



**PASO ROBLES**  
JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
THE DISTRICT OF EXCELLENCE

SUPERINTENDENT: CURT DUBOST  
800 NIBLICK ROAD  
PASO ROBLES, CA 93446  
Tel: (805) 769-1000 Fax: (805) 237-3339  
WWW.PASOSCHOOLS.ORG

**APPLICANT QUALIFICATION FORM**

**Minimum Qualifications for Application (mandatory information):**

Full Name: James Charles Cogan

Physical Address: 9950 Spotted Bass Lane, Paso Robles, CA 93446

Are you a citizen of the United States? yes

Are you 18 years or older? yes

Are you a registered voter? yes

**Additional Information (optional):**

Length of Residence in District: 3 years

Children in District (Y/N): Yes

If Yes, Schools Attended or Attending and Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: 805-591-4532

Occupation: Managing Partner

Employer: 805AgTech Ventures LLC

Work Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: Jim@805agtech.com

I, James C. Cogan, hereby certify I am a qualified voter and resident of the PRJUSD in the County of San Luis Obispo, in the state of California, and wish to be considered for appointment to fill an unexpired vacancy in the Board of Trustees of the District. The appointment expires in 2022. The term expires in 2024. The appointed candidate may seek election at the 2022 election for the final 2-year term.

I hereby certify that I meet all legal requirements to be a School Board Member of the PRJUSD.

I hereby certify that the information I have presented in the submitted application packet is complete, accurate and true to the best of my knowledge, and hereby authorize the Board of Education to verify this information as may be required. I understand that all application materials I have submitted are subject to the laws governing public information.

I understand that the District will review my offender status in the "Megan's Law" database. I further agree that if I am appointed to fill the Board vacancy, I will obtain fingerprint clearance through the Department of Justice and Federal Bureau of Investigation within one month of appointment and prior to visiting any District school sites when students are present.

Applicant: 

Date: Nov. 16, 2021





**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER PROVISIONAL APPOINTMENT APPLICATION**  
**Additional Information**

Application of: Jim Cogan Date: November 16, 2021

1. Have you served on or do you currently serve on any community commission, committee or other type of board or in any other publicly elected office? If so, which of these and dates served?  
Yes, I am an elder on session at Highlands Community Church, a member of the Board of  
Directors for the Paso Robles Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Board of Directors for  
the Heritage Ranch Owners Association, the Chair of the Paso Robles Supplemental Sales  
Tax Oversight Committee, and a member of the Board of Directors for the Paso Robles Recreation Foundation.
2. Do you hold any other public office or have any business relationship with the district that might constitute a potential conflict of interest with service on the Board? If so, please list the public office or business relationships so we can verify your eligibility for office, if you wish.  
no
3. Have you participated in any school, city, or community activities or committees recently? Please list and explain.  
In addition to the boards upon which I serve, I have participated in stakeholder group  
meetings for the School District's ESSERIII and LCAP plans.
4. Briefly explain your reason or interest in becoming a school board member.  
As a parent of two students in the district, I sincerely care about the education of our students. I will  
work to ensure that the District continues to provide a free and appropriate education for all of our students.  
I will protect funding for extra-curriculars, elective courses, career training and athletics, to ensure our  
students are prepared for the careers of tomorrow. Lastly, I will work with my colleagues to partner with parents  
to develop policies that promote a safe and respectful learning environment for all of our students.



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

The purpose of public schools is to provide a free and appropriate education to all of the students living within the district. This education should prepare students for careers and the next step in the education.

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

The school board's role is to support the professionals who are directly charged with educating our students. The board hires the superintendant and approves the budget for the district and sets broad policy direction to support education. The board is responsive to the will of the voters.

7. What should be the relationship between the board members and the administration in the handling of school concerns?

The board is responsive to voters and parents, passing along school concerns to the superintendant and evaluating how the concerns are addressed. The board should not be attempting to individually direct the efforts of the administration outside of a board meeting.

8. What is the single most critical issue facing the District in the immediate future and how would your background and experiences help the District to meet this challenge?

The most critical issue facing the district is maintaining a sustainable budget. All of the other priorities flow from a sustainable budget, whether its attracting and retaining top employees, fulfilling the commitments in Measure M or continuing to provide athletics for students beginning at third grade. The District must continue to make responsible decisions when it comes to the use of financial resources and property to ensure that we are providing all students with the best possible education.

9. What do you see as the strengths of PRJUSD?

PRJUSD is a diverse district of active, talented and dedicated educators, administrators, parents and students. The budget is in the black thanks to some tough choices made by the board and administration. Thanks to those choices we have preserved amazing programs that prepare students for careers, higher education, and succes in life. Our community is second to none when it comes to support, committment and volunteerism.





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10. What do you see as the area(s) most needing improvement in PRJUSD?

The area of most need is communication. Partly due to the current political climate, even the best of intentions can be impugned with sinister motives. Our district is one of diverse opinions and we need to do a better job of acknowledging those opinions and taking public input to ensure that our primary job of educating our students is not undermined by political noise or miscommunication.

11. Additional information or remarks you believe are relevant to this appointment:

Thank you for the opportunity to apply to serve on the board and for all of the work that you do to educate our students. I am applying for the board out of a sense of duty to give back to a district that has already given my children so much. I have over 20 years of experience in municipal management and budgeting and have proven my commitment to this community through my community service. As the 2020 school board candidate with the 5th highest number of votes, think it is fair to infer that if Mr. Reed had not run last year then I would have been elected. I believe that my goals and commitment to the district are consistent with those of the voters. I have no personal or political agenda other than serving our students the best way that I can and serving as a board member is a way I can serve them well.

12. Can you commit to attending the following meetings beginning at approximately 5:00 p.m.?

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| a. January 11, 2022  | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. January 25, 2022  | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. February 8, 2022  | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. February 22, 2022 | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. March 8, 2022     | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f. March 22, 2022    | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |

