

SANTA MARIA JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION

CSBA Professional Governance Standards

Adopted by the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District April 11, 2001

THE BOARD

School districts and county offices of education are governed by boards, not by individual trustees. While understanding their separate roles, the board and superintendent work together as a “governance team.” This team assumes collective responsibility for building unity and creating a positive organizational culture in order to govern effectively.

To operate effectively, the board must have a unity of purpose and:

- Keep the district focused on learning and achievement for all students.
- Communicate a common vision.
- Operate openly, with trust and integrity.
- Govern in a dignified and professional manner, treating everyone with civility and respect.
- Govern within board-adopted policies and procedures.
- Take collective responsibility for the board’s performance.
- Periodically evaluate its own effectiveness.
- Ensure opportunities for the diverse range of views in the community to inform board deliberations.

THE INDIVIDUAL TRUSTEE

In California’s public education system, a trustee is a person elected or appointed to serve on a school district or county board of education. Individual trustees bring unique skills, values and beliefs to their board. In order to govern effectively, individual trustees must work with each other and the superintendent to ensure that a high quality education is provided to each student.

To be effective, an individual trustee:

- Keeps learning and achievement for *all* students as the primary focus.
- Values, supports and advocates for public education.
- Recognizes and respects differences of perspective and style on the board and among staff, students, parents and the community.
- Acts with dignity, and understands the implications of demeanor and behavior.
- Keeps confidential matters confidential.
- Participates in professional development and commits the time and energy necessary to be an informed and effective leader.
- Understands the distinctions between board and staff roles, and refrains from performing management functions that are the responsibility of the superintendent and staff.
- Understands that authority rests with the board as a whole and not with individuals.



Board of Trustee Action Plans
Santa Maria Joint Union High School District

- **Maximize Student Success**
- **Develop and Maintain a Districtwide Accountability System**
- **Enhance Student Support Services: Facilities, Technology, Safe, Clean, Nurturing Environment; Expand Food Services**
- **Foster Partnerships**
- **Manage Rapid District Growth**

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD

The primary responsibilities of the board are to set a direction for the district, provide a structure by establishing policies, ensure accountability and provide community leadership on behalf of the district and public education. To fulfill these responsibilities, there are a number of specific jobs that effective boards must carry out.

Effective boards:

- Involve the community, parents, students and staff in developing a common vision for the district focused on learning and achievement and responsive to the needs of all students.
- Adopt, evaluate and update policies consistent with the law and the district's vision and goals.
- Maintain accountability for student learning by adopting the district curriculum and monitoring student progress.
- Hire and support the superintendent so that the vision, goals and policies of the district can be implemented.
- Conduct regular and timely evaluations of the superintendent based on the vision, goals and performance of the district, and ensure that the superintendent holds district personnel accountable.
- Adopt a fiscally responsible budget based on the district's vision and goals, and regularly monitor the fiscal health of the district.
- Ensure that a safe and appropriate educational environment is provided to all students.
- Establish a framework for the district's collective bargaining process and adopt responsible agreements.
- Provide community leadership on educational issues and advocate on behalf of students and public education at the local, state and federal levels.



BOARD OF EDUCATION

Special Meeting

September 25, 2023

Santa Maria Joint Union High School District
2560 Skyway Drive, Santa Maria, California 93455

5:30 p.m. General Session

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, for those requiring special assistance to access the Board meeting room or to access written documents being discussed at the Board meeting, please contact Arcy Pineda at 805-922-4573, Ext. 4202 for assistance. A reasonable amount of time before the meeting will enable the District to make appropriate arrangements to ensure accessibility to the Board meeting and to provide any required accommodations, auxiliary aids or services.

Documents provided to a majority of the Governing Board regarding an open session item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection in the District Office at the noted address above, during normal business hours. In addition, such writings and documents may be posted on the District's website: www.smjuhsd.org

AGENDA

I. OPEN SESSION

A. Call to Order/Flag Salute

II. OPEN SESSION PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public comment for a special board meeting is limited to items on the agenda. If you would like to address the SMJUHS D Board of Education at the September 25, 2023 meeting on the noted open session items, see the options for participation below. Please note: The Board appreciates all public participation in the meeting, but it cannot engage in discussion or specifically respond during the public comment period (Board Bylaw 9323; citing Education Code § 35145.5; Government Code § 54954.3).

- A. **In person:** Persons wishing to speak should complete a blue request form and hand it to the Board secretary. Please note: The time limit to address the Board may not exceed two minutes.

B. **In writing:** Submit your comment via email to SMJUHS-Dublic-Comment@smjuhsd.org by 12:00 p.m. on September 25, 2023. Please include your name and contact information. Written public comment will be submitted to the Board prior to the start of the Board meeting for their review but will not be read publicly at the meeting.

III. ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR ACTION

A. GENERAL

1. Provisional Appointment: Explanation of Candidate Interview Process, Interview of Candidates, and Provisional Appointment of Candidate to Serve on the Board – Appendix A

Resource Person: Diana Perez, Board President

Due to the recent resignation of former Clerk, Amy Lopez, a vacancy has been created on the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District Board of Education. On August 1, 2023, the Board voted to begin the process of provisionally appointing an interested candidate to fill the vacant seat. The applications received were reviewed by a committee, who determined that the candidates listed below were eligible to be considered for the appointment. On September 18, 2023 the District posted candidate application packets on its website.

- 1. Tammie Castillo-Shiffer
- 2. Karen Draper
- 3. Alma Hernandez Wilson
- 4. Hunter Jameson
- 5. Gabriel Amaro Morales

At this meeting, the Board will conduct interviews of the above-mentioned candidates. After the interviews, the Board will consider provisionally appointing a candidate to fill the Board vacancy.

***** IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT** the Board of Education appoint a provisional candidate to fill the Board vacancy.

Moved _____ **Second** _____

A Roll Call Vote is Required:

Ms. Perez _____
Dr. Garvin _____
Mr. Aguilar _____
Mr. Baskett _____

IV. FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS FOR 2023

Unless otherwise announced, the next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on October 10, 2023. Closed session is scheduled to begin at 5:15 p.m. Open session begins at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the District Support Services Center. For **view only** live-stream links, refer to page 1 of the agenda.

Regular Board Meetings for 2023:

November 14, 2023

December 12, 2023

V. ADJOURN

SPECIAL MEETING
September 25, 2023

APPENDIX A

Candidate Applications:

- Tammie Castillo-Shiffer
- Karen Draper
- Alma Hernandez Wilson
- Hunter Jameson
- Gabriel Amaro Morales



CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Name: Tammie Castillo-Shiffer, EdD

Address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED]

Number of Years Residing in District: 37

Employment Background:

Employer	Position	Dates of Employment
Santa Maria-Bonita SD	Coordinator Family and Community Engagement	November 2017-Present
Santa Maria Joint Union High SD	EL Coordinator and Science Teacher	August 2005- November 2017
Cuyuma Unified SD	Science Teacher	August 2004-July 2005

Education Background:

High School/Institution	Degrees/Units	Date of Attendance
Brandman University	Doctorate of Education	August 2015-May 2018
Chapman University	Masters of Education and Teaching credential	August 2004-July 2007
University of California LA	BS Biology	September 1998-August 2000



Please put an “x” next to each statement that applies to you:

- I am 18 years of age or older.
- I am a citizen of the State of California.
- I am a resident of the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District.
- I am a resident of Trustee Area 3. The trustee area map was recently updated. The map is attached as Attachment A and a more detailed map may be found at: [SMJUHSD Interactive Map](#)
- I am a registered voter in the State of California.
- I am not disqualified by the United States Constitution or the laws of the State of California from holding civil office, and I am eligible to be appointed a member of the governing board of the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District.
- I am not an employee of the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District.
- I am willing to file a Conflict-of-Interest Statement.

Signature of Applicant

Date: August 30, 2023



REFERENCES

Please provide the name and contact information for up to three people who are residents of the District that are willing to affirm their support of your application to serve as a board member. (Note: The District does not anticipate calling these references but reserves the right to do so.)

1. Name: Sgt. Felix Diaz
Address: [REDACTED]
Telephone Number: [REDACTED]
Relationship to you: Community Contact- Worked Collaboratively

2. Name: Brian Zimmerman, Director of Pupil Support Services; Tammie Castillo-Shiffer, Family Engage
Address: [REDACTED]
Telephone Number: [REDACTED]
Relationship to you: Direct Supervisor

3. Name: Maria Cortez
Address: [REDACTED]
Telephone Number: [REDACTED]
Relationship to you: co-worker



CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

Please answer the following questions using 150 words or less per question. Please use additional paper, if needed.

1. Do you have prior experience serving on a governing board, specifically a school district board? Please list such prior experience.

I have no direct experience being a board member for a school district, however I have served on community committees and facilitate a number of meetings at SMBSD. I am part of the Strategic Planning Core Committee and regularly attend the board meetings of SMBSD. Additionally, I serve on the City of Santa Maria Block Grants Committee.

2. What school district, community or business activities have you been involved in?

I have worked collaboratively with a number of community organizations including: MICOP, CHC, the Santa Maria Police Department, Public Health, Childrens Resource Network, SB County Food Bank, Family Service Agency, Fighting Back Santa Maria and the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District Family Engagement staff to serve the families of the community through events and activities designed to support families and their children to meet basic needs and succeed academically

3. Why do you want to be a school board member?

I support the work being done by the board and its superintendent currently and would like to come along side to help continue the district's current direction. I would like to impact my community and continue to support students during this critical point in their academic careers by helping to make the important decisions that will give them the opportunity to thrive.



4. What do you feel you can contribute as a school board member?

I can contribute a perspective as a long-time community member, educator and advocate for the families of Santa Maria.

5. What experience, education, training, or volunteer work do you think qualifies you to be appointed as the board member?

I have a doctorate in organizational leadership, strong and deep ties to the community and a heart for the families we serve. I am a long-time educator and have taught at the high school and college level and understand the changing environment in which our students learn and grow.

6. Identify a recent board decision that you felt strongly about, and describe how you would balance community concerns, student needs, state and federal law, staff considerations, and your personal values and beliefs to determine how to vote on the issue.

The decision to have School Resource Officers return to SMJUHSD campuses demonstrated an understanding that our students live in the community with a police presence and the importance of relationships. It demonstrated an ability to think about long-term implications in the local context and the ability to be proactive and not reactionary. I would listen to the voices of the community and lean on my understanding of the role of leaders, laws, and context to make a decision in the best interest of students and their families.



7. What do you see as the strengths of the school district?

Leadership and forward thinking are the strengths. An eye toward the future and an asset-based view of our community as evidenced by the new district messaging - where greatness grows.

8. What do you see as the area(s) most needing improvement in the school district?

The district could continue to make bold moves forward in their communication with families and continue to support students academically with new and meaningful processes that are already underway as evidenced by the new Spanish testing and placement of students.



CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Name: Karen Draper

Address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED]

Number of Years Residing in District: 69 years, 9 months

Employment Background:

Employer	Position	Dates of Employment
Santa Maria Joint Union High School District – SMHS	Business Teacher	1/94-6/23
Allan Hancock College	Business Teacher	8/05-5/2013
Santa Barbara Business College	Business Teacher	1/86-6/88
Weight Watchers of South Texas	Area Coordinator/Manager, Santa Barbara County	1/80-2/93

Education Background:

High School/Institution	Degrees/Units	Date of Attendance
Santa Maria High School	Graduated with a diploma	9/68-6/71
Allan Hancock College	AA	9/71-1/74
CSU, Northridge	BA in Business Education	1/74-6/76



Please put an "x" next to each statement that applies to you:

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- I am a citizen of the State of California.
- I am a resident of the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District.
- I am a resident of Trustee Area 3. The trustee area map was recently updated. The map is attached as Attachment A and a more detailed map may be found at <https://ndcresearch.maps.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=6c2641edcd80478d83344c4ff90419ea>.
- I am a registered voter in the State of California.
- I am not disqualified by the United States Constitution or the laws of the State of California from holding civil office, and I am eligible to be appointed a member of the governing board of the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District.
- I am not an employee of the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District.
- I am willing to file a Conflict-of-Interest Statement.

Signature of Applicant Karen Draper Date: 08/28/2023



REFERENCES

Please provide the name and contact information for up to three people who are residents of the District that are willing to affirm their support of your application to serve as a board member. (Note: The District does not anticipate calling these references but reserves the right to do so.)

Name: Jeff Hearn

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone Number: [REDACTED]

Relationship to you: Former Principal at SMHS and former Superintendent for SMJUHS

Name: Karen Rotondi

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone Number: [REDACTED]

Relationship to you: Director, Teaching and Learning

Name: Steve Molina

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone Number: [REDACTED]

Relationship to you: Director of Student Services

Name: Mariaehelena Dominguez Hernandez

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone Number: [REDACTED]

Relationship to you: Colleague at SMHS and counselor at Delta High School

Name: Pete Flores III

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone Number: [REDACTED]

Relationship to you: Former Assistant Principal at SMHS and Director of Student Affairs

*** More references can be provided if needed**

**Santa Maria JUHS Provisional Appointment Application Packet
This application is public information**



CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

Please answer the following questions using 150 words or less per question. Please use additional paper, if needed.

1. **Do you have prior experience serving on a governing board, specifically a school district board? Please list such prior experience.**

No, I do not have experience serving on a school district board. However, I have been receiving board agendas and attending board meetings monthly for at least 15 years. I have served on the District Technology committee for 10+ years and on the School Site Council at SMHS for 18+ years.

2. **What school district, community or business activities have you been involved in?**

I have been a teacher for the past 30 years teaching at Santa Maria High School. I also taught at Allan Hancock College for 7 years. Additionally, I taught at Santa Barbara Business College. Prior to my teaching career I managed a business with offices in Santa Maria, Lompoc, and Santa Barbara. I also worked as a legal secretary for 2 years.

I was a Chamber of Commerce member for many years during the 13 years working in management. In my management position I set up a "Battle of the Badges" weight loss competition with the SMPD, Lompoc PD, Santa Ynez Sheriffs, SM Fire Department for the business that I managed.

3. **Why do you want to be a school board member?**

My long career passion has been providing more opportunities for students. I believe every student should have options and that stems from being prepared for all opportunities when you graduate.

I see a real need for a 4th comprehensive high school in our community and want to help provide that as our community continues to grow rapidly.

I have been committed to the SMJUHS for the past 30 years, striving to improve technology, provide skills by infusing technology into all the classes I taught. Technology was vital during the pandemic and will increasingly become an essential skill. Most students are not digital natives and I believe technology training should be provided for freshman as an essential tool to their academic success.

I am known for listening to and considering all sides to an issue before deciding. I am also known for student-based decisions; what benefits students most and providing opportunities.



4. What do you feel you can contribute as a school board member?

My 30 years of experience in the classroom as a teacher and as a leader amongst my peers would be an asset to our district. My commitment to provide the best opportunities for all students is also a key part of my contribution.

5. What experience, education, training, or volunteer work do you think qualifies you to be appointed as the board member?

I am a veteran teacher recently retired; I am trained in Shared Decision Making, Certified in Cultural Proficiency, have been an AVID teacher with extensive training, and have worked with the principal on school site budgets where I taught. I served on the SMHS School Site Council 18+ years. I also did a yearly audit for expenditures during SMHS's QEIA grant (1.7 million dollars distributed over 7 years).

6. Identify a recent board decision that you felt strongly about, and describe how you would balance community concerns, student needs, state and federal law, staff considerations, and your personal values and beliefs to determine how to vote on the issue.

I agreed with the board's consideration to require all students to fill out the FAFSA as part of their graduation requirement. This was a heated topic at the time it was brought to the board for consideration/approval. Some teachers didn't see the need for this requirement. Some parents were afraid that it would be invasive with the required financial statements needed. I have seen how filling out the FAFSA opens opportunities that students never thought possible. Through that process students began to see that considering college after high school was a possible choice for them. That has become a reality for many as a result.

I support the board's decision to use naloxone hydrochloride also known as Narcan in providing emergency medical aid to persons suffering, or reasonably believed to be suffering, from an opioid overdose. I believe all staff/teachers should be trained in administering Narcan and I have witnessed the usage as a lifesaving tool.

I believe the restructuring of technology staffing is now the original intent as written in our original district technology plan. Providing a Technology TOSA at each site has also bridged some gaps in connecting the district level to site levels in an efficient way.



7. What do you see as the strengths of the school district?

This district has made great strides in being inclusive of all parents and students. Interpreting is now offered at all levels (district and site) in many languages. In addition, translation of anything written is now offered in more than two languages. Sites are becoming cognizant of parent work schedules and adapting meetings to accommodate that. Tutoring and counseling services are offered before and after school for extended periods. Increasing efforts have made a difference in parent participation and supporting their students. District support of mental health issues for students has been added and post pandemic this is critical for students as many suffered from emotional trauma because of the pandemic. Support of student mental health issues has been a long standing need that was addressed when I was first teaching and then was cut due to budget constraints.

8. What do you see as the area(s) most needing improvement in the school district?

I believe that this district needs to be proactive in looking ahead to anticipated needs for growth. Santa Maria is growing so fast due to the agricultural community workforce. With that growth comes the need for a fourth high school and possibly a fifth in the future as this community grows. Our community needs to provide support for that growth before it is at a crisis stage.

The location of the fourth high school is going to be an important decision. As Santa Maria grows, student attendance boundaries will need to be reworked to distribute the student population evenly. New housing locations and density of student populations should be considered in choosing the location of the next high school, however acquiring the property for that next high school may be a challenge. Has the property where the old Williams feed lot (which caused offensive odor west of the city) been considered? That might be a welcome use of the property by neighboring homes.



CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Name: Alma Hernandez Wilson

Address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED]

Number of Years Residing in District: 23

Employment Background:

Employer	Position	Dates of Employment
County of Santa Barbara	District Representative	Feb 2017- Present
Guadalupe Union School District	Healthy Start Family Service Center Director	July 2015 - Feb 2017
Community Action Commission	Healthy Start Family Service Center and Senior Center Director	November 1996-June 2015

Education Background:

High School/Institution	Degrees/Units	Date of Attendance
Rosemead High School	High School Diploma	Graduated June 1987
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo	Bachelor of Science, Human Development, Minor in Spanish and Early Childhood Education	Graduated Dec 1996
Cal State Northridge	Masters in Public Administration	Graduated Aug 2015



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- I am a resident of Trustee Area 3. The trustee area map was recently updated. The map is attached as Attachment A and a more detailed map may be found at: [SMJUHS D Interactive Map](#)
- I am a registered voter in the State of California.
- I am not disqualified by the United States Constitution or the laws of the State of California from holding civil office, and I am eligible to be appointed a member of the governing board of the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District.
- I am not an employee of the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District.
- I am willing to file a Conflict-of-Interest Statement.

Signature of Applicant Alma Hernandez Date: 8/15/23



REFERENCES

Please provide the name and contact information for up to three people who are residents of the District that are willing to affirm their support of your application to serve as a board member. (Note: The District does not anticipate calling these references but reserves the right to do so.)

1. Name: Christina Hernandez
Address: [REDACTED]
Telephone Number: [REDACTED]
Relationship to you: Colleague

2. Name: Ann Moore
Address: [REDACTED]
Telephone Number: [REDACTED]
Relationship to you: Collaborative partner and friend

3. Name: Edwin Weaver
Address: [REDACTED]
Telephone Number: [REDACTED]
Relationship to you: Collaborative partner and friend

CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

Please answer the following questions using 150 words or less per question. Please use additional paper, if needed.

1. Do you have prior experience serving on a governing board, specifically a school district board? Please list such prior experience.

I have not served on a school district board. I have served on the Miller School Site Council, Mary Buren Elementary School Site Council, as well as the Fesler Jr High School Site Council.

2. What school district, community or business activities have you been involved in?

I was an employee of the Guadalupe Union School District and nonprofit partner for 20 years assisting with parent engagement, parent leadership development, and case management. I was involved in the Guadalupe Union School District School LCAP Planning Committee. I was also on the founding committee that brought the Dual Immersion Program into the Santa Maria Bonita School District. I was also a founder of Corazon del Pueblo a Latino Youth Art program established as a response to Santa Maria youth request to curb community youth violence and displacement.

3. Why do you want to be a school board member?

As a former student that comes from a disadvantaged background, it has been my life goal to assist students like myself who dream of finding their calling and making a difference in the world despite their disadvantages and hardships. I want to work to contribute to creating a system that supports the learning and development of EVERY Student, contributing to their mental, physical, social, emotional, mental wellbeing within an environment of wellness, acceptance, respect, good planning and belief in greatness.

4. What do you feel you can contribute as a school board member?

As a school board member, I believe I can contribute my unique blend of skills, experiences, and perspectives that will positively impact our educational community. Drawing from my background in connecting families with educational resources and building family engagement in my role as Guadalupe School District Family Resource Center Director, I am confident in my ability to bring the following contributions. I will advocate for students and commit to assuring that every student has equal access to quality education and opportunities to achieve academic excellence. I will work to facilitate open communication, engaging stakeholders in meaningful discussions about school policies and decisions. I am committed to anticipating future challenges and opportunities. I believe in data-driven decision-making to make informed decisions. I have strong interpersonal skills and can foster a collaborative atmosphere. I am committed to student well-being, and transparent leadership and am excited to contribute my dedication and passion to the role of a school board member to work towards a brighter future for our students and the entire school district.

5. What experience, education, training, or volunteer work do you think qualifies you to be appointed as the board member?

As a parent of two teens who just graduated from Santa Maria High School Class of 2023 Pioneer High School Class of 2020, I feel I have really good insight of what Santa Maria youth are facing today. In addition, as a District Representative for the Third District County Supervisor, I believe I have gained invaluable skills in understanding diverse perspectives and working to achieve common goals. Through my experiences in serving as the volunteer Executive Director of Corazon del Pueblo, within the community of Santa Maria, I believe I have gained understanding of the needs of our community youth and have helped to elevate their voice to be active participants and civically engaged within their community.

6. Identify a recent board decision that you felt strongly about, and describe how you would balance community concerns, student needs, state and federal law, staff considerations, and your personal values and beliefs to determine how to vote on the issue.

A-G, Ethnic Studies, and BeWell safe spaces are all issues of great importance to me, therefore to balance out the above-noted needs, it is important to 1. gather information, research and really understand the issue, and collect data related to the concerns including student data, legal requirements, etc. 2. It is important to engage the community in the conversations, through surveys and public forums to listen and gain insights about diverse perspectives. 3. It is important to have a student-centric approach, always prioritizing student needs and well-being, considering the short and long-term effects. 4. It is important to know if decisions align with state and federal laws, and policies. 5. It is important to have staff consultation to get their viewpoints and concerns 6. It is important to seek common ground and create a plan 7. It is important that there is ethical consideration and 8 transparent communication is important with all stakeholders. 8. It is important to have evidence-based information and lastly, important decisions should have regular follow ups and check ins to assure proper support is provided and barriers are addressed to assure success.

Ultimately, the goal is to find a balanced solution that considers all relevant factors while upholding the values of transparency, equity, and the well-being of the students and the community.

7. What do you see as the strengths of the school district?

Because my experiences have been with Santa Maria High School, I can say that they have many very engaged staff who sincerely care about each student and care their success.

8. What do you see as the area(s) most needing improvement in the school district?

I believe that we need to increase our belief in the students abilities and that we as a District need to work harder to provide the support system so that every student reaches their highest potential. This includes availing opportunities, mentorship, connections, attain A-G's, building a sense of pride, acceptance, build potential and have a voice in their education.



CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Name: Hunter T. Jameson

Address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED]

Number of Years Residing in District: 7 (as of September 2023)

Employment Background: Please see separate sheet.

Employer	Position	Dates of Employment

Education Background: Included on separate sheet.

High School/Institution	Degrees/Units	Date of Attendance

CANDIDATE INFORMATION – Hunter Jameson

Employment Background:

<u>Employer</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Lamar University, Beaumont, Texas	Instructor, writing and literature, English Department	1976-78
<i>Hillsboro (Ore.) Argus</i>	School, business, and general assignment reporter; proofreader; news editor	1979-85
Ashland (Ore.) <i>Daily Tidings</i>	Editor	1985-86
<i>Albany (Ore.) Democrat-Herald</i>	Business editor; Saturday managing editor	1986-92
Torrance (Calif.) <i>Daily Breeze</i>	Copy editor	1992-95
<i>Investor's Business Daily</i> , Los Angeles	Copy editor; daily column editor; writer	1996-2001
Mullin Consulting Inc. (later Mullin/TBG), Los Angeles	Writer of enrollment materials for executive benefits (deferred compensation) consultant	2002-16

Educational Background:

<u>High School/Institution</u>	<u>Degrees/Units</u>	<u>Dates of Attendance</u>
South Eugene (Ore.) High School		1960-63
Hillsboro (Ore.) Union High School	Diploma	1963-64
University of Oregon	B.A. (Honors College), English Phi Beta Kappa	1964-68
Oxford University (Pembroke College)	B.A., English Language and Literature M.A.	1969-71
Indiana University	Ph.D., English	1971-75



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- I am a registered voter in the State of California.
- I am not disqualified by the United States Constitution or the laws of the State of California from holding civil office, and I am eligible to be appointed a member of the governing board of the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District.
- I am not an employee of the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District.
- I am willing to file a Conflict-of-Interest Statement.

Signature of Applicant Hunter J. Jameun Date: August 29, 2023.

REFERENCES – Hunter Jameson

1. Name: Elizabeth (Liz) Gutierrez
Address: [REDACTED]
Telephone Number: [REDACTED]
Relationship to you: Friend; she is a student advocate at Laurus College and mother of two graduates from Santa Maria High School.

2. Name: Barry and Lorraine Schneider
Address: [REDACTED]
Telephone Number: [REDACTED]
Relationship to you: Friends; they are parents of two Righetti High School graduates and grandparents of three Righetti High graduates.

3. Name: Pastor Tim Mossholder
Address: [REDACTED]
Telephone Number: [REDACTED]
Relationship to you: Pastor of my church, Santa Maria Foursquare Church.

CANDIDATE QUESTIONS – Hunter Jameson

1. Do you have prior experience serving on a governing board, specifically a school district board? Please list such prior experience.

Early in my newspaper career in Oregon, I covered school boards for several years for the Hillsboro Union High School District (where I had graduated a dozen years before) and the Beaverton School District, both west of Portland. That was another time in another state; nevertheless, I feel attending board meetings in their entirety, as I customarily did, receiving and reviewing board packets, and following agendas and board actions throughout the meetings, often as the only non-school staff person present, gave me a good basic understanding of school board duties and procedures. I also learned about teacher salary ladders, teacher and classified worker negotiations, and budgets and the annual budgeting process.

I also served on church business councils for several churches I have attended including most recently in Santa Monica and currently in Santa Maria, and was board member of my condominium association in Santa Monica from 2002 to 2006.

2. What school district, community or business activities have you been involved in?

I am a member of the board of trustees for the Santa Maria Public Library (appointed by Mayor Patino); I serve on the Business Council for the Santa Maria Foursquare Church; and I am a board member for Right to Life of the Central Coast.

3. Why do you want to be a school board member?

I would like to play a role in helping young people discover and develop their God-given abilities and talents in safe and well-ordered schools that will help prepare them for life after graduation—whether that is to join the job market directly, to seek further education and career training through Allan Hancock College or other avenues, or to attend a four-year college. We need to assure our graduates can read well; write, think, and speak clearly; through our required courses participate in our great country's cultural heritage and history and gain hands-on experience in mathematics and science; and have the chance to take part in character building extracurricular activities, including sports. I would seek to assure adequate resources for students, teachers, administrators, and staff to do a good job with these tasks. It is vital that our district give proper respect and deference to parents as the primary teachers and caregivers for their children.

4. What do you feel you can contribute as a school board member?

I have an eye for and the time to devote to details including consent agenda items, a willingness to listen to presentations, to ask questions about them and typical procedures (including why?). I shall seek to recognize the value and limits of school in a student's life. I will apply the yardstick of common sense to district policy and other decisions. Educational theories and ideologies must be measured against practicality and results.

5. What experience, education, training, or volunteer work do you think qualifies you to be appointed as the board member?

Being a parent of a high school graduate is my most important qualification for being on the high school board. I was a student myself for many years, observing different teaching styles and methods. I still recall with thanks my ninth-grade English and social studies teacher who inspired her students to write well, to think clearly, and to speak confidently to an audience. I also have had experience as a college teacher. As I mentioned in my answer to Question 1, I have observed school boards at work at close quarters. I believe these experiences have helped me understand the challenges of being a student, a teacher, a parent, and a school board member.

6. Identify a recent board decision that you felt strongly about, and describe how you would balance community concerns, student needs, state and federal law, staff considerations, and your personal values and beliefs to determine how to vote on the issue.

A recent board decision I felt strongly about was whether to discard as district logo the flagship Santa Maria of Christopher Columbus. No state or federal law was involved in this decision. Comments came from both sides in letters to the editor and school board (including one of mine) and newspaper articles. Community opinion was divided, but even if it were not, I would need to make a decision on such a matter ultimately based on my own principles. These include having the humility to recognize that historical figures, like us, are imperfect human beings; that in spite of defects and shortcomings, those who achieve history-making deeds can be sources of inspiration; and that insistence on moral perfection under present standards needs to be balanced with historical context; and that the lessons of history can only be taught to those who are willing to engage with it, not ignore it.

7. What do you see as the strengths of the school district?

I think the district's embrace and emphasis on career education, including the recent building of the Mark Richardson Career Technical Education Center and Agricultural Farm, is excellent. As I mentioned in Answer 3, we need to make learning relevant for a wide range of students' gifts and future goals, whether they intend to enter the job market immediately, pursue further classes and job-related training at Allan Hancock College or elsewhere; or enter a four-year college. I believe the district has recognized this need. In addition, the district's arranging the return of school resource officers to campuses this fall is commendable.

8. What do you see as the area(s) most needing improvement in the school district?

I feel the district could seek to reduce class sizes by adding teachers or alternatively add more teacher aides. I understand also that numerous young people continue to struggle with social and emotional problems remaining from the COVID lockdowns that can disrupt learning, posing challenges that need to be tackled.



CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Name: Gabriel Amaro Morales

Address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Number of Years Residing in District: 34 years

Employment Background:

Employer	Position	Dates of Employment
CA Mentor	Program Director Recruiter	2021 - Current
Center For Employment Training SMHS District	Division Director	2002 - 2016
	Program Spec. Site Supervisor	1992 - 2002

Education Background:

High School/Institution	Degrees/Units	Date of Attendance
Confield H.S.	High School Diploma	1969 - 1972
Allen Hancock College	A.S. Degree	1992 - 2002



**Santa Maria Joint Union
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Where greatness grows.

Please put an "x" next to each statement that applies to you:

- I am 18 years of age or older.
- I am a citizen of the State of California.
- I am a resident of the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District.
- I am a resident of Trustee Area 3. The trustee area map was recently updated. The map is attached as Attachment A and a more detailed map may be found at: [SMJUHSD Interactive Map](#)
- I am a registered voter in the State of California.
- I am not disqualified by the United States Constitution or the laws of the State of California from holding civil office, and I am eligible to be appointed a member of the governing board of the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District.
- I am not an employee of the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District.
- I am willing to file a Conflict-of-Interest Statement.

Signature of Applicant

Yolanda A. Morales

Date:

8/23/23

References

Name: Dave Baskett

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone Number: [REDACTED]

Relationship to you: I have met and been involved with Mr. Baskett in community and civic events in our community.

Name: Danny Rabarra

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone Number: [REDACTED]

Relationship to you: Mr. Rabarra is our Regional Director for CA Mentor- my employer and oversees my program operations.

Name: Pastor Jim Larrabee

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone Number: [REDACTED]

Relationship to you: Pastor Jim is the Senior Pastor for First Christian Church, where I have been a volunteer for the past 7 years providing support for individuals and families in need of mentorship.

Candidate Questions

Using 150 words or less per questions:

- 1. Do you have prior experience serving on a governing board, specifically a school district board? Please list such experiences.**

I currently serve as a Commissioner for the Santa Barbara County Human Service Commission and was a member of the governing board for Santa Barbara County Workforce Board for 14 years.

- 2. What school district, community or business activities have you been involved in?**

I was a High School District employee for 10 years, as a Program Specialist working with academically challenged students and their parents. Additionally, I did community outreach representing the School District. Additionally, I Co-Chaired the 5th District Supervisor's Youth Task Force, a volunteer mentor for Jimenez Elementary School, and worked as a volunteer mentor for ex-offenders at First Christian Church.

- 3. Why do you want to be a school board member?**

My passion has always been to serve my community, with most of my success and joy having been in supporting students and their parents pursuing their educational dreams. I believe my 25 years in education at various levels would be of value to the current Board members, staff, and students.

- 4. What do you feel you can contribute as a school board member?**

I believe my diverse experience working in different levels of education, from vocational education, teacher and parent trainer, workforce development within our County as it relates to educational and career pathways. Additionally, both of my kids attended local schools, and I was an employee for SM High School District.

- 5. What experiences, education, training, or volunteer work do you think qualifies you to be appointed as the board member?**

My 10 years as a staff working in alternative education for the Santa Maria School District, was invaluable experience for me working side by side with teachers, parents, private industry, and of course students who were academically challenged with their course work. Additionally, I have volunteered for most of our feeder schools as a principle for a day program. I was a volunteer at Juvenile Hall, Los Preitos Boys Camp, Grizzly Academy, and a Mentor at Jimenez Elementary.

- 6. Identify a recent board decision that you felt strongly about, describe how you would balance community concerns, student needs, state a federal law, staff considerations, and your personal values and beliefs to determine how to vote on the issue.**

The recent Board decision to refund High School resource officers for each high school campus is something I feel strongly in support of. It was done at a time in our communities where law enforcement has been under communities' scrutiny across the country. A subject that would need community, student, and staff input and involvement. To assess all concerns and perspectives with sensitivity and understanding for alignment with state and federal laws. My personal beliefs and

values are real, but a joint collaborative board decision would take priority in the assessment of community, staff, and student needs.

7. What do you see as the strengths of the school district?

The cohesiveness of the current School District Administration, and current board members who represent the diversity of our community, supported by their combined leadership experience and skills to address the needs of our students.

8. What do you see as the area/s most needing improvement in the school district?

I believe alternative education or Independent Study is still in need of improvement as it relates to the numbers of students enrolled each year and correlates that number with the number of students who graduating with a diploma from Independent Study.