on many committees. The Legislative to the Budget committee. As chair of a budget of 225 million and 1500 employees one must be accurate..

Question 2: My interest is that the families and students need a voice. I believe strongly I was trained for this opportunity.

Question 3: Top 3, Eliminate gangs from public school. Gang free environment. Create a private/business foundation for after school programs and last but not least a hall of fame of members to be mentors to the students.

Question 4: My perception as a board member is to be a voice for the families and students while keeping in mind fiscal responsibility.

Question 5: I bring a positive outlook from William C. Overfelt to Santa Clara University. Also valuable experience as a Board of Trustee for the Santa Clara Board of Education of 4 years. Also two years as Board of Directors/ California County Board of Education.

Anthony Munoz

CANDIDATE

Anthony Phan

Anthony Phan

January 5, 2015

The Honorable Van Le
The Honorable Lan Nguyen
The Honorable Frank Biehl
The Honorable J. Manuel Herrera

Board of Trustees, East Side Union High School District
830 N. Capitol Ave
San Jose, CA 95133

Dear Honorable Members of the Board of Trustees:

I am writing to respectfully ask that you consider my application for appointment to serve as your colleague on the East Side Union High School District Board of Trustees.

As you may recall, I ran for a seat on this board in the last election cycle. I ran not to challenge any one of you, but rather because of my passion and commitment to our East Side community. A few months has passed now since the election, and I assure you that my passion and commitment has not once wavered. I care about this district deeply, and I will continue to be a strong advocate for our schools if appointed to this position.

From my work as a Board Member of the University of California Student Association to my work on the San Jose Library & Early Education Commission, I have always strived to build consensus amongst my colleagues. I always spend hours researching policy, reading reports, and listening to community input before making decisions, and I will bring that same work ethic and professionalism with me to the board.

We probably will not agree on everything, but if we work together, I am confident we will keep moving this district forward. I humbly ask for your support, and I thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anthony P".

Anthony Phan

1. Briefly share your previous experiences/involvement with the East Side Union High School District and/or other public school districts.

I currently serve on the Audit Committee as an Alternate Member, where I review fiscal updates and reports for the district. I am a proud graduate of Andrew P. Hill High School. I also ran for a seat on the school board in this district in 2014. During the campaign, I made several site visits to make sure that I am knowledgeable about our schools, our diverse student community, and the challenges we face.

2. Briefly state why you are interested in serving as a Board Trustee for the East Side Union High School District.

This school district is very close to home for me - I have lived in this community all of my life. As a graduate of the district, I have seen first-hand the challenges we experienced over the years. Although we have made significant improvements, there is still much work to be done. I cherish education, because it has made possible for me to pursue my goals and aspirations. I want our students to have access to a quality and equitable education, so they too can thrive in their pursuits. Under the new Local Control Funding Formula, our school district will be receiving significant funding from the state, because many of our students come from low socio-economic backgrounds. Growing up, I struggled through adversity like many students in the district. Because of my upbringing, I have a first-hand account of the issues our community is experiencing. It is absolutely necessary that we have a board member who understands students. I bring a unique perspective to the board, and I know how to prioritize resources imperative to student success.

3. Please state your vision for the future of public education. Identify three top issues you see facing the District in the next three to five years and your ideas for addressing those issues.

My vision is all about equity in education. We must invest in every student to ensure that they have the resources they need to graduate, be prepared for college and a career, and thrive in their pursuits. Only by striving to achieve equity in education can we begin to see our achievement gap close. In order for our students to succeed, we must make classes smaller and academics stronger. Furthermore, I want our students to have access to a safe learning environment. I will support mental health initiatives, champion anti-bullying efforts and work with the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force to keep our students safe from bullies, gangs, drugs, and violence. Furthermore, I want parents to be fully engaged with their children's education. I will support multilingual outreach efforts to our parents and I will support our PTA groups to ensure that parents are up to date with their children's education. I also want to ensure that our district has a high quality work environment: this means providing attractive wages and proficient benefits to our teachers and

classified staff. Finally, the last part of my vision aligns with State Superintendent Tom Torlakson's vision of a 21st century education, dubbed "No Child Left Offline". I endorsed the district's Measure I during last year's election cycle. I am ecstatic about the funding it will provide for our classrooms. I believe in a 1-1 computing ratio, meaning every student will have computer and Internet access. I want to expand our investments in achieving digital literacy, and I will do this by partnering with Silicon Valley technology firms. I strongly believe computer science should be expanded, and coding courses should be taught in our schools.

I believe the top three issues facing the district within the next few years are large classroom sizes, under spending, and charter school accountability. For the purpose of a quality education, it is absolutely imperative that we reduce our classroom sizes. This concern is somewhat related to my next issue of under spending. I understand that we must be fiscally responsible. I completely get that. However, if we spend too little, we will not see the progress we want to achieve. I believe we are in a good position to reduce classroom sizes and restore critical services cut during the recession. I want to champion a stimulus package in the form of a parcel tax to add revenue towards the general fund, if we are truly concerned about financial stability. Finally, I believe charter schools must be held accountable to the same standards we hold our traditional schools. I have heard many community concerns about mismanagement within our charter schools, and I want to make sure that they are all addressed and resolved. Furthermore, I believe that we must invest in our traditional public schools, so that our students can compete with charter and private schools within the community.

4. Briefly describe your perception of the role of an effective Board Trustee on a school board.

An effective trustee must be open-minded and respect community input. That is why I pledge to hold community office hours every month, where all members of the public are welcome to attend and provide feedback. A trustee should also be knowledgeable about the community they represent. I have already made consistent site visits for the past year and a half, and I plan to increase that effort to reach out to our schools as a trustee. I also believe an effective trustee is one who is rooted in the district. As a graduate of the district, I was there when the district went through the roughest setbacks. I saw first-hand growing classroom sizes, dwindling resources, staff laid off, and teachers taking on furlough days. I know how rough it can get, and I pledge to do everything I can to make sure we never go back to those days ever again.

5. Please summarize your professional background and the qualities, experiences, and skills you possess that you believe will make you an effective Trustee and will contribute to the improvement of education in the East Side Union High School District.

As an Obama Administration Board Appointee, San Jose City Commissioner, foreign language educator, and former director of the University of California Student Association, I have a proven track record of delivering results.

I have the distinct honor of being appointed by President Barack Obama to the US Selective Service System Governing Board. As a board member, I am responsible for reviewing civilian appeals during times of military crises.

On the San Jose Library & Early Education Commission, I championed the increase of library hours. This will soon be a reality, as voters overwhelmingly passed Measure B to renew the library parcel tax for another 25 years. I helped draft the language for this ballot measure. I also oversee a multimillion-dollar annual budget and make key policy recommendations to the city, as part of this role.

As a Director of the University of California Student Association, I was responsible for initiating advocacy efforts on behalf of the approximately 220,000 students I serve. I spent countless hours working with state legislators on common-sense education reform. One of my proudest accomplishments was working with then-State Assembly Speaker John Perez in passing the Middle Class Scholarship Act to provide additional funding for struggling students.

My colleagues can vouch for me as an effective, pragmatic, ethical, and responsible leader. I have always strived to build consensus on the boards I have served on, and I am very open-minded and respectful to opinions, even when they are dissenting. I am highly knowledgeable about state education policy and will be a strong advocate for our schools by working with legislators on issues pertinent to public education.

CANDIDATE

Jon Reinke

Jon Reinke

January 5, 2015

ESUHSD Board of Trustees
c/o Mary Guillen
East Side Union High School District
830 N, Capitol Avenue
San Jose, CA 95133

Dear Board Members,

I hereby respectfully submit my application for consideration for appointment to the recently vacated seat on the ESUHSD Board of trustees.

Your announcement for this position requests answers to the following questions:

1. *Briefly share your previous experiences/involvement with the East Side Union High School District and/or other public school districts.*

Both of my sons attended and graduated from Santa Teresa High School. During the time they attended Santa Teresa High School I became involved as a school parent. I was a founding member of two of the major parent organizations on campus, the Santa Teresa Music and Arts Association (STMAA) and the Santa Teresa Organization of Parents and Staff (STOPS). I chaired the Santa Teresa Carnival fundraiser. I was a member, and eventually Chairperson of the School Site Council. Through my involvement at the school I began to serve also in various District committees, including DAC/DELAC, the Zendejas-era Budget Task Force, a so-called "7-11" committee, as a community representative on the District search committee for the Associate Superintendent of Business Services, as a member and Chairperson of the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee, and as a member of the Board Audit Committee.

In 2006, my contributions to Santa Teresa High School were recognized with the "Team Santa Teresa" award. In 2014, I was recognized with the Board President's Award.

2. *Briefly state why you are interested in serving as a Board Trustee for the East Side Union High School District.*

I believe there is no more important investment we can make than in public education. I've worked with this District for more than 10 years to do what I can to improve public education in my community. This vacancy creates an opportunity for me to continue my contributions in a new role as a Trustee, and will also allow me to bring additional perspective to the Board from the southern part of the District. During the time I've been involved with the District, there has never been a Trustee from the Oak Grove/Santa Teresa area.

3. *Please state your vision for the future of public education. Identify three top issues you see facing the District in the next three to five years and your ideas for addressing those issues.*

My vision is for the East Side Union High School District to be the “district of choice” in Silicon Valley, and for East Side schools to be the schools of choice in their respective attendance areas.

There are many issues facing the District, but three of the most important are:

- Issue #1 - Building public support for the District.

The District depends on voter support to provide a steady and adequate stream of tax dollars to fund the District. To ensure this, the District must make good on a largely unwritten social contract with the community to provide more than just academic excellence. It must also demonstrate fiscal prudence and transparency, sound judgement, and good management. Together, these things can greatly influence the degree to which the District will enjoy “taxpayer confidence” that educational dollars are well-spent by the District. With this support, the District will have access to the social, political, and financial resources required to thrive. It will be difficult or impossible for the District to be successful without it.

- Issue #2 - Closing the achievement gap.

We’ve been talking about closing the achievement gap for several years. Some progress has been made, but more remains to be done. We need to ruthlessly address any factors within our control to eliminate barriers to achievement within our school environment. Many of the drivers of this societal problem are outside the control of the schools, but this doesn’t mean the schools don’t have a role in addressing them. The District cannot solve all the ills of society, but we can and should ensure that all of our students are provided with skills, strategies, and opportunities to recognize and overcome any racial, socio-economic, or other barriers.

- Issue #3 - Using the opportunity provided by the adoption of Common Core to partner effectively with the staff and make meaningful improvements in curriculum and educational programs offered to our students.

Adoption of the new Common Core standards means change. The change could be good for our students or it could be bad for our students. Common Core could be driver of meaningful improvement in the education we provide, or it could be yet another “educational fad.” Regardless of how Common Core turns out at a national or state level, it does provide an opportunity locally to examine what we’ve been doing - what works and what doesn’t work - and to use good judgement and the collective experience of our District teachers to implement the new standards in an intelligent way. The results we obtain in our District are largely up to us. With an effective and inclusive partnership which involves all stakeholders we can’t go wrong. Without this partnership we can’t be successful.

4. *Briefly describe your perception of the role of an effective Board Trustee on a school board.*

The role of an effective Board Trustee is to listen carefully to all stakeholders, consider the various points of view, and then make decisions based on the best interests of the students. Effective Trustees should ask the right questions, ensure the District has the right leadership in place, and hold that leadership responsible for obtaining results. This includes not only academic results, but also staff productivity, morale, labor relations, and maintenance of District facilities.

Trustees should be *aware* of what happens on a day-to-day basis in the District, but they should leave operations of the District to the people who have been hired to do these jobs.

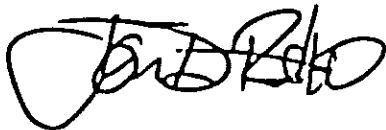
5. *Please summarize your professional background and the qualities, experiences, and skills you possess that you believe will make you an effective Trustee and will contribute to the improvement of education in the East Side Union High School District.*

I was educated in public schools, and attended The University of Michigan, where I majored in Computer Science. My college education was mostly self-funded, through working and student loans. I joined IBM Research right after graduation. For the past few years I've worked for NetApp, a company that provides storage and data management solutions.

I have more than 30 years experience in the Information Technology field, with experience in many different roles, including Researcher, Manager, and Technology Architect and Standards Owner. A common theme across my entire career has been a careful and thoughtful analysis, followed by a collaborative and innovative approach to finding a solution.

I also have extensive experience as a community leader, working with the schools and as president of our neighborhood association, where I have had the privilege of leading and working with outstanding volunteers from all sectors of our wonderful and diverse community.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon Reinke". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "J" and "R".

Jon Reinke