

SANTA CRUZ CITY SCHOOLS DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
FOR THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY DISTRICTS
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2017
OPEN SESSION BEGINS AT 6:30 P.M.
SANTA CRUZ COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION BOARD ROOM
400 ENCINAL AVENUE, SANTA CRUZ, CA.

DATE:
TIME:
LOCATION:
EMPLOYEE:

AGENDA

Item	Purpose / Support
Agenda	
1. Convene Closed Session	5:30 p.m.
1.1. Roll Call	
1.2. Public Comments prior to Closed Session	<i>Members of the public may comment on items that ARE listed on the Closed Session Agenda.</i>
2. Closed Session Items	
2.1. Real Property Negotiations (Govt. Code 54956.8)	Address: 255 Swift St., Santa Cruz, CA Agency Negotiator: Mr. Gaffney Negotiating Parties: Gateway School Under Negotiation: Terms of Agreements Address: 133 Mission St., Santa Cruz, CA Agency Negotiator: Mr. Gaffney Purpose: Update and Board Direction
3. Convene Open Session	6:30 p.m.
3.1. Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance	
3.2. Agenda changes, additions or deletions	
4. Public Comments	For presentations of matters <i>not</i> on the Agenda. 3 minutes for individuals; 15 minutes per subject. <i>Note to Members of the Public: Thank you for taking the time to attend this meeting. Santa Cruz City School Board Members appreciate your presence and your comments regarding items not on the agenda are valued. Per Santa Cruz City Schools Board Bylaw protocols, Trustees will not comment on Public Comments during this time.</i>
5. Report of Closed Session Actions	
5.1. Report of Actions Taken in Closed Session	
6. Items to Be Transacted and/or Discussed	

AGENDA

	Item	Purpose / Support
6.1.	Interview Applicants for Provisional Board Member Appointment	Trustees will interview each applicant.
6.2.	Discussion and Deliberation on Applicant Interviews	Trustees will discuss the needs of the district and how the strengths of the applicants might best serve the needs of the district.
6.3.	Vote on Provisional Appointment & Announce New Board Member	Trustees will vote on the provisional appointment.
7.	Adjournment	

The board book for this meeting, including this agenda and back-up materials, may be viewed or downloaded online: <http://www.sccs.santacruz.k12.ca.us/board-of-education/agendas-&-minutes.html> or may be viewed at the District Office, Superintendent's Office, Room 303, 405 Old San Jose Road, Soquel, CA.

Public Participation:

All persons are encouraged to attend and, when appropriate, to participate in meetings of the Santa Cruz City Schools Board of Education. If you wish to speak to an item on the agenda, please be present at the beginning of the meeting as any item, upon motion, may be moved to the beginning of the agenda. Consideration of all matters is conducted in open session except those relating to litigation, personnel and employee negotiations, which, by law, may be considered in closed session.

Translation Requests:

Spanish language translation is available on an as-needed basis. Please make advance arrangements with Nancy Lentz by telephone at (831) 429-3410 extension 220.

Las Solicitudes de Traducción:

Traducciones del inglés al español y del español al inglés están disponibles en las sesiones de la mesa directiva. Por favor haga arreglos por anticipado con Nancy Lentz por teléfono al numero (831) 429-3410 x220.

Board Meeting Information

1. The Regular Meeting on October 18, 2017, 6:30 p.m., will be held in the County Office of Education Board Room, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.
2. The Regular Meeting/Board Study Session: Student Discipline on November 1, 2017, 6:00 p.m., will be held in the Harbor High School Library, 300 La Fonda Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA.
3. The Regular Meeting on November 8, 2017, 6:30 p.m., will be held in the County Office of Education Board Room, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.
4. The Regular Meeting/Board Study Session: Budget Development on December 6, 2017, 6:00 p.m., will be held in the Harbor High School Library, 300 La Fonda Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA.
5. The Regular Meeting on December 13, 2017, 6:30 p.m., will be held in the County Office of Education Board Room, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.

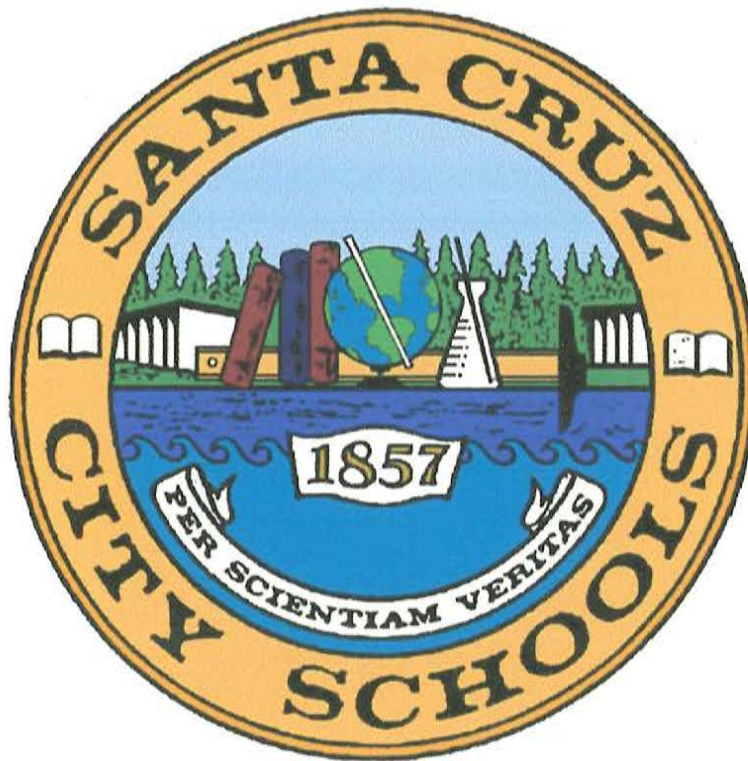
AGENDA

6. The Regular Meeting on January 17, 2018, 6:30 p.m., will be held in the County Office of Education Board Room, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.
7. The Regular Meeting/Board Study Session: District Goals, Resources & Alignment on January 31, 2018, 6:00 p.m., will be held in the Harbor High School Library, 300 La Fonda Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA.
8. The Regular Meeting on February 14, 2018, 6:30 p.m., will be held in the County Office of Education Board Room, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.
9. The Regular Meeting on February 28, 2018, 6:30 p.m., will be held in the County Office of Education Board Room, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.
10. The Regular Meeting on March 7, 2018, 6:30 p.m., will be held in the County Office of Education Board Room, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.
11. The Regular Meeting on March 28, 2018, 6:30 p.m., will be held in the County Office of Education Board Room, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.
12. The Regular Meeting on April 18, 2018, 6:30 p.m., will be held in the County Office of Education Board Room, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.
13. The Regular Meeting on April 25, 2018, 6:30 p.m., will be held in the County Office of Education Board Room, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.
14. The Regular Meeting on May 9, 2018, 6:30 p.m., will be held in the County Office of Education Board Room, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.
15. The Regular Meeting/Board Self-Evaluation/Study Session for the Budget: May Revise on May 23, 2018, 6:00 p.m., will be held in the Harbor High School Library, 300 La Fonda Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA.
16. The Regular Meeting on June 13, 2018, 6:30 p.m., will be held in the County Office of Education Board Room, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.
17. The Regular Meeting on June 20, 2018, 6:30 p.m., will be held in the County Office of Education Board Room, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.

This page has been left blank

SANTA CRUZ CITY SCHOOLS

**APPLICATION FOR PROVISIONAL APPOINTMENT TO THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION**



**PLEASE COMPLETE THIS APPLICATION AND RETURN THE
APPLICATION WITH THREE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION
FROM COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO THE SCCS
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE PRIOR TO 5:00 PM ON FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER 29, 2017**

GENERAL INFORMATION

NAME: **Enda Thomas Brennan**

Mailing address:

Physical address: [same]

Phone:

EMAIL:

Length of residence in the Santa Cruz City Schools District: **29 years**

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Post High School Education / Training / College / University:

Harvard Law School; University of California at Berkeley

Certificate / Degree / Major:

Juris Doctor, Harvard; A.B. in History and Political Science, Cal.

EMPLOYER INFORMATION:

Occupation: **Attorney**

Name of Employer: **Law Office of Enda Brennan**

Work Address:

Work Telephone:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Have you ever been employed by Santa Cruz City Schools? **No**

Are you a vendor, contractor or consultant to the school district? **No**

Members of the Board will be required to file financial disclosure/conflict of interest statements pursuant to rules and forms established by the Fair Political Practices Commission. Are you willing to file a financial disclosure statement if appointed to the School Board? **Yes**

Have you ever been convicted of a crime other than traffic violations or been imprisoned during the last seven years? **No**

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1. Please describe your understanding of the role of a school board member:

The role of a school board member is to represent the voters and residents of our school district in achieving the highest possible level of human development for all students K-12 in our community. Individual Board Members work cooperatively with fellow Board Members and the Superintendent to govern.

2. Please describe the reasons for your interest in serving on the Board of Education:

I am winding down my 37 year career as an attorney and am looking for new ways to serve our community. I believe the most important responsibility for local government is the education of our students and the Board of Education is the key to optimizing that education.

3. Please describe any special skills, education, training, talents or other attributes that you possess which you feel are applicable to the role of a school board member:

I don't think I have any "special" skills. I am a people person and am excited about our entire school "community" from students to parents to grandparents and from classified staff to teaching staff to administrative staff.

4. Please describe your involvement and participation within Santa Cruz City Schools (children in school, committee work, parent club participation, etc.):

I serve as a liaison between the City Sister City Program and the School community in outreach for the student exchange program to Japan and the Hans Christian Andersen Writing Festival in Italy. I have helped arrange several teacher exchanges with our Crimean Sister City.

5. Please describe your involvement and participation in any other community or business activities that you believe are relevant to the role of a school board member:

Please refer to my attached curriculum vitae.

6. What do you see as the basic purpose of public schools?

The public schools' basic purpose is to prepare our young people to thrive and fully develop their human potential.

7. What is the role of the school board in the fulfillment of that purpose?

The School Board's role in fulfilling that purpose is to collectively identify the policies that will allow the Superintendent and her staff of teachers, classifieds and administrators to excel in meeting the needs of the students.

8. Describe your approach to team problem solving when there are differing perspectives?

The key to team problem solving is to listen to all points of view and seek consensus whenever possible. When consensus is not possible, be guided by principle, not personality.

9. How would you describe your communication style?

My communication style is to be respectful, direct, and concise.

10. Briefly describe your commitment to public education and our school district.

[REDACTED] I have been happy to financially support our schools through property taxes and bond levies. We donate funds to Life Lab for younger children and Food What?! for teenagers at risk in our public schools. [REDACTED]

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

Our strength is in the united commitment from parents, all school staff, and locally elected officials to maintain and always strive to increase the excellence of our schools.

12. What do you see as the areas most needing improvement in the school district?

Our funding must be maintained and increased. New approaches must be constantly explored to allow us to maintain the high quality of teachers, classified employees and administrative staff in these challenging times.

13. Please use this space to add any other information that you would like to tell the Board about yourself:

My parents immigrated to California 60 years ago this month with four children. I have been so fortunate in my life and am passionate about all children, regardless of background or place of origin, having the same opportunities I have had.

I certify that I am 18 years of age or older, a citizen of the state of California, a resident within the boundaries of Santa Cruz City Schools, a registered voter, and am not disqualified by the Constitution or laws of this state from holding a civil office. I am qualified to be elected or appointed a member of the Santa Cruz City Schools Board of Education without further qualifications.

Eda Brennan
Signature

9-27-17
Date

13. Please use this space to add any other information that you would like to tell the Board about yourself:

You may add additional pages.

I certify that I am 18 years of age or older, a citizen of the state of California, a resident within the boundaries of Santa Cruz City Schools, a registered voter, and am not disqualified by the Constitution or laws of this state from holding a civil office. I am qualified to be elected or appointed a member of the Santa Cruz City Schools Board of Education without further qualifications.

Erda Brennan

Signature

9-27-17

Date

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Friday, September 29 at 5:00 P.M.

RETURN APPLICATION AND
LETTERS OF RECOMENDATION
TO:

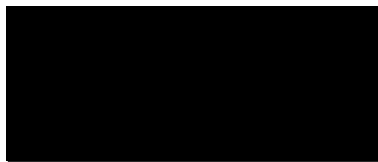
Kris Munro, Superintendent
Santa Cruz City Schools
405 Old San Jose Road, Building 300, Room 303
Soquel, CA 95073

***Please note applications will become public documents with residential address redacted**

Please save the date for a Board Candidate Information Meeting on Wednesday, October 4, 6:00 p.m. Details will be provided.

If you have any questions, please call the Santa Cruz City Schools District Office at 831-429-3410 and ask to speak with Nancy Lentz.

Enda Thomas Brennan



Education

J.D., Harvard Law School, 1980.

A.B., U.C. Berkeley, 1976. Double major in History and Political Science.
Phi Beta Kappa.

Professional

Criminal Defense Attorney, 1985 to present. Admitted to practice in California and U.S. Federal Courts. Law Office of Enda Brennan

Interim Director, U.C. Santa Cruz Arts and Lectures Program, 2006-2007.

Owner, Lovelight Concerts, 1994-2004.

Produced thousands of music concerts in California, Oregon, and Nevada.

Issues Director, Nuclear Weapons Freeze Initiative, 1982.

Associate, Manatt, Phelps, Rothenberg & Tunney, Los Angeles, CA, 1981-1982.

Volunteer Service

Board of Directors, Sister Cities International, 2005 to 2009 Chair of the Audit Committee and Member of the Executive Committee. Elected position.

Board of Directors, Nob Hill Inn Homeowners Association, 2007 to present. Elected position. Currently serving as Secretary,

Board of Directors, Life Lab, 2016 to present. Member of the Finance Committee

Santa Cruz Sister Cities Committee, 1989 to present.

Advisory body appointed by Santa Cruz City Council,.

Board of Directors, Lawyers Alliance for Nuclear Arms Control, 1982-1986. Elected position.

Board of Directors, Grey Bears. Elected Chair of the Board, 2017



September 25, 2017

Santa Cruz City Schools Board of Trustees
405 Old Santa Jose Road, Building 300, Room 303
Soquel CA 95073

Dear Board of Trustees:

It gives me great pleasure to recommend Enda Brennan to serve on the Santa Cruz City Schools Board of Education. I have known Enda both personally and professionally for more than 20 years. Enda is one of the most talented and capable people I've worked with in a wide range of business and nonprofit activities. He is intelligent, articulate, honest, dependable, discrete, affable and community-minded.

Our collaborative work began in the entertainment and promotion business when I was the manager of the Santa Cruz Veterans Memorial Building and for the music group Hapa. Enda and I collaborated on successful music productions at the Building's historic ballroom stage, and with Hapa at his music festivals. Our path's also crossed positively in my public relations work with the Japanese Cultural Fair, an event that was closely tied with Santa Cruz Sister Cities, for which Enda has been a longtime board member.

As part of his work with Sister Cities, Enda invited delegations from Shingu, Japan, and farmers from the Ukraine to tour the Grey Bears facilities and the Healthy Food for Seniors program. Enda was invited to serve on the Grey Bears Board in 2016, and was unanimously elected Board President for the 2017-18 term.

I have every confidence that your board will find Enda to be an outstanding contributor to your work for Santa Cruz City Schools. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Very warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tim Brattan', with a large, sweeping flourish above it.

Tim Brattan
Grey Bears Executive Director



*In the soil of our urban farm and garden, people find
the tools they need to build a home in the world.*

To: Santa Cruz City School Board of Trustees

Re: Enda Brennan and Santa Cruz School Board Vacancy

Dear Friends,

Enda Brennan has been a strong and meaningful contributor to the mission of the Homeless Garden Project. In addition to financial support, he has contributed pro bono legal advice to Homeless Garden Project since 1995. He's contributed legal advice to participants in our transitional employment program for people experiencing homelessness, as well as guidance for staff on organizational legal issues.

Over the last twenty years, Enda has also brought numerous International Delegations to visit our farm and programs, including teacher groups from our Crimean sister city, Alushta.

The Homeless Garden Project, founded in 1990, provides job training, transitional employment and support services to people experiencing homelessness. In complement, we operate a thriving community education and volunteer program which breaks down stereotypes and builds bridges in our community. Our programs take place in a 3.5 acre organic farm and related enterprises.

We are very grateful for the unique skills, talents and engagement that Enda has brought in support of our mission for many years. I hope you'll consider him as a candidate for the Santa Cruz School Board vacancy.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or want more information.

Sincerely,

Darrie Ganzhorn

Executive Director

www.homelessgardenproject.org

MAIL
PO Box 617
Santa Cruz, CA 95061
(831) 426 - 3609

FARM
Delaware at Shaffer Road
in Santa Cruz

DOWNTOWN STORE
1120 Pacific Avenue
next to Pizza My Heart
Fri-Sat 12-7pm & Sun 12-6pm



Dear Members of the Santa Cruz City School Board,

I am writing to you to strongly recommend the appointment of Enda Brennan to the vacancy on your Board.

I have known Enda since 1989 when he was first appointed to the Santa Cruz Sister Committee and have volunteered with him in this capacity for the past 28 years working with him internationally, nationally and locally as he has served this volunteer group at all levels as not only a member of the local Board of Directors, but also of the national Board of Sister Cities International and northern California Board. During this time he has been involved with many different projects which have clearly demonstrated his organizational and leadership skills. For the past few years, he has been organizing annual programs sponsored by the US Congress for groups of young professionals from Ukraine to come to Santa Cruz for a week to meet with similarly employed persons for training and discussion of practices in their field. Recent groups have included lawyers, teachers, and farmers.

Even though he has had no children in the local system, he definitely understands and appreciates the value of a strong, varied educational system. Both my husband and I have been teachers with the Santa Cruz School system and value his thoughts on strengthening our schools. In his work with our sister city in Crimea, he has been instrumental in helping to organize and promote both student and teacher exchanges.

Enda is or has served on several different Boards during the past few years and almost always seems to rise to a role of leadership on them all which clearly shows his level of interest and ability to perform in a positive manner. The variety of his interests, from international exchange groups to Life Lab and Grey Bears, provides him with a good understanding of the Santa Cruz community and should make him aware of and known to many different contacts in the community that would offer him valuable insight into promoting important projects that your Board is proposing.



Sincerely yours,

Nancy Eidam

Robert W. (Rob) Darrow

En

September 29, 2017

Dear Superintendent Munro, President Tracy-Proulx and Members of the Santa Cruz City Schools Board of Trustees:

It is my pleasure to apply for the provisional appointment to the Board of Education.

My formal education began in the Kindergarten classroom of Mrs. Kennedy at Branciforte Elementary. I went on to attend DeLaveaga Elementary, Branciforte Middle School and Harbor High, and various colleges outside of Santa Cruz. My father was also educated by the Santa Cruz City Schools and graduated from Santa Cruz High in 1945.

Even though I have only technically lived in Santa Cruz County for a total of 25 years, Santa Cruz has been my home because my parents have always lived here. Public education was a part of most every dinner table conversation among my parents and my four siblings.

I am a lifelong educator having served as a teacher, school librarian, online charter school principal, educational consultant, and college and career counselor.

Public education is vital to improve the lives of all people and to improve the well being of our community, state and nation. I deeply value public education as well as the many accomplishments of the Santa Cruz City Schools.

Attached is my information sheet, the answers to the questions, and my three letters of recommendation for the open Board position. I hope I have an opportunity to meeting and interacting with each of you, and to continue the great work of the Santa Cruz City Schools.

Sincerely yours,



Rob Darrow

**Santa Cruz City Schools
Application for Appointment for Provisional Appointment
to the Board of Education**

GENERAL INFORMATION:

NAME: Robert (Rob) Worthington Darrow

Mailing Address:

Physical Address:

Length of residence in the Santa Cruz City Schools District: 25 years

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

Post High School Education / Training / College / University:

2015 College Admissions Counseling Certificate. University of California, Riverside.

2010 Ed.D. Educational Leadership, California State University, Fresno

1997 Library Media Teacher Credential, Fresno Pacific University

1986 M.A. Educational Administration and Supervision, San Jose State University

1978 B.A. Political Science, University of California, Riverside

EMPLOYER INFORMATION:

Occupation: Self Employed / College and Career Counselor

**Name of Employer: ForwarDirections College and Career Counseling
(www.forwarddirections.org)**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Have you ever been employed by Santa Cruz City Schools?

XX Yes _____ No (I am on the SCCS substitute teacher list)

Are you a vendor, contractor or consultant to the school district?

_____ Yes XX No

Members of the Board will be required to file financial disclosure/conflict of interest statements pursuant to rules and forms established by the Fair Political Practices Commission. Are you willing to file a financial disclosure statement if appointed to the School Board?

XX Yes _____ No

Have you ever been convicted of a crime other than traffic violations or been imprisoned during the last seven years? _____ Yes XX No

Santa Cruz City Schools
Application for Appointment for Provisional Appointment
to the Board of Education
Answers to Questions: Rob Darrow. September 29, 2017

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1. Please describe your understanding of the role of a school board member.

My understanding of the role of a school board member is to primarily support the vision and goals of the school district in ensuring that every student graduates from high school ready for college or the work force. In addition, I believe that school board members are an important link between the broader community and the school district, assist with input regarding continuous improvement of the district in educating all students, provide policy guidance, identify funding priorities, ratify the school district budget, contracts and personnel, and approve the curriculum used in the school district.

2. Please describe the reasons for your interest in serving on the Board of Education.

I was born and raised in Santa Cruz, am a product of Santa Cruz City Schools, and attended SCCS schools from Kindergarten through high school. I went on to earn several advanced education degrees from California colleges all focused on various aspects of education. I have worked my entire adult life in education as a teacher, school librarian, online charter school principal, and as an educational consultant. After working in other areas of California, I moved back to the Santa Cruz area five years ago and have always been passionate about the importance of education and a strong educational system.

3. Please describe any special skills, education, training, talents or other attributes that you possess which you feel are applicable to the role of a school board member.

I have a deep knowledge of the Santa Cruz community and the various schools in SCCS. Earlier in my life, through work with the Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation department, I worked at most every school in the district. In my current work, I have worked with different school districts and county offices across the state, which may provide other perspectives in supporting SCCS district goals. In addition, I have served on various statewide educational committees including the recent state history social science textbook adoption committee. Having served on a variety of local and state school committees I have an understanding of the complexities of supporting a vibrant and successful school district in California. Finally, I have worked as a grant writer, grant project director and grant evaluator and understand the importance of securing the necessary funding to support the students and teachers in SCCS.

4. Please describe your involvement and participation within Santa Cruz City Schools (children in school, committee work, parent club participation, etc.).

For the past two years I have been part of the district LGBT Task Force chaired by Eileen Brown to identify support systems for LGBT students across the district. I have assisted in implementing some aspects of that committee work including a district wide survey of teachers regarding the teaching of LGBT history. In addition, I was the project director of a Community Foundation grant during the 2016-17 school year that provided professional learning for history teachers in the area of LGBT history and several teachers from SCCS participated.

5. Please describe your involvement and participation in any other community or business activities that you believe are relevant to the role of a school board member.

I am the Director of Research and Professional Learning for the Safe Schools Project that support Santa Cruz County Schools in being more safe and inclusive – especially for LGBT students. The project is part of the Santa Cruz Diversity Center to provide support for teachers and students and is partially grant funded and partially volunteer. I continue to interact with the Santa Cruz County Office of Education by co-chairing the county LGBT task force that brings together representatives from each school district to discuss best practices and how all schools can be more safe and inclusive. In addition, I am a volunteer with Santa Cruz Indivisible and as a group leader, work with members of the community to help everyone become better informed and involved in civic education. Finally, I am an independent college and career counselor and co-founder of ForwarDirections, a non-profit that guides high school students in applying to college.

6. What do you see as the basic purpose of public schools?

The basic purpose of public schools should be to serve the students and parents of the school district with high quality schools that include knowledgeable and passionate administrators, teachers and staff who produce high achieving students. Overall, it is important that public schools are purposeful stewards for student achievement and integral partners in providing continuous improvement in the community.

7. What is the role of the school board in the fulfillment of that purpose?

To support the various programs that are being implemented across the district to best serve all students.

8. Describe your approach to team problem solving when there are differing perspectives?

I am a collaborative problem solver. When there are differing perspectives, it is more important to listen than to talk and to work towards the common good when making decisions. I believe in the power of the group, in clarifying perspectives, and asking the right questions will lead to the right decisions.

9. How would you describe your communication style?

I pride myself in my communication skills – both in listening to the perspectives of others and expressing my own. It is important to hear from the voices of our school district stakeholders including parents, staff, students and community members. Overall, I would characterize my communication style as a reflective listener and clarifier to arrive at the best decisions that most positively impacts students.

10. Briefly describe your commitment to public education and our school district.

I am passionate about public education and have had a lifelong commitment to public education. I can remember back as a member of the student council at Harbor High School, being part of a student committee that helped to build the Harbor swimming pool. I grew up in a family that valued community service and the importance of public education and giving back to the community. SCCS provided me with an excellent education and with outstanding educators who were important role models in my life. I would like to share back a little of my expertise to do what others have done for me, and to help make our school district be a model of success for all students.

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

There are many strengths of the district that I have observed. These include:

- **Strategic planning for student success with involvement of the community, teachers and staff**
- **Many schools earning the State Gold Ribbon School Awards and other awards**
- **Passage of Measures A and B Bond measure by community in 2016**
- **District Master Plan for growth approved in 2016 developed as the result of the passage of Measures A and B**
- **Parcel taxes passed in 2012 and 2016 for class size reduction, school libraries, counseling services and career technical education**
- **Unique funding model between elementary district and high school district and how to capitalize on these funding models for more student services**
- **AVID programs across the district to support a college going culture**
- **Tiered intervention programs are in place for all students across the district**
- **Robust performing arts and music programs across the district**
- **Athletic programs for students across the district**
- **Ongoing continuous discussions about how to improve services for all students.**
- **Ongoing studies, surveys, meetings and community input to discuss how to help all students to be more successful in schools and what can be done to facilitate those directions**
- **District website is easy to use and to find information**

12. What do you see as the areas most needing improvement in the school district?

The areas needing improvement and are ongoing challenges for the school district in my opinion are:

- **Meeting the needs of second language learners**
- **Meeting the needs of all students regardless of income**
- **Hiring and retaining the best teachers and administrators**
- **How to address the challenge of affordable housing for educators in Santa Cruz County**
- **How to increase the graduation rate and reduce the dropout rate for all students**
- **How to embed a continuous education mindset (from PreK-college) in all students and families, and partner with local colleges to ensure an educated workforce**
- **How to continue to offer the range of programs needed to support our diverse student population**
- **How to make the school district an even better model of safe and inclusive schools so that all students feel safe, can achieve, and are successful**

[REDACTED]

Kris Munro, Superintendent
Deborah Tracy-Proulx, Board President
Santa Cruz City Schools
405 Old San Jose Road, Building 300, Room 303
Soquel, CA 95073

September 24, 2017

RE: Letter of Recommendation for Rob Darrow, Trustee Applicant for Vacant Board Seat

Dear Superintendent Munro and Board President Tracy-Proulx:

I am pleased to recommend Rob Darrow as a Trustee for the vacant seat on the Santa Cruz City Schools Board of Education. I know Mr. Darrow as a capable advocate for equality and safety for all students, and as a skilled and strategic thinker dedicated to improving the quality of life for those in our community. I believe his broad background and knowledge will be beneficial to the Board of Trustees, and will benefit the students and teachers of the Santa Cruz City School district.

I first met Mr. Darrow in 2014, during my time as a Steering Committee member of the Queer Youth Task Force (QYTF) of Santa Cruz County. Mr. Darrow had recently taken on the role of Director of Research for the QYTF's Safe Schools Project, and asked to meet with me to review a grant he wrote with Safe Schools Project Director Ron Indra. The grant since became the funding mechanism for our County to successfully implement the FAIR Education Act of 2011, allowing Mr. Darrow and Mr. Indra to develop lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) history curriculum and train teachers throughout Santa Cruz County to accurately represent LGBTQ history in their classrooms.

In addition to his work with the Safe Schools Project, Mr. Darrow has taken a leadership role on the county-wide LGBTQ Task Force that interfaces with the Santa Cruz County Office of Education and has served as part of the Santa Cruz City Schools LGBT Task Force. The sum of this work demonstrates Mr. Darrow's dedication to ensuring safety, equality and fairness for all youth in Santa Cruz County by making schools safer and affirming for LGBTQ youth.

I have also had the privilege of working directly with Mr. Darrow as part of Santa Cruz Indivisible's LGBTQ Team Steering Committee, a team of activists working to identify federal and state policy issues impacting the LGBTQ community, and to engage the broader allied community to become more politically involved in supporting LGBTQ policy issues. As a result, I have seen first-hand Mr. Darrow's ability to successfully navigate complex personalities and politics, achieve political organizing goals and bring about positive change and access to invaluable knowledge.

I hope you will consider appointing Rob Darrow to the vacant Trustee seat for the Santa Cruz City School Board of Education. I believe he will make an excellent addition to your Board and will bring his ideals toward inclusion of all students, his ability to work with diverse groups of people and reach consensus towards common goals. Please feel free to contact me at [REDACTED] should you seek further details on Mr. Darrow's qualifications.

Sincerely,



Adam Spickler

Kris Munro, Superintendent
Santa Cruz City Schools
405 Old San Jose Road, Building 300, Room 303
Soquel, CA 95073

September 26, 2017

Dear Superintendent Munro and Members of the Santa Cruz City Schools Board of Education:

It is my pleasure to recommend Rob Darrow to become a member of the Santa Cruz City Schools Board of Education. I have known Rob for over 40 years as a colleague, as an involved Santa Cruz citizen, and as a friend. I was actually a senior at Harbor High School when Rob was a sophomore, but we met later in life when we were both working with church youth groups.

I have lived in Santa Cruz for 50 years. My three children attended Santa Cruz City Schools from K - 12. I worked as a teacher's aide and did my student teaching at DeLaveaga Elementary. I am now a grandmother with a kindergartener who attends DeLaveaga Elementary.

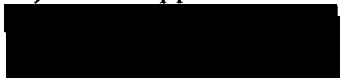
For all the years I have known Rob, he has always been passionate about education and especially meeting the needs of all young people in school. He has taught or worked with students and teachers at every grade level from K-12 and has worked as an online school principal and school librarian. The fact that he has served in a range of educational positions and with various school districts across the state provides him with various perspectives that would be beneficial to Santa Cruz City Schools.

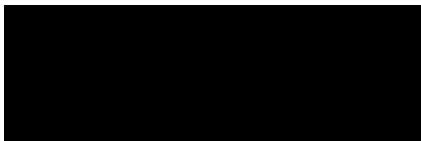
Rob is a very collaborative person and has the ability to work with a wide range of people. He values working toward consensus in the groups to which he belongs and he is skillful in bringing out the best in other people. Because he is a product of the Santa Cruz City Schools, he has a unique perspective and the ability to work with others to make the school district even better than it already is.

Few people have the knowledge of the Santa Cruz community and education as well as Rob Darrow. I think he is ideally suited to serve on the Santa Cruz City Schools Governing Board.

Thank you,
Janine Ciapponi

Janine Ciapponi





Kris Munro, Superintendent
Santa Cruz City Schools
405 Old San Jose Road, Building 300, Room 303
Soquel, CA 95073

Dear Superintendent Munro:

It is my pleasure to recommend **Rob Darrow** as a member of the Santa Cruz City Schools Board of Education. I have known Rob for the past four years through our work on the tri-county community organization, COPA (Communities Organized for Relational Power in Action). COPA is a grass-roots organization that identifies needs within the local community, and then works to address these issues by partnering with other stakeholders, such as the County Board of Supervisors. COPA is comprised of numerous organizations throughout Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Benito, including Resurrection Catholic Community in Aptos, where Rob and I serve on the core team.

As a member of the COPA core team at Resurrection, Rob has taken the initiative to develop liaison relationships with other groups within our church, including the Youth group. Rob talks to these groups about their needs so that our core team can incorporate these concerns into the work of the larger COPA organization. Rob has been attending monthly core team meetings at our church, as well as representing our church at larger COPA gatherings throughout the tri-county.

In our core team meetings and through one-on-one discussions with Rob, I have been impressed by his passion and commitment to social justice, and, in particular, addressing the needs of youth in our community. I am sure that Rob's impressive background in education and work with queer youth informs his perspective on these issues.

However, I want to emphasize that Rob is not merely someone who has a passion for these issues. Rob possesses many talents and skills which make him strongly qualified to be a member of the Board of Education. Rob is a creative, strategic thinker, who is able to see the big picture while also attending to small details. As a newcomer to the COPA core team, Rob was appropriately diplomatic but made some great suggestions about ways to improve the structure of our meetings. Rob not only makes great suggestions, he steps up to do the hard work. In addition, Rob has personal qualities that make it a pleasure to work with him. He is fundamentally a kind and friendly person with a great sense of humor, who seems to get along with all kinds of people.

Rob Darrow – page 2

Finally, in my role as a psychologist at UCSC, I know that it is critical to have the right people advocating for the needs of students in our schools. I believe that Rob has a deep understanding and concern for the academic and social needs of all students, which make him an ideal candidate for the Governing Board of the Santa Cruz City Schools.

I give Rob Darrow my highest recommendation and hope that you will consider him for this position. If you have any questions, you can call me during the day at [REDACTED]

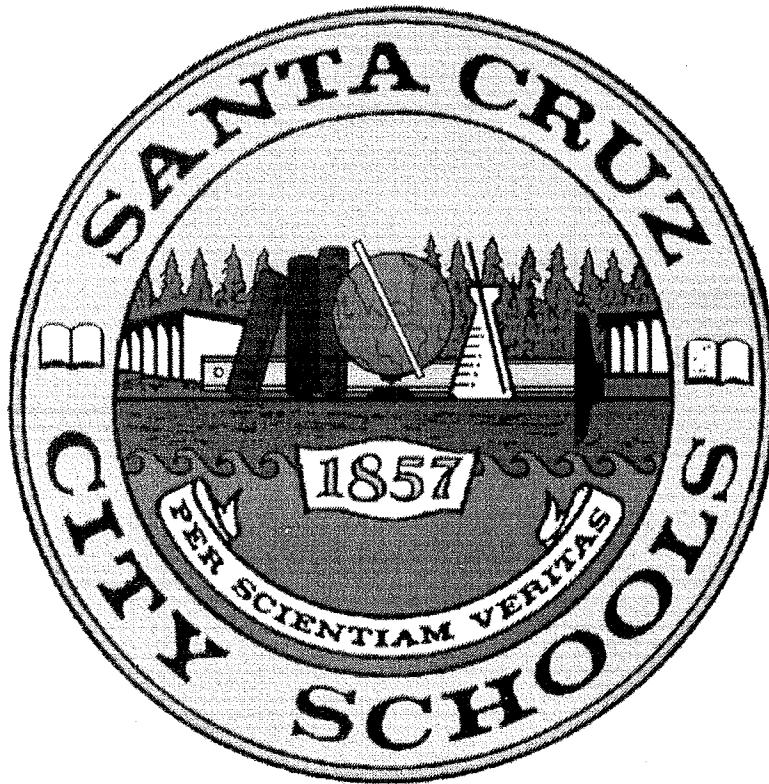
Sincerely,

Audrey Kim

Audrey Kim, Ph.D.

SANTA CRUZ CITY SCHOOLS

APPLICATION FOR PROVISIONAL APPOINTMENT TO THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION



PLEASE COMPLETE THIS APPLICATION AND RETURN THE
APPLICATION WITH THREE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION
FROM COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO THE SCCS
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE PRIOR TO 5:00 PM ON FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER 29, 2017

GENERAL INFORMATION:

NAME: Linnaea Ann Holders

First

Middle

Last

Mailing Address:

Physical Address: same

PHONE:

EMAIL:

Length of residence in the Santa Cruz City Schools District: 41 years

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

Post High School Education / Training / College / University: University of California, Santa Cruz

Certificate / Degree / Major: BA in Art History, Highest Honors in the Major, 1998

EMPLOYER INFORMATION:

Occupation:

Name of Employer:

Work Address:

Work Telephone:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Have you ever been employed by Santa Cruz City Schools?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are you a vendor, contractor or consultant to the school district?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Members of the Board will be required to file financial disclosure/conflict of interest statements pursuant to rules and forms established by the Fair Political Practices Commission. Are you willing to file a financial disclosure statement if appointed to the School Board?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Have you ever been convicted of a crime other than traffic violations or been imprisoned during the last seven years?

☐ Yes ☒ No

September 29, 2017

Santa Cruz City School Board

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to enthusiastically recommend Linnaea Holgers James to fill the school board position left vacant by Alisun Thompson.

Linnaea has shown her commitment to arts, education and this community in many ways – including through a partnership with the Arts Council, where I've been Executive Director since 2009. Beyond her demonstrated support for local artists and events such as Open Studios, several years ago she came to the Arts Council suggesting she revive the beloved community events called "Hearts for the Arts". This large-scale fundraiser used to garner significant funding for arts education in Santa Cruz. Linnaea showed initiative by tweaking the original concept of the event from a big gala with a live auction to a smaller, more workable scale. In the revived event, artists donate heart-themed artwork to be displayed at Linnaea's Artisans Gallery in downtown Santa Cruz. She runs a silent auction of the artwork from First Friday in February until Valentine's Day.

This event has now run for eight years and has raised tens of thousands of dollars for arts education in our local schools. It has also brought artists, kids, and community members together in celebration of creativity. Linnaea's desire was to raise funds for arts education as the SPECTRA programs she experienced as a schoolchild shaped her life and led to her career connections in the arts.

Both Linnaea and I have kids who attend Gault Elementary, and I've seen first-hand how Linnaea shows up, literally and metaphorically, for our school. I see her at every event and I even see her celebrate her school and her commitment to it through her social media channels.

Linnaea is a smart businesswoman, a passionate advocate for education, and a supporter of the arts – all things that make her an excellent choice for the school board. I hope you will strongly consider her candidacy. If you have any further questions, please contact me directly at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,



Michelle Williams

Juleen Lisher



September 28, 2017

To Whom It May Concern-

I first made Linnaea Holger's acquaintance over 30 years ago. I worked at California Savings bank downtown, and Linnaea would come in to deposit her babysitting money. She seemed like a very nice girl. A few years later, when my husband John and I had purchased the old Artisan's Cooperative following the 1989 earthquake, I found myself in need of quality employees. I immediately thought of Linnaea, and the next time I saw her, I made her an offer. She started the day after Thanksgiving when she was 16 years old. In the beginning, she came in for 3 hours a day, 3 days a week after school. Little by little, her responsibilities increased, always by her initiative to take more on. She worked for us while she attended UCSC. Eventually, she became our manager.

We felt very fortunate to have the opportunity to watch Linnaea make the transition from schoolgirl to a very competent professional. In 2009, at the age of 32 and after spending half her life working there, Linnaea purchased the business from me. It has been a pleasure to watch it thrive.

When I see the contributions Linnaea has made to downtown, as a business owner, a member of organizations, boards and committees, or just as a good citizen and mother, it makes me very proud. I am sure it would make my late husband, John, very proud as well. Linnaea is an asset to every group she is a part of. I am certain Linnaea would bring to the Santa Cruz City School Board the same positive approach, strong work ethic, problem solving abilities, emotional intelligence, and fresh air and sunshine that she brings to everything she does.

Sincerely,



Juleen Lisher



September 27th, 2017

To whom it may concern,

It is my pleasure to provide this letter as an expression of my endorsement of and confidence in Linnaea Holgers James as a member of the Santa Cruz City School Board.

As the Executive Director of the Downtown Association of Santa Cruz, I have had the pleasure of working with Linnaea for over a decade. I have witnessed Linnaea's transition from a store manager to store owner as well as her launching of a second retail store from inception to actualization. For one not directly experienced with the vast and complex challenges of retail management in Downtown Santa Cruz in today's economic, cultural and technological climate I will underscore the significance of the aforementioned accomplishments. It is only through a rare gift of tenacious persistence coupled with an acute flexibility and constant objective evaluation that such an endeavor can possibly sustain. Linnaea possesses extraordinary analytical skills that over and over I have seen her translate into effective responsive and proactive actions that have allowed her and her enterprises the success that they have enjoyed.

In addition to my observances of Linnaea as a merchant and entrepreneur, I have had the pleasure of having her serve on the Board of Directors of the Downtown Association for several years. In this role I have a naturally civic minded and community focused leader, always working toward the goals and success of the group. One of the many qualities that I have admired and appreciated in Linnaea is her ability to thoughtfully integrate the very personal and emotional needs of an individual business with the more global benefits of the collective. While many of us often see these needs in conflict, Linnaea strives for finding the intersection where they meet and provide the greatest support for all.

It is quite clear, and even exciting to me how Linnaea's professional skills and personality translate seamlessly into the role of governance and oversight in our city schools. Her ability to understand process, to work effectively and enjoyable with a group and to be goal oriented without being myopic.

Finally, I would like to say a word about Linnaea's commitment to community and to the arts and humanities, a commitment that I personally feel an imperative priority for anyone working in education today. As a founder and co director of First Friday Santa Cruz, I can say with authority that Linnaea's own personal understanding of and support for the arts and artists in our community has been paramount to the culture of Downtown Santa Cruz. So many in Santa Cruz' creative community have been supported, in no small part, by the opportunities that Linnaea has made available. Linnaea understands how this support ripples to the betterment of the cultural, social, and economic climate. Her ongoing support for arts education in the schools, through annual events in Artisan's Gallery is but a small example of the contribution that Linnaea continues to make.

I am enthusiast about the value that Linnaea will bring to our schools and I invite you to contact me if I can be of any further assistance in this matter.

Chip,
Executive Director
Downtown Association of Santa Cruz

1. Please describe your understanding of the role of a school board member:

To oversee implementation of policies that provide the best possible programs and to manage the budget for the benefit of all students and staff. To foster an atmosphere of open communication so that all members of the school community have a voice in the education process.

2. Please describe the reasons for your interest in serving on the Board of Education:

I am life-long resident of Santa Cruz. I attended Santa Cruz City Schools from kindergarten through 12th grade and it was a very positive experience. Both my parents were public school teachers in Santa Cruz County. My mother was the president, for ten years, of her teachers union in Scotts Valley while I was growing up. As a result, I was raised with an awareness of the many issues facing school districts, teachers and students.

As a mother of a Santa Cruz City School student, I've had an opportunity to become involved as a Gault Parent. I've seen and experienced how important our school system is in shaping the lives of our Santa Cruz kids and the absolutely crucial role the school system can and should play in our community.

3. Please describe any special skills, education, training, talents or other attributes that you possess which you feel are applicable to the role of a school board member:

Due to my family background, I grew up immersed in the culture of education and surrounded by educators. In college I tutored other students at UCSC and after college I substitute taught in Santa Cruz County. In my professional life as a small business owner, I have spent a great deal of time developing and implementing budgets. I was the President of the Santa Cruz Downtown Association for two terms. On that board we are responsible for developing and recommending policy to city council. I currently sit on the Downtown Management Corporation Board, a mix of business and property owners, city staff and city council members that meets every other month.

4. Please describe your involvement and participation within Santa Cruz City Schools (children in school, committee work, parent club participation, etc.):

My daughter, Eloise, attends Gault Elementary and both my nephews are in the dual immersion program at Delevega Elementary. I've volunteered in the classroom since my daughter started school in TK at Gault 3 years ago. My step daughter Hannah graduated from Santa Cruz High in 2015, where my sister-in-law is a teacher, so I have gained perspective of the school from both a parent and a teacher point of view. My businesses consistently donate to parent organizations within Santa Cruz County for fundraising efforts.

5. Please describe your involvement and participation in any other community or business activities that you believe are relevant to the role of a school board member:

I have many years of experience serving on various boards and working constructively with partners in the public and private sectors. As an owner of two downtown businesses, I am

actively involved with various community organizations. As a small business owner and employer we support the public schools through donations to parent organizations. We also host and promote events, such as Hearts for the Arts at Artisans that benefit art education in Santa Cruz County. We just hosted a fundraiser at the beginning of September for the Santa Cruz Education Foundation. Working with the public for the past 25 years, I have been fortunate to develop many strong rewarding relationships with all types of people within the community.

6. What do you see as the basic purpose of public schools?

Education is a cornerstone of our democracy and an integral part of the fabric of our society. Public schools provide an opportunity for students to develop the competencies they need to participate and prosper in our civil society. In addition, though, public schools can be, and should be, safe places where people come together, as students, teachers, parents, families and communities--places where people can find inclusion and access, access to knowledge, access to support and access to inspiration.

7. What is the role of the school board in the fulfillment of that purpose?

The school board should promote policies and budget appropriately to create a climate that supports inclusion and places a high value upon education for all. Students need to be prepared academically and socially for the challenges and demands of society. As educational leaders, school boards must be active listeners to all voices in their community, and they must spend time in the schools and communicate freely with stakeholders to understand the impacts and effects of policies.

8. Describe your approach to team problem solving when there are differing perspectives?

I feel there is great deal of value in showing respect and listening fully to everyone's opinion. I am very comfortable expressing my opinion, but I am very concerned about being respectful to others when doing so, and working together to find consensus. Having the patience to understand someone else's point of view pays off.

9. How would you describe your communication style?

Calm, considerate and clear. I value a relaxed friendly atmosphere which I believe leads to more positive outcomes.

10. Briefly describe your commitment to public education and our school district.

I am a parent within the district so that automatically gives me a huge buy in, but my commitment to the schools extends beyond the years that my children are in school. A strong, vibrant, successful school system is one part in the chain of having a strong, vibrant and successful community. For me, commitment to public education was taught to me by my parents as a way of life. As an employer, I am committed to employing kids who have grown up in Santa Cruz and as such have an active interest in the excellence of our schools. Currently two very valued members of our staff are recent graduates of the Santa Cruz City School system.

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

I think the strengths are an awareness of needs and an openness to addressing those needs. While we face some challenges, Santa Cruz is definitely a community that values local institutions. From conversations with other residents, I get a strong sense of an immense pride in the schools and a deep appreciation of the staff in individual schools.

12. What do you see as the areas most needing improvement in the school district?

There is always room for improvement and I certainly understand a lot of the issues facing school districts today are budget related. That being said, the areas of most interest to me are:

Increasing the opportunities for English Language learners and bilingual education throughout the district. Aside from the important short term academic benefit of these programs, they provide a long term educational and social advantage to all parties involved that is of incalculable value.

Identifying opportunities to develop more robust art, music and physical education programs whenever possible or practical.

13. Please use this space to add any other information that you would like to tell the Board about yourself:

I have learned from experience when joining an existing group that it is worthwhile to observe and listen first. I would see this as especially important in this unique situation of fulfilling a vacancy.

13. Please use this space to add any other information that you would like to tell the Board about yourself:

You may add additional pages.

I certify that I am 18 years of age or older, a citizen of the state of California, a resident within the boundaries of Santa Cruz City Schools, a registered voter, and am not disqualified by the Constitution or laws of this state from holding a civil office. I am qualified to be elected or appointed a member of the Santa Cruz City Schools Board of Education without further qualifications.


Signature

9/29/17
Date

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Friday, September 29 at 5:00 P.M.

RETURN APPLICATION AND
LETTERS OF RECOMENDATION
TO:

Kris Munro, Superintendent
Santa Cruz City Schools
405 Old San Jose Road, Building 300, Room 303
Soquel, CA 95073

***Please note applications will become public documents with residential address redacted**

Please save the date for a Board Candidate Information Meeting on Wednesday, October 4, 6:00 p.m. Details will be provided.

If you have any questions, please call the Santa Cruz City Schools District Office at 831-429-3410 and ask to speak with Nancy Lentz.

This page has been left blank

September 26, 2017

Members, Board of Education
Kris Munro, Superintendent
Santa Cruz City Schools District
405 Old San Jose Road
Soquel, CA
94073

Dear Members of the Board and Superintendent Munro,

Please accept the attached application, letters of recommendation and abbreviated résumé in response to your request for applications for provisional appointment to the Board of Education, SCCS, Trustee Area III, At-Large. If you need any additional information, please let me know.

It would be an honor to be considered for this interim appointment, and it would indeed be a privilege to serve as a Trustee. As my résumé indicates, I have extensive experience in public schools as a teacher, principal, and superintendent. I have also served on Boards and Commissions and have enjoyed the collaborative processes that make them work efficiently and effectively.

In each position I have maintained a tireless focus on ensuring that all children are provided the full opportunity to maximize their potential. The hallmark of my service has always been a dedication to excellence. I have always set high standards for myself and for others as we work to bring quality education to each student and to provide a professional work environment for all staff.

Maintaining a focus on instructional excellence will be a particular challenge over the next few years while the Board and District staff work to balance the tremendous challenges of implementing the bond-funded facilities plan while moving forward with the established strategic goals. I had nine years of experience with planning and implementing bond-funded programs when serving as Superintendent of the Los Gatos-Saratoga High School District. My hope is that I could be a constructive team player in ensuring that facilities plans are implemented in a timely, efficient and cost-effective manner without losing sight of the District's larger goals.

As one who loves to learn and one who loves to support the learning of others, it would be a great privilege to serve as a Santa Cruz City Schools District Trustee.

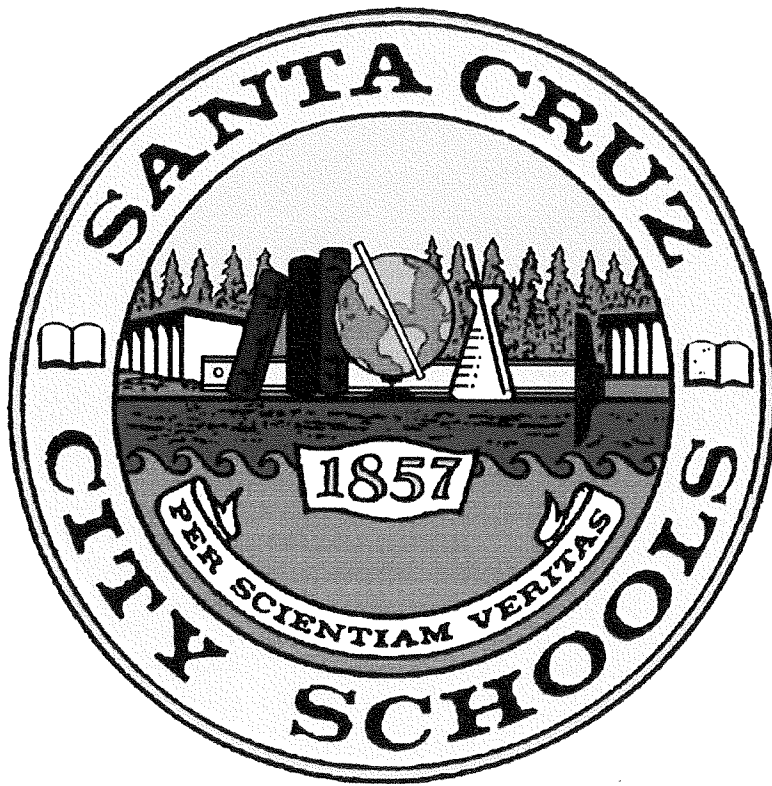
Sincerely yours,



Cynthia Hall Ranii

SANTA CRUZ CITY SCHOOLS

APPLICATION FOR PROVISIONAL APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION



PLEASE COMPLETE THIS APPLICATION AND RETURN THE
APPLICATION WITH THREE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION
FROM COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO THE SCCS
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE PRIOR TO 5:00 PM ON FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER 29, 2017

GENERAL INFORMATION:

NAME: Cynthia Hall Ranii
 First Middle Last

Mailing Address: _____

Physical Address: _____

PHONE: (home) _____

EMAIL: _____

Length of residence in the Santa Cruz City Schools District: 20 years

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

Post High School Education / Training / College / University: Ed.D. in Educational Leadership (USC, 1998);
M.A. Asian Studies (UPenn 1970); B.A. Near Eastern Languages (UC Berkeley, 1969)
 Certificate / Degree / Major: Teaching Credentials: Social Science and Adult Basic Education;
Administrative Credential; Community College Credential

EMPLOYER INFORMATION:

Occupation: Retired educator*; Writer "Parakeet Races + Other Stories: A Memoir" - 2012

Name of Employer: Regular contributor to New Mobility Magazine and Westlake Living

Work Address: _____

Work Telephone: _____

* Superintendent, Los Gatos-Santa Teresa High School District (1997-2004)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Have you ever been employed by Santa Cruz City Schools?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are you a vendor, contractor or consultant to the school district?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Members of the Board will be required to file financial disclosure/conflict of interest statements pursuant to rules and forms established by the Fair Political Practices Commission. Are you willing to file a financial disclosure statement if appointed to the School Board?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Have you ever been convicted of a crime other than traffic violations or been imprisoned during the last seven years?

☐ Yes ☒ No

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1. Please describe your understanding of the role of a school board member:

An individual member of a board is part of the governance team. A board member is part of the Board/Superintendent team that collectively works to ensure high quality education to each student. A board member has no "individual authority."

2. Please describe the reasons for your interest in serving on the Board of Education:

My motivation is to be of service to the District's Community. Hopefully, my unique experiences in public education would add value to the Board.

3. Please describe any special skills, education, training, talents or other attributes that you possess which you feel are applicable to the role of a school board member:

I would bring to the role of school board member 25 years of experience in schools as a classroom teacher, program coordinator, principal (high school) and Superintendent. A keen ability to listen, problem-solve, and collaborate, would I hope, help to ensure effective Board unity and effectiveness.

4. Please describe your involvement and participation within Santa Cruz City Schools (children in school, committee work, parent club participation, etc.):

My involvement within the schools has been indirect. I have often been asked to advise parents of SCCS ^{students} ~~parents~~ as they worked with school staff to ensure high quality education appropriate to their individual students. I have also provided free ping pong clinics to high school students.

5. Please describe your involvement and participation in any other community or business activities that you believe are relevant to the role of a school board member:

In other communities I have served on Community Education and Recreation Board (Los Gatos) and Planning Commission (Fullerton). In Santa Cruz, in coordination with Louden Community Center, led a successful effort to establish a daytime Ping Pong program at Depot Park.

6. What do you see as the basic purpose of public schools?

Public schools are a cornerstone of our American democracy. Providing free and appropriate education to each child includes preparing students for active citizenship; public schools operate effectively by creating positive school environments for all. The aim is for each student to maximize his/her potential academically, socially

7. What is the role of the school board in the fulfillment of that purpose?

The role of the Board is to provide collective leadership to set direction, policy and accountability on behalf of the District. The Board is the trustee of the short and long-term health of the District. Hiring and supporting the Superintendent is a key responsibility. The Board keeps the focus on effective education for each student.

8. Describe your approach to team problem solving when there are differing perspectives?

Staying focused on a common agreed-upon goal is essential; e.g. "Keeping learning and achievement for all students as a primary focus." Listening to understand, observing agreed-upon norms, and finding common ground among differing views are cornerstones of team problem solving.

9. How would you describe your communication style?

Clear, articulate, thoughtful. Good listener.

10. Briefly describe your commitment to public education and our school district.

My commitment to public education is passionate and enduring. I went to public schools K-B.A.; our four children went to public schools as do our 12 grandchildren. As a 20 yr Santa Cruz resident I have been a steady supporter and cheerleader for our local public schools.

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

- Tradition of excellence; positive school environments;
- Commitment to teaching the whole-child; student achievement
- Dedicated administrative and teaching staffs
- Responsive, inclusive communication processes

12. What do you see as the areas most needing improvement in the school district?

- Recruiting and retaining quality educators in the context of high cost-of-living community
- Addressing achievement gaps in student community
- Allocating scarce financial resources effectively
- Implementing facilities program without losing focus on instruction.

13. Please use this space to add any other information that you would like to tell the Board about yourself:

I believe in and support the District's vision, core values
and strategic goals. It would be an honor to serve
on the Board. I would bring focus, energy and dedication.

You may add additional pages.

Thank you for your consideration,

I certify that I am 18 years of age or older, a citizen of the state of California, a resident within the boundaries of Santa Cruz City Schools, a registered voter, and am not disqualified by the Constitution or laws of this state from holding a civil office. I am qualified to be elected or appointed a member of the Santa Cruz City Schools Board of Education without further qualifications.

Cy Hall R.
Signature

21 Sept. 2017
Date

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

Friday, September 29 at 5:00 P.M.

RETURN APPLICATION AND
LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION
TO:

Kris Munro, Superintendent
Santa Cruz City Schools
405 Old San Jose Road, Building 300, Room 303
Soquel, CA 95073

***Please note applications will become public documents with residential address redacted**

Please save the date for a Board Candidate Information Meeting on Wednesday, October 4, 6:00 p.m. Details will be provided.

If you have any questions, please call the Santa Cruz City Schools District Office at 831-429-3410 and ask to speak with Nancy Lentz.

September 22, 2017

Kris Munro, Superintendent
Santa Cruz City Schools
405 Old San Jose Road, Building 300, Room 303
Soquel, CA 95073

Trustee Application of Cindy Ranii

Dear Superintendent Munro,

I cannot imagine a better Santa Cruz City Schools Trustee than Cindy Ranii. For that reason I encouraged her to apply for the open position and I urge the other trustees to unanimously select Cindy to join them.

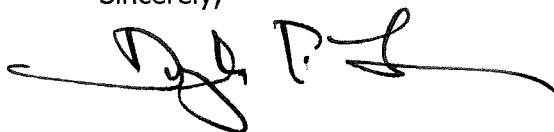
Cindy's professional experience speaks for itself. How often does a community get the opportunity to have someone who has been a teacher, principal, parent, grandparent and superintendent bring that expertise and sensitivity to the issues our school system faces? Her lifelong commitment to public education and her knowledge of how public school systems work will put her in a position to make very quickly a profound and positive contribution to the deliberations of the Board.

If Cindy had absolutely no public education experience she would still be the best possible addition to the Board of Trustees. Over the last five years I have spent hours and hours talking with Cindy about every imaginable issue. She is blessed with an inner calm that permits her to listen to others with sincere respect. She takes the time to understand, to investigate, to question and to reflect. Consequently, all who know her want to talk to her and they want her ideas and judgment. These are critical qualities for an effective trustee to possess.

Let me take one moment to say why I care. I attended Gault, Branciforte Elementary, Westlake, Mission Hill and Santa Cruz High, where I was student body president as a member of the great Class of 1969. My father was a member of SCHS Class of 1937 and my grandmother was a member of SCHS Class of 1910. The company of which I am a part enthusiastically supports a first class public education program to make this a community where people want to live and raise their children. Cindy will help make our schools better.

Please welcome her to your team.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Douglas P. Ley', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Douglas P. Ley

[REDACTED]

To whom it may concern,

When I learned that my friend, Cindy Ranii, was applying for the open seat with the Board of Santa Cruz City Schools, I was thrilled. I was even more excited to have an opportunity to write a letter of recommendation for her, because I know she is absolutely perfect for the position.

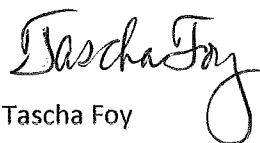
I have known Cindy for close to two decades. We met when she moved across the street from a good friend of mine. Her strength as a woman, and as a leader, was clear to me from the start. I was impressed with her professional resume, and it was obvious to me how she achieved her status as a superintendent. Within the next few years, what she would experience personally proved unequivocally that she is one of the most fiercely determined and persistent humans I have the honor of knowing.

I know that Cindy and her children are proud alumni of public schools, and that her 12 grandchildren are currently thriving in public schools, as well. As a friend, Cindy is an eager, caring listener, and a collaborative problem-solver; no doubt this is what she brings to work, also. She has amazed me in recent years with the energy she put into not only developing ping-pong programs in the community for seniors and wheelchair players, but also into competing in Paralympic events around the world, giving her unique opportunities to further enhance working as a team player and learn about differences across the spectrum of cultures, ages, and abilities. She has certainly demonstrated the enthusiasm, focus, flexibility, and patience required to get things done.

From both professional and personal experience, Cindy certainly understands the need to ensure that all children be given the opportunity to maximize their potential. She climbed the ladder of education starting as a teacher, and then progressing to coordinator, to high school principal, and to Superintendent; therefore, Cindy possesses that essential, keen sense of what it's like to be in the trenches, as well as to be making tough decisions as a team from the top. Cindy is thoughtful, sharp, and creative, she embraces diversity, and she exudes warmth and openness.

I am a Speech-Language Pathologist formerly employed by SCCS, and employed for the last 10 years by Dominican Hospital. I am a mother of two children who attended Santa Cruz City Schools. I have many friends who are current employees of SCCS. I am proud to call Cindy Ranii my friend, and couldn't be more pleased to recommend her for the SCCS Board.

Sincerely,


Tascha Foy

September 24, 2017

[REDACTED]

Dear Santa Cruz City Schools Board,

As you no doubt know, from her resume and personal statement, Cindy Ranii has been a champion of public education for over 25 years. Her dedication to her community is clear and impressive. She is indisputably qualified to be a valuable new board member, on both professional and philosophical levels.

My experience with Cindy is personal. I have known Cindy for 16 years. She became my neighbor when my 16 year old daughter was a newborn. She has watched, with interest and involvement, my daughter and my 13 year old son grow up.

I have met and spent time with all of Cindy's kids, and later her grandchildren. She is a sincere, loving, wise and attentive observer and participant in all of their lives. I have no doubt that Cindy would bring that same sincerity, wisdom and passion to the school board and its work.

Cindy is an intent listener. As appropriate, she considers her comments or responses very deliberately. She is able, and I think even more importantly, excited about being part of a team--respecting and valuing each person's contributions.

From what I have witnessed, Cindy approaches everything in her life with enthusiasm, knowledge of the subject at hand, and above all, dedication. I wholeheartedly recommend that you select Cindy Ranii to serve on your board. As a mother, a teacher and a Santa Cruz resident, I know with great certainty that the entire Santa Cruz schools community will benefit from Cindy's involvement and participation.

Sincerely,



Alissa Powell



September 26, 2017

Attn: Board Members
Santa Cruz City Schools

It is with pride and respect that I encourage you to appoint Cynthia Ranii to the available seat on your distinguished School Board. Cindy brings with her a vast wealth of appropriate experience and commitment and would be an outstanding addition to your Board.

Cindy is my next door neighbor and I have come to know her as a friend and wonderful neighbor. She was actively working as the Los Gatos/Saratoga Superintendent of Schools when she first moved next door to me. I have always admired her honesty, sincerity and compassionate abilities to listen and be engaged. When she sets her mind to do something, she commits to a successful outcome. She is non-confrontational but has the ability to work toward a united outcome.

Now that Cindy is retired, she has the necessary time to commit to being an excellent addition to the Santa Cruz City School Board. Her resume speaks for itself. I have been on and led a number of non-profit boards including the Santa Cruz Rotary, Cabrillo College Foundation and the Santa Cruz Symphony. I am acutely aware that one person can have a powerful effect on the success of a Board. Cindy knows that the goal of boards is to work together for a positive outcome. I know that you would all benefit from her experience and gracious nature.

Sincerely,



Lind Burroughs

Cynthia Hall Ranii, Ed.D.

On-going Goals

- To apply my background, education, professional and personal experience in service to others
- To develop further as an individual and as a member of the local and larger community

Educational Background

- Ed.D., Educational Leadership, University of Southern California (1995);
Research focus: Professional Development and Professional Climate
- M.A., South Asian Regional Studies, University of Pennsylvania (1971);
Research focus: Hindi and Bengali poetry
- B.A., Near Eastern Languages, University of California, Berkeley (1969);
Areas of focus: Indian Studies, Cross-cultural communication

Professional Credentials Earned

- Professional Administrative Credential
- Single Subject Credential, Social Science
- English Language Development Specialist Certificate
- Community College Credential; Adult Basic Education

Professional Background

- Writer, "Parakeet Races and Other Stories: a Memoir" published 2012;
Regular Contributor to New Mobility Magazine
- Superintendent, Los Gatos-Saratoga Joint Union High School District (1997-2006)
- Administrative Positions, Fullerton Joint Union High School District (1988-1997): High School Principal, Administrator of Instructional Services, Coordinator of Alternative and Continuing Education
- Teacher/Coordinator, Rancho Santiago Community College District, Indochinese Refugee Project (1980-1984)
- Adjunct (part-time) University Teaching positions in Educational Leadership, Instructional Leadership, Curriculum and Instruction, School Finance, Human Resources, Multi-cultural Education, and Teaching as a Profession at various colleges and universities (1987-2010), Santa Clara University, San Jose State University, National University, California State University, Fullerton and California State University, Los Angeles

Cynthia Hall Ranii

- Consultant, (Part-time) California Department of Education (1982-1991)
English as a Second Language Teacher Training Institute, Trainer and Curriculum Developer
- English Teacher, and Cross-cultural Trainer, Peace Corps, Iran (1971-1974)
- Assistant Reading Teacher, Philadelphia, PA (1970-1971)

Selected Accomplishments as Superintendent

- Developed instructional leadership processes and supported teacher-driven innovations towards equity and educational excellence for all students with the focus on effective instruction for every student every hour every day
- Implemented innovations to recruit and retain excellent teachers, administrators and support staff
- Worked with collective bargaining units to establish a Health Benefits Advisory Committee which developed strategies to stabilize the rising costs of health insurance
- Led collaborative effort to pass \$79 million bond measure with 81% yes vote
- Implemented renovation and building program including classroom modernizations, restrooms, swimming pools, science buildings, libraries, classroom building, performing arts center, locker rooms, and tech upgrades
- Established and led a Diversity Task Force to address equity issues
- Developed inclusive budgeting process to work transparently with bargaining units and the community

Community Service, Boards and Commission Background

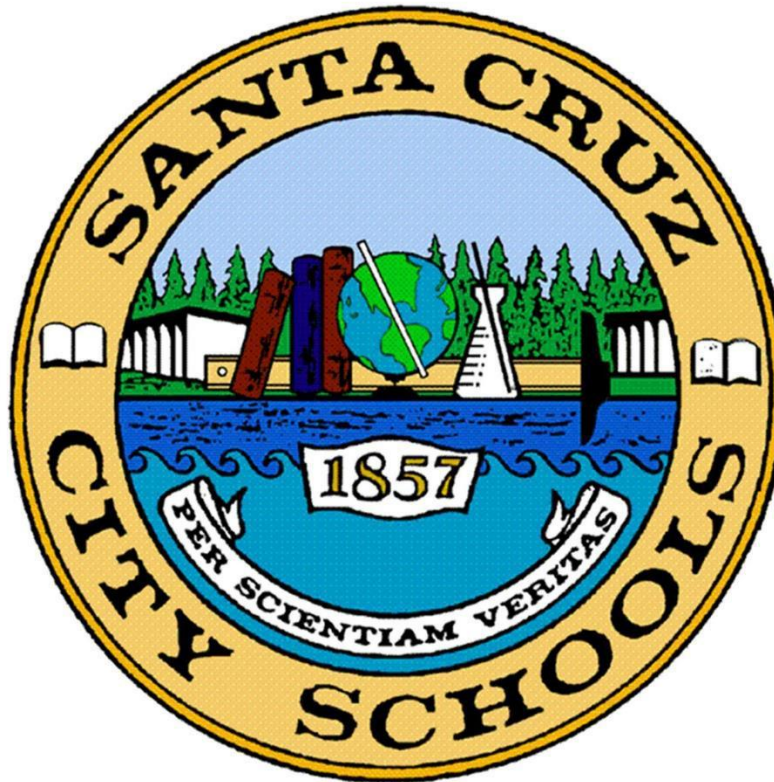
- Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation Volunteer, Table Tennis (2015-Present)
- USCS Smith Renaissance Society Mentor Volunteer (2015-Present)
- United States Paralympic Table Tennis Volunteer (2012-Present)
- Upland Unified School District Classroom Volunteer (2009-2012)
- Los Gatos-Saratoga Community Education and Recreation Board and Metro Education District Board (ROP) (1997-2006)
- Planning Commission, City of Fullerton (1981-1987)
- Rotary International (1995-2008)
- Peace Corps Volunteer, Iran (1971-1974)

Family/Personal Interests

- Married with four children, 12 grandchildren
- Meditation, Adaptive Yoga, Reading, Piano
- Table Tennis (Bronze Medalist, Parapan American Games; Bay Area Senior Women's Champion)

SANTA CRUZ CITY SCHOOLS

APPLICATION FOR PROVISIONAL APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION



PLEASE COMPLETE THIS APPLICATION AND RETURN THE
APPLICATION WITH THREE LETTERS OF
RECOMMENDATION FROM COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO THE
SCCS SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE PRIOR TO 5:00 PM ON
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2017

GENERAL INFORMATION:

NAME: Olga Josefina de Santa Anna
First Middle Last

Mailing Address: [REDACTED]

Physical Address: Same

PHONE: (home) [REDACTED] (work) none (cell) [REDACTED]

EMAIL: [REDACTED]

Length of residence in the Santa Cruz City Schools District: 35 years

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

Post High School Education / Training / College / University:
University of California at Santa Barbara, San Jose State University

Certificate / Degree / Major:

BA: Spanish/Chicano Studies Major, Masters in Education and Administration/ Supervision, Bilingual Certificate of Competency, Clear Multiple Subjects Credential, Single Subjects Credential in Spanish

EMPLOYER INFORMATION:

Occupation: Retired Educator: Principal/Teacher of 45 years

Name of Employer: N/A

Work Address: N/A

Work Telephone: N/A

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Have you ever been employed by Santa Cruz City Schools?

X Yes No

Are you a vendor, contractor or consultant to the school district?

X Yes No

Members of the Board will be required to file financial disclosure/conflict of interest statements pursuant to rules and forms established by the Fair Political Practices Commission. Are you willing to file a financial disclosure statement if appointed to the School Board?

X Yes No

Have you ever been convicted of a crime other than traffic violations or been imprisoned during the last seven years?

 Yes X No

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1. *Please describe your understanding of the role of a school board member:*

The role of a school board member is to work in tandem with the Superintendent and other board members and the school community in a collaborative and respectful manner in order to set the direction for the district.

The Board anticipates future demands and require the school's employees to meet them. The Board sets policies to accomplish the stated mission and vision and then demand evidence that the policies are being followed.

2. *Please describe the reasons for your interest in serving on the Board of Education:*

I would like to help build bridges of understanding between the district and its underserved communities. I have many years of experience building community at the elementary, middle and high school level, always keeping the students, teachers and parents in mind. I have a strong understanding of the unique cultures at each level and respect the work which is being done by the teachers and the administration.

I also want to work with the board and the community on finding solutions to ongoing problems that arise such as equity of programs across schools and helping ALL student access the arts, computer science and STEM, as well as, retention of our wonderful teachers by working on housing solutions. I am Hispanic and bilingual /bi-cultural. I feel that there is a need on the board for a person such as myself that can communicate with ELAC parents and hear their concerns in Spanish concerning the progress and needs of second language learners.

3. *Please describe any special skills, education, training, talents or other attributes that you possess which you feel are applicable to the role of a school board member:*

I feel very fortunate to have experienced the plight of a second language learner as I learned English at the age of ten when we migrated to the USA from Venezuela. Becoming a bilingual teacher was one of the most rewarding things that I ever did. Being multicultural has given me a deep insight into the struggles of the second language learners today, whether they are Hispanic or from a different culture. Having served as a bilingual teacher for over 24 years, as an assistant principal at the secondary level, and as a principal at both the elementary and the middle school level this has given me a well-rounded knowledge about public schools, adversity, gang awareness, conflict resolution, equity, and gender equality and acceptance. I was proactive in writing many grants which led to school improvement in the arts, academics, and positive emotional health and climate at each of the schools I was honored to serve. I was directly involved in three renovation and remodeling projects: one at Gault Elementary, one at Mintie White Elementary and one at E. A. Hall Middle School where I retired in the middle of the project. One of the grants I authored brought in enough money to build three playgrounds at Mintie White and to replace the very old dangerous structures that had been there since 1940. At Gault, I wrote many grants to support the Arts programs and help our English Language Learner population. After 8 successful years of transforming Mintie White Elementary and raising scores, I was asked to lead both Mintie White and E A. Hall Middle at the same time. After a year, I chose stay with the middle school and wrote and received a \$3,500,000 School improvement grant and transformed the school. I was the first school to hire a bilingual parent liaison and a full- time socio-emotional counselor.

I am a parent of three very successful children who are products of the SCCS. During my tenure as an employee of the Santa Cruz City Schools, I served as a bilingual/bicultural teacher, an Integrated Thematic Instructor and mentor, a literacy coach as well as a Science Mentor, and later as a principal. I received a great deal of training in all levels of instruction, pedagogy, anti-bullying, Brain Compatible Education using LIFESKILLS and Life Long Guidelines. In Santa Cruz and Pajaro Valley Unified, my leadership team and I developed an anti-bullying program. As principal, I also developed a discipline matrix at each school. I am a trainer of teachers and administrators for Highly Effective Teachers: Center for Effective Education with Susan Kovalik and Karen Olsen. I recently trained the William's School District on National Standards for Character, Citizenship and Responsibility. I have several credentials: Bilingual Certificate of Competency, Clear Professional Multiple Subjects Credential, Single Subject in Spanish, Masters in Administration and Supervision, Administrative Services Credential and have attended the Superintendent's Academy through ACSA.

One of my greatest strengths is my ability to always look ahead and honor and celebrate success. I am a very positive and empathetic person, so communicating and actively listening is extremely important to me.

Finally, I have served on many boards in our community and have been trained on Board Governance by the Santa Community Foundation several times.

As far as talents go, I have a great sense of humor, a love for dancing, and for bringing folks together in a positive and constructive, loving way.

4. Please describe your involvement and participation within Santa Cruz City Schools (children in school, committee work, parent club participation, etc.):

I retired three years ago from PVUSD and came home to Santa Cruz City Schools after working in Watsonville for 16 plus years. Since then, I have worked as an Interim Assistant Principal at Mission Hill and Soquel High. I loved it every minute of my tenure there. I almost came out of retirement. I feel that the connections I have made within the schools with the parents, students, and teachers were wonderful and very effective. My involvement with the Santa Cruz Education Foundation and the Association of California State Administrators also helped to honor teachers, students and administrators in our district at celebrations such as the Eddy Awards and the ACSA Spring Fling. At Mission Hill, I headed the ELAC meetings and I also worked with their PTA during events and lunch duty. As a teacher at Bay View Elementary, I was the coordinator instrumental in starting the Life Lab Program along with parent volunteers and UCSC students. I taught parenting classes in Spanish (Los Niños Bien Educados) Children's Creative Response to Conflict, was an NTP (New Teacher Project) teacher, Science Mentor for the MCSIP , Mid County Science Implementation Project and a Literacy Mentor in charge of the District Language Task Force. I also administrated the new Standards and Assessment Project. At that time, we were pioneers in creating Language Performance Assessments and establishing tests that would now be considered bench mark assessments. My students performed two musicals a year. My start as a principal at Gault evolved from my work as the Head teacher/Summer School Principal.

5. Please describe your involvement and participation in any other community or business activities that you believe are relevant to the role of a school board member:

I truly believe that giving back to our community is very important. I have served on many boards throughout my career: Boys and Girl's Club, DIENTES, Arts Council of Santa Cruz, Life Lab, and presently I have returned to the Santa Cruz Education Foundation, working on governance and fundraising. I was one of the founding members of SCEF. Please see my resume for the dates. My commitment to each of these boards has been to ensure that all students and the greater community are represented and that they all have the same opportunities for growth and services needed. In the case of DIENTES, we established satellite clinics at different schools. I also volunteer at the Homeless Garden Project and help with their dinners. This is always humbling and brings in a great deal of money for the project. Knowing your community and how these boards give back is relevant to the role of a board member.

6. What do you see as the basic purpose of public schools?

The purpose of public schools is to ensure that every child have the same opportunity to learn under a fair, equal, and consistent system that provides the foundation for our democracy. The National Standards: Civics and Government on Relationships states that it is imperative for the "informal curriculum" refer to the governance of the school community and the relationships among those within it. These relationships should embody the fundamental values and principles of the American constitutional democracy. Public schools need to address one of the most important environmental factors that develop the "at-risk" students into complete, confident and caring human beings. This being said, they need to have caring relationships with extended family members and others in their environment such as their teachers, principals, coaches, yard duty personnel, bus drivers etc. When students experience intrinsic worth and treat others with integrity, dignity and respect that is built on high expectations and standards, achievement goes way up mainly due to the fact that they are feeling an absence of threat thereby feeling safe, and so they thrive. Building schools with viable discipline, consistent systems across the district is very important. I know that SCCS is working on this with their administrative teams who are constantly sharing their practices.

7. What is the role of the school board in the fulfillment of that purpose?

The role of the school board is huge! School boards have to have a vision and strategic goals to accomplish the vision. The Core Values are the beliefs that help the Strategic Goals guide in their decision making. These Strategic

Goals are the outcomes that constantly need to be worked on while working together as a team with the Superintendent, teachers, directors, administration, counselors, and students in order to accomplish them. There has to be a way of measuring how and if the goals are being met. To do this, Sites and Departments have to work together by acting on issues, studying them and then planning what to do if the metrics do not measure up. The board is the sextant for the district and must take of all of these factors into consideration with issues that come up. Board members need to be great listeners, and do their own research on issues that arise or programs that are introduced to the board so that they can govern effectively. Visibility is very important! Working as a team is crucial and so is confidentiality on tender topics or decisions that must be made.

The Strategic Goals for SCCS are all encompassing, which include maintaining a well-balanced and monitored budget, maintaining strong communication and partnerships with everyone in the Santa Cruz's diverse community, maintaining positive relationships with our unions by developing a highly collaborative, professional culture which is focused on highly effective teaching, ensuring that students will be successfully prepared to go to college or develop a career if they so choose. The strategy that refers to elimination of the achievement gaps which currently exist between demographic student groups, go hand in hand with creating positive, engaging school environments. This will in turn promote the development of cognitive skills and will improve the social emotional well-being and academic achievement of all students.

8. Describe your approach to team problem solving when there are differing perspectives?

My approach to team problem solving when there are differing perspectives is to first, as a group, agree to be respectful, patient, calm and good listeners. It is important to have norms for behavior for the group, and ground rules so that everyone has a turn to express their opinions. It is my hope that the "problem" has been investigated and that there is data available that might lead to a solution. I am not a defensive person, and over time have developed a thick skin when folks get negative. It's important when dealing with differing perspectives to stay neutral if possible, as well as, positive and respectful. Sometimes you have to just agree to disagree and move on. It is important on difficult issues to study the issue, and then discuss the benefits and how the results fit with the vision and goal at hand.

9. How would you describe your communication style?

I would say that my style of communication is kind and mildly assertive, while clearly stating my opinions and feelings after getting the facts and doing my homework. I am a sincere person who strives to be a great listener. I am an empathetic team player and truly believe that there is "no ME in WE" and no "I in Team!" I am respectful of other's opinions, have good eye contact and love feeling connected to others. I will not allow others to be abusive. I do stand up for my rights and those of others if I have to, but not in public unless the team says it is okay to do so. I express my feelings as clearly as I can, appropriately, honestly and respectfully. As a board member, it is important to respect the rights of others, stay neutral, and if the public cannot control themselves, then, I know I can control myself.

10. Briefly describe your commitment to public education and our school district.

If you have read my resume, you will see that I am truly committed to public education. I have spent 45 years as an educator in the public-school system. Even retirement has not kept me away from the schools. I started as a teacher at Bay View Elementary, and was hired at B-40 Middle School mid-year. That summer I was hired at Gault Elementary. During this time, I managed to raise three wonderful students that graduated from the SCCS. They all have gone on to become responsible citizens.

So why am I applying for this commitment now that I have given so much to education over the past 45 years? The answer is that I want to be a part of SCCS's team that is working for what is safest, and equitable in order to provide the best education for our students so that they can become productive members of our community. I know that in the next couple of years I will be a grandmother and what happens between now and when they are in school will be crucial to their education.

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

I see many strengths in the SCCS district. It is an engaged community with strong support for public schools. SCCS is very lucky to have a Superintendent who is very transparent and visible and who supports strong learning environments and listens so well to issues at hand. She is visible on many campuses and in her communications. There exists a solid plan for academic improvement with strong curriculum goals for students. From what I have seen and heard from members of the community, the existing board is a cohesive one who is willing to work hand in hand with the Union, parents and teachers. There is a strong working relationship between labor and management.

12. What do you see as the areas most needing improvement in the school district?

I feel that the progress of English language learners, especially the long-term English learners, is an area that not only SCCS is working on, but so many other districts as well. It might be a good idea to study successful districts and the programs that they are using to help this group of students to catch up in order to address their needs. Also, it is important to have a Trustee that is bilingual/bicultural that can communicate directly with the Hispanic population. Another place for improvement is working to find a way to retain our wonderful teachers in Santa Cruz. I know that housing is an issue and so is money for salaries. The other area that needs improvement is providing equity of enrichment programs across schools so that no matter where a student goes to school, and no matter what language they speak, or gender they identify with, they have the same opportunities. Finally, creating and maintaining safe schools everywhere is an ongoing challenge that I feel has improved greatly in the SCCS and is constantly being addressed.

13. Please use this space to add any other information that you would like to tell the Board about yourself:

When I was the principal at Gault, I took my entire staff to the Museum of Tolerance in LA. This was possible with a grant that we wrote as part of our school plan to raise multicultural awareness and acceptance, bond as a staff, and establish an anti-bullying program. Out of this experience, we became a strongly knit staff. When I became a middle school principal, I took my leadership team to the SPECTRUM Conference in order to bring awareness to the issues facing our LGBTQI students. My staff received a great deal of training from the Diversity Center that helped create a safe and caring climate for our transitioning youth. I am glad that our district continues to address these areas and I would be a very good resource in these areas to the board and our district.

I certify that I am 18 years of age or older, a citizen of the state of California, a resident within the boundaries of Santa Cruz City Schools, a registered voter, and am not disqualified by the Constitution or laws of this state from holding a civil office. I am qualified to be elected or appointed a member of the Santa Cruz City Schools Board of Education without further qualifications.

Olga de Santa Anna
Signature

September 28, 2017
Date

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Friday, September 29 at 5:00 P.M.

RETURN APPLICATION AND
LETTERS OF RECOMENDATION
TO: Kris Munro, Superintendent
Santa Cruz City Schools
405 Old San Jose Road, Building 300, Room 303
Soquel, CA 95073

***Please note applications will become public documents with residential address redacted**
Please save the date for a Board Candidate Information Meeting on Wednesday, October 4, 6:00 p.m. Details will be provided.

If you have any questions, please call the Santa Cruz City Schools District Office at 831-429-3410 and ask to speak with Nancy Lentz.

OLGA de SANTA ANNA

I am a caring, bilingual, bi-cultural, collaborative, resilient and transformational leader looking to share years of educational experience serving as Trustee on the Santa Cruz Board of Education. My goal is to support, create and maintain a positive learning environment that fosters creativity, safety, and is challenging that targets success for all students in order for them to achieve their highest potential.

The list below is only a snapshot of my experiences in education.

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND EVALUATION

- ◆ Trainer for California Public Education Foundation and Highly Effective Teachers: Summer 2017
- ◆ Mentor for ACT II: SCCOE 2015-2017
- ◆ ACSA Superintendents Academy 2013-2014
- ◆ ACSA Principal's Academy: Leadership is Our Responsibility
- ◆ ACSA Leadership Conference
- ◆ ACSA C.L.A.S.S Training August 2015
- ◆ New Administrator Institute: California School Leadership Academy- South Bay
- ◆ Worked with Superintendent's One Voice Initiative to provide LCAP Training, LCFF Training, and hold Town Hall Meetings
- ◆ Thinking Maps Training
- ◆ 21st Century Classroom Management training, Teacher Evaluation
- ◆ Attended Professional Learning Communities training : Dufour, Reeves
- ◆ Response to Instruction Cohort I: Santa Cruz County Office of Ed. 2004
- ◆ Common Core Standards Training: Sharon Haddy
- ◆ Data Team Process, SMART Goals: Leading and Learning Center
- ◆ Worked on the District EL Task Force Office to write the English Learner Master Plan
- ◆ Attended Reading First Training: Implemented it schoolwide.
- ◆ Ventures Training, Target Success Training: Human Resources for Hiring
- ◆ COTSEN Training: The Art of Teaching and creating outstanding teachers and mentors
- ◆ Caught in the Middle Cohort: Santa Cruz City Schools
- ◆ Susan Kovalik and Associates: Brain Compatible Integrated Thematic Instruction: Training and Trainer of Trainers
- ◆ Mid County Science Implementation: Science Mentor Santa Cruz City Schools
- ◆ Board Governance Training: Through the Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County
- ◆ Graduate of Baldrige in Education School Leadership Academy
- ◆ Successfully wrote and implemented a grant from the Museum of Tolerance to train all teachers at Gault Elementary School.
- ◆ SPECTRUM Conference : Diversity training of Site Leadership on LBTQ2 legislation, sensitivity awareness

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Wrote and successfully managed grants and budgets:

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| ◆ SIG Cohort 2 Grant, E. A. Hall: approx. \$3,500,000 | 2011-2014 |
| ◆ QEIA E. A. Hall: \$183,000 | 2009-2010 |
| ◆ QEIA Mintie White: \$187,820 | 2005-2009 |
| ◆ SIG Grant Mintie White: \$356,900 | 2009-2010 |
| ◆ COTSEN Fellows Grant, 2 cycles, Mintie White | 2005-2010 |

BUSINESS AND FINANCE CONTINUED...

- ◆ Emergency Repair Grant to build three playgrounds at Mintie White Elementary \$289,689 2004-2005
- ◆ Reading First Grant, HPSG Grant, TIIG Grant 2002-2006
- ◆ Santa Cruz Youth Foundation: Grant for Lap Tops for Teachers \$40,000 2004-2005
- ◆ Women In Philanthropy Grant \$12,000pr yr. Set up Arts Program at Mintie White: \$96,000 2002-2010
- ◆ SPECTRA Grants totaling \$10,000 2002-2008
- ◆ David Lucille Packard Foundation Arts Grants, SPECTRA Gault Elementary, SC approx. \$150,000 1999-2002
- ◆ Negotiated with CSEA for four years and PVFT for Pajaro Valley Unified School District
- ◆ Served on Finance Committee with Brett McFadden, CBO Pajaro Valley Unified School District
- ◆ Served on Facilities/ Bond Committee: Measure L, with CBO PVUSD

MANAGEMENT

- ◆ Successfully managed exemplary reward systems for teachers and students
- ◆ Successfully managed the evaluation process for non-tenured teachers that resulted in non-re-electing some teachers, as well as, mentored other teachers that have been pivotal in the positive transformation process.
- ◆ Successfully managed 2 CPMs and FPM, PQR
- ◆ Developed a successful and viable discipline system that includes Anti-bullying, LifekSkills, Safety Nets for Students, Diversity Club which included policies for Transgender Youth,
- ◆ Created a Parent Center, Parent Liaison, Socio-Emotional Counselor, which provides systematic Parent Workshops, Gang Awareness, and Parenting Skills.
- ◆ Successfully managed and transformed two schools at the same time: Budgets, SSC, ELAC, 80 teachers
- ◆ Successfully managed Gault Elementary's Renovation

ORGANIZATIONS

Pajaro Valley Association of Managers: President	2012-2014
Pajaro Valley Association of Managers: Secretary	2011-2013
Association of California State Administrators: Region 10 Chapter Secretary	2011-2013
Association of California State Administrators: Region 10 Chapter President Elect	2013-2014
Association of California State Administrators: Middle Grades Council, Retirement Committee	2012- 2017

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- ◆ Arts Council of Santa Cruz County, Trustee , Grants and Education Committee 2013 to present
- ◆ Life Lab, Trustee 2016 to present
- ◆ Santa Cruz Education Foundation, Trustee 2016 to present
- ◆ DIENTES Non-profit, Trustee and Vice President 2005 to 2011
- ◆ Watsonville Rotary: Adopt a School, Reading Buddies, Calendars 2010 to 2014
- ◆ Granite Rock Algebra Academy 2013 to 2014
- ◆ Boys and Girls Club, Trustee 2000-2005
- ◆ Kid Power Teen Power Training and Endorsement 2002
- ◆ Agenda 21 Santa Cruz Advisory Board Trustee 1997

HONORS

- ♦ Region 10 Blanche Montague Award, 2015
- ♦ Region 10 Charter Board President, 2013-2015
- ♦ Service Award, Pajaro Valley Unified School District, 2015
- ♦ Proclamation for Service, by Mayor of Watsonville, Nancy Billicich, June , 2015
- ♦ Rotary of Watsonville: Outstanding Principal Achievement Award, 2014
- ♦ San Jose State Dean's Award : Outstanding Contribution to Schools and Community in the area of Multicultural Education 2004
- ♦ Kermit A. Seefield Award for Outstanding Professional Attitude, College of Marin 1972
- ♦ Scholastic Performance National Merit Award for Community Service, Scholastic, Bay View Elementary 1992-1993.
- ♦ Principal of a California Distinguished School in Visual and Performing Arts, Gault Elementary 199-2004

EXPERIENCE

- ♦ Interim Assistant Principal: Soquel High School 2016-2017
- ♦ Interim Assistant Principal: Mission Hill Middle School March-June 2016
- ♦ Principal: Edward A. Hall Middle School, Watsonville, and Ca. 2010- to present
- ♦ Principal: Edward A Hall Middle School and Mintie White Elementary, Watsonville Ca. 2010-2011
- ♦ Principal: Mintie White Elementary, Watsonville CA 2004-2011
- ♦ Principal: Gault Elementary School, Santa Cruz, Ca. 2001-2004
- ♦ Assistant Principal: Branciforte Middle School Jan.2001-June 2001
- ♦ Bilingual Teacher: Bay View Elementary: 5/6 grades 1981-2001
- ♦ Bilingual Teacher: Franklin Elementary: 3-6 grades 1978-1981

REFERENCES

- ♦ Retired Superintendent Dorma Baker, PVUSD (831) 688-8100
- ♦ Gail Atlansky : Principal Soquel High School (831) 688-8100
- ♦ Derek Kendall: Assistant Principal Soquel High (831) 688-8100
- ♦ Kris Munro: Superintendent Santa Cruz City Schools
- ♦ Dr. Molly Parks : Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources: Santa Cruz City Schools
- ♦ Brett Mac Fadden ,CBO, CUHSD (831) 688-8100
- ♦ Matthew Levy ,Assistant Principal Pajaro Valley High School, (831) 688-8100
- ♦ Trustee Willie Yahiro, PVUSD (831) 688-8100
- ♦ Matt Farrell, former trustee SCCS (831) 688-8100
- ♦ Don Iglesias, Retired Superintendent (408) 298-1000
- ♦ Diane Siri, retired County Superintendent (831) 688-8100
- ♦ Caroline Calero, President ACSA Region 10 (831) 688-8100
- ♦ Michelle Williams, Director, Arts Council of Santa Cruz County (831) 688-8100
- ♦ Laura Marcus, Director, DIENTES for the Community (831) 688-8100
- ♦ Jean Gottlob, Director of Special Programs and Accountability (831) 688-8100
- ♦ Additional references provided upon request.

EDUCATION

- ♦ San Jose State University : Master's Degree and Education, May 1999
Administration Supervision
- ♦ University of California, Santa Barbara: June ,1976
Preliminary Administrative Credential May 1999
BA Spanish Literature , emphasis on Chicano Studies
Professional Clear Multiple Subjects Credential
Professional Single Subjects Credential, Secondary Spanish
Bilingual Cross-Cultural Certificate of Competency: Spanish

c



**ARTS
COUNCIL
SANTA
CRUZ
COUNTY**

Chair
J.M. Brown

Vice Chair
Jeff Galipeaux

Secretary
Laurie Brooks

Treasurer
Colleen Martin-Garcia

Executive Director
Michelle Williams

Members
Betsy Andersen
Aaron Brookes
Kathleen Crocetti
Olga de Santa Anna
Jennifer Gallacher
John Gaulty
Ann Hazels
Margot Hoffman
Tiffany Jones
Nada Miljkovic
Alex Soto

**Government
Representatives**
City of Capitola
Kim Hogan,
Commissioner

City of Santa Cruz
David Terrazas,
Councilmember

City of Scotts Valley
Donna Lind,
Councilmember

City of Watsonville
Trina Coffman-Gomez,
Councilmember

County of Santa Cruz
Ryan Coonerty,
3rd District Supervisor

September 18, 2017

To whom it may concern,

It is with great privilege that I write this letter on behalf of Olga de Santa Anna for a seat on the school board. Olga holds a wealth of relevant experience that I am sure would be of great benefit to the district, its teachers, and students.

I have had the honor of working with Olga for many years at different capacities, such as a partner when they were a principal of EA Hall Middle School in Watsonville, and more closely for the past couple of years through her role on the board of the Arts Council and Arts Education Committee.

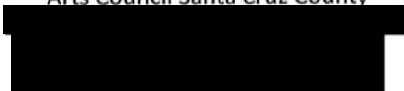
Olga has proven to be an amazing addition to our team. She is dedicated to meeting the individual educational, social, and emotional needs of a very diverse group of students. She is patient, supportive, and constantly giving of her time and energy to ensure that we provide exceptional arts programs to our elementary through high school age youth and teens. Olga is extremely creative in coming up with new unconventional ways to tackle everyday issues, as well as simply improving programs and processes.

I especially appreciate Olga's sincere passion for this work, paired with hands-on experience in the field. She has a unique perspective that she can draw from to provide safe engaging learning environments for a diverse group of students. In addition to her work as principal for EA Hall and other Santa Cruz based schools, she has held many different leadership roles on a variety of community non-profits that provide services for youth. I believe Olga is dedicated to her work as an educator and youth service provider and I see her commitment to equity and social justice in our community.

If you have any further questions or would like to talk to me personally about Olga's work, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Sarah Brothers
Director of Arts Education
Arts Council Santa Cruz County



September 25, 2017

To: Superintendent Munro and the Santa Cruz City School Board Trustees

From: Matt Farrell

Subject: Olga de Santa Anna Recommendation

Please appoint Olga de Santa Anna to fill the Board of Trustees' vacancy. I believe that she will bring unique skills and life experience to your team; and will make real contributions to our schools and our educational community.

I have known Olga for 40 years, watching her grow from her first teaching job in Santa Barbara. In Santa Cruz City Schools, she has worked as an elementary school teacher at Bay View Elementary; as an assistant principal at Branciforte Middle School; and, after that, as a principal at Gault Elementary. She also worked as principal at Mintie White Elementary and EA Hall Middle Schools in the Pajaro Valley Unified School district. For one year, she actually served as the principal of both campuses! Over the last two years, she worked as an interim Assistant Principal at Mission Hill Middle School and Soquel High School. She brings a strong personal experience and knowledge of our district; and a deep understanding of our elementary and secondary school cultures.

Olga is a good listener and loves people. She is bilingual; and, because of her broad experience and knowledge of our underserved school communities, will be a great bridge builder. She also brings a passion for kids and schools to her board position.


Olga also has strong community connections. She has served on the boards of several community organizations, including the Arts Council of Santa Cruz County, the Boys and Girls Club, Dientes, and Life lab. She currently serves on the Santa Cruz Education Foundation.

I had the good fortune to serve on the Board of Trustees from 1992-2000. That experience gave me a personal understanding and appreciation for the challenges presented by this position, and the skills needed to meet them. Olga has the knowledge, skills, passion and heart to succeed as a Trustee. I urge you to appoint her.

Thanks for your all hard work and effort for our schools,


Matt Farrell





Dear Santa Cruz City Schools Board Members:

I am writing this letter in support of Olga de Santa Anna who is running for the replacement seat in Santa Cruz High School, Area 3 due to Allisun Thompson's departure.

Olga has dedicated her life to supporting students, teachers and schools. Olga's dedication to her career has positively touched many people's lives. Her enthusiasm was infectious during her short tenure as interim Vice Principal at Mission Hill Middle School. The teachers, students and parents all felt supported by her presence.

Olga also has raised three children who have all attended Santa Cruz City Schools. If success of your own children is a measurement of success in life, then Olga has achieved an A+. She has persevered against many difficult situations and has come out stronger, better and more passionate than before.

I strongly recommend Olga for the Santa Cruz High School, Area 3 board seat. She would be a wonderful asset that would take into consideration balanced and well-thought out decisions of best interest to all parties involved.

Sincerely,



Stephanie Pache
Community Member
Mother of two children attending Middle and High school

September 21, 2017

Santa Cruz County Board of Education

RE: Letter of Recommendation for Olga de Santa Anna

Dear Board members,

The aim of this letter is to present the good character of Olga de Santa Anna citing first hand experiences that would make her an excellent choice for School Board Member. My name is Pamela Hernandez. I worked as a teacher at Santa Cruz City Schools for over 25 years and have known Olga for over 18 years.

I was teaching at Gault School when she became the Principal at a difficult time during the elementary school closures. We had rapid change in the demographics of students at the school as well as many displaced staff members. You could say parents, staff and students were all reeling from the huge changes. Olga's leadership was impressive at this time of great need. During her tenure at Gault, she united the staff in prioritizing our educational goals for our new clientele, which now included a huge percentage of English language learners. This was by no means an easy task. Through the years we had become a school with a strong Arts focus, attracting many neighborhood families who chose Gault over private school. Olga completely supported keeping the Arts alive and well, at the same time working to meet the needs of our ELLs often through the Arts. It was Olga who had the incredible ability to listen to our parent community and to let them know their voices and concerns were heard.

She used the same leadership skills working with the staff of listening, really listening to the needs and concerns of teachers facing significant changes and of transparent and fair decision making. Additionally during her tenure, Gault went through a huge physical remodel. The experience she gained first hand leading the Gault community through this difficult change is yet another reason Olga would be an excellent School Board Member.

When Olga was our Principal, her focus was always on 'doing what was best for kids.' When I think of my four grandchildren's education and when I think of the future of our public schools they will attend, it is with enthusiasm that I recommend Olga de Santa Anna as a passionate valued member of this Board.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "PAMELA HERNANDEZ". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Pamela Hernandez

[REDACTED]

September 27, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is written in support of Olga de Santa Anna and her application to join the SCCS Board of Trustees. I have known Olga since the 1980s when she was a teacher at Bay View and I was a counselor at Bay View. From 2015-2017 I worked with Olga in the ACT II administrative credential program at the Santa Cruz COE. I've also interacted with Olga over the years in her roles on the board of Arts Council Santa Cruz County and the board of the Santa Cruz Education Foundation.

Olga has been passionate about education throughout her long and dedicated career. She brings a positive attitude into every encounter, be it with students, colleagues, or parents. Olga has a very strong work ethic; she'll do whatever it takes to get the job done.

Being bicultural and bilingual is a terrific asset for a school board member, and I'm sure that Olga will use her life experience, knowledge, and skills to meaningful ends. I am on the board of the nonprofit Senderos and Olga has been a big supporter of our work in the Latino community.

Please give Olga your strongest consideration for the school board.

Sincerely,



Curt Coleman
[REDACTED]