

***REQUIRES BOARD ACTION***

This complete, **ORIGINAL** Ballot must be **SIGNED** by the Superintendent or Board Clerk and returned in the enclosed envelope postmarked by the post office No later than **MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2021**. Only ONE Ballot per Board. Be sure to mark your vote "X" in the box. *A PARTIAL, UNSIGNED, PHOTOCOPIED, OR LATE BALLOT WILL NOT BE VALID.*

OFFICIAL 2021 DELEGATE ASSEMBLY BALLOT  
SUBREGION 23-A  
(Los Angeles County)

Number of vacancies: 2 (Vote for no more than 2 candidates)

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*Delegates will serve two-year terms beginning April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2023*

*\*denotes incumbent*

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Suzie Abajian (South Pasadena USD)\*

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Jennifer Freemon (Glendale Unified SD)\*

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*Provision for Write-in Candidate Name*

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*School District*

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*Signature of Superintendent or Board Clerk*

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*Title*

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*School District Name*

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*Date of Board Action*

*See reverse side for list of all current Delegates in your Region.*

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**REGION 23 – 12 Delegates (11 elected/1 Appointed♦)**

**Director: Helen Hall (Walnut Valley USD)**

**Below is a list of all elected or appointed Delegates from this Region.**

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**Los Angeles County: San Gabriel Valley & East Los Angeles**

**Subregion 23-A**

Suzie Abajian (South Pasadena USD), term expires 2021

Jennifer Freeman (Glendale USD), term expires 2021

Gregory Krikorian (Glendale USD), term expires 2022

Gary Scott (San Gabriel USD), term expires 2022

**Subregion 23-B**

Adam Carranza (Mountain View ESD), term expires 2021

David Diaz (El Monte Union HSD), term expires 2021

Elizabeth Rivas (El Monte City SD), term expires 2022

**Subregion 23-C**

Cory Ellenson (Glendora USD), term expires 2022

Steven Llanusa (Claremont USD), term expires 2022

Christina Lucero (Baldwin Park USD), term expires 2021

Eileen Miranda Jimenez (West Covina USD), term expires 2021

Roberta Perlman (Pomona USD)♦, appointed term expires 2021

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<b>County</b>
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Los Angeles
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## Delegate Assembly Biographical Sketch Form for 2021 Election



**Deadline: Thursday, January 7, 2021 | No late submissions accepted**

This form is required. An optional, one-page, single-sided, résumé may also be submitted. Do not state "see résumé." Do not re-type this form. It is the candidate's responsibility to confirm that CSBA has received nomination materials prior to the deadline. Please submit completed form via e-mail to [nominations@csba.org](mailto:nominations@csba.org) no later than 11:59 p.m. on January 7, 2021. Forms may also be submitted via mail to CSBA's Executive Office at 3251 Beacon Blvd., West Sacramento, CA 95691, with a postmark of no later than January 7, 2021.

Your signature indicates your consent to have your name placed on the ballot and to serve as a Delegate, if elected.

Signature: Suzie Abajian Date: December 1, 2020

Name: Suzie Abajian CSBA Region & subregion #: 23 A  
District or COE: South Pasadena Unified School District Years on board: \_\_\_\_\_  
Profession: Educator/Administrator Contact Number (☒ Cell ☐ Home ☐ Bus.): 818-720-0107  
Primary E-mail: suzieabajian@gmail.com  
Are you an incumbent Delegate? ☒ Yes ☐ No If yes, year you became Delegate: 2016

Why are you interested in becoming a Delegate? Please describe the skills and experiences you would bring to the Delegate Assembly.

I would like to continue being involved in CSBA's governance structure. I am committed to ensuring that CSBA advocates for the interests of our school districts in Region 23. I have been an active member of the CSBA Delegate Assembly for the past 4 years and have participated in CSBA's Legislative Action Day in Sacramento. I have also participated in organizing one of the local CSBA PAC fundraisers. Additionally, I have been actively involved in local and statewide campaigns for full and fair funding for public education and for providing culturally responsive curricula for CA students such as Luis Alejo's AB2016 that has enabled CDE to begin the process of developing a statewide framework for Ethnic Studies.

Please describe your activities and involvement on your local board, community, and/or CSBA.

During my tenure on the SPUSD Board, we passed a \$98 million bond measure to upgrade and modernize our school district facilities and we renewed/expanded our parcel tax to support our vast offerings of educational programs in the Arts and CTE. I was actively involved in both campaigns and have raised awareness in my community regarding educational funding issues in CA. Also, during my tenure, we implemented and expanded two Dual Language Immersion programs, a Multicultural Literature Course for 9th graders and expanded our course offerings in STEAM. In 2019, I was elected and served my term as the school board president. In addition to my leadership within our district I have also served on the 5-Star Educational Coalition board.

What do you see as the biggest challenge facing governing boards and how can CSBA help address it?

The biggest challenges facing governing boards in California today is the physical safety and social-emotional well being of students and staff throughout the COVID-19 crisis, the learning loss for our most vulnerable student populations as a result of school closures and the challenges of online instruction, and the continued funding crisis for CA public schools. The way that CSBA can address the COVID-19 related issues is through collaboration with legislators and labor partners in CA and advocating for statewide solutions while keeping in mind local needs and local control. In terms of the continued funding issues, CSBA can continue pushing for legislation and ballot measures that will change the volatile funding stream for CA schools.

## Delegate Assembly Appointed Biosketch Form for 2021



**Deadline: Thursday, January 7, 2021**

Please submit completed form via e-mail to [nominations@csba.org](mailto:nominations@csba.org) no later than anuary 7, 2021. Forms may also be submitted via mail to CSBA's Executive Office, at 3251 Beacon Blvd., West Sacramento, CA 95691.

Your signature indicates your consent to serve as a Delegate.

Signature: *Jennifer Freeman*

Date: 11/20/2020

Name: Jennifer Freeman

CSBA Region & subregion #: 23-A

District or COE: Glendale Unified School District

Years on board: 5.5

Profession: Educator

Contact Number ( ☒ Cell ☐ Home ☐ Bus.): 818-388-1251

Primary E-mail: jfreemon@gusd.net

Are you an incumbent Delegate? ☒ Yes ☐ No If yes, year you became Delegate: 2019

**Why are you interested in becoming a Delegate? Please describe the skills and experiences you would bring to the Delegate Assembly.**

I am a passionate public education advocate who is committed to full and fair state funding for public schools. I would like to continue as a delegate to empower school Boards in their efforts to build and maintain quality public schools at the local level. I am excited to bring several years of public school teacher experience to the delegate assembly. Moreover, I have served as a leader on multiple community organizations, including my role on the Glendale USD Board. Some experiences I bring to the delegate assembly center around budget and charter school challenges, and a variety of community issues around district boundaries and facility improvements bonds.

**Please describe your activities and involvement on your local board, community, and/or CSBA.**

My local Board serves 26000 students and is actively engaged in advocacy on many levels. Together, we passed a \$285 million facilities bond. Collectively, we approve and monitor a \$300 million annual budget. As a Board member, I am engaged with our staff in the examination of academic programs such as our dual immersion and CTE programs. I serve on various Board appointed subcommittees that strengthen our district. I serve as a Cub Scout leader, school volunteer, and am actively addressing the issue of homelessness in the region. Moreover, I am a CSBA Masters in Governance graduate and regular CSBA AEC attendee.

**What do you see as the biggest challenge facing governing boards and how can CSBA help address it?**

The single biggest issue facing governing Boards across the state is funding. School Boards are facing STRS/PERS obligations, increased needs for mental health services, rising special education costs, and increased services to meet LCAP goals. If that weren't enough, we are now faced with the nearly insurmountable challenge of COVID-19. We need to find ways to use our inadequate funding to pivot to distance learning, create entirely new health and safety systems for our districts, and then be ready to keep students and staff safe and virus free when they return. CSBA should lead the state in advocating for full and fair state funding. Additionally, CSBA has the ability to work with partner organizations to build unified voice to change the state budget priorities. CSBA is able to help districts connect and share best practices on budget management and meeting the needs of students.

**Jennifer Freemon**  
**Member, Board of Education**  
**Glendale Unified School District**  
(818) 388-1251 ▪ [jfreemon@gusd.net](mailto:jfreemon@gusd.net)

Jennifer Freemon was first elected to the Glendale Unified School District Board of Education in 2015 and re-elected in 2020. Prior to her election on the board, she served as a middle school teacher and high school coach in the district for several years. She has three children currently attending GUSD schools, one in elementary school, one in middle school, and one in high school.

Ms. Freemon started her career in education after completing her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts in Teaching from Occidental College. She began in the Glendale Unified School District teaching middle school social studies. Over the years she taught, she was the head aquatics coach for Hoover High School, coaching and managing the boys and girls swim and water polo programs. She also had the opportunity to lead the AVID program at the middle school.

After teaching in the district, Ms. Freemon moved into children and family ministry. She served as the Coordinator for Children and Youth at the First United Methodist Church of Glendale. Her duties included program management, curriculum development, and general leadership for all the church programs involving children and youth.

This year, Ms. Freemon returned to teaching to follow her passion, and is currently a middle school teacher for the Los Angeles Unified School District. Most recently, she was named "Educator of the Year" by the Crescenta Valley Chamber of Commerce.

In the community, Ms. Freemon is a Cub Scout leader for Pack 313 and a regular team parent and coach for the various AYSO, Baseball, Track, and Volleyball teams on which her children participate. She is a regular volunteer and organizer for Family Promise, which provides housing and support to displaced families. She is the team leader for the local Sierra Service Project team, who go to areas in need to build and repair homes. Ms. Freemon is also an experienced PTA board member, having served in many roles over the years. She has been the president, treasurer, membership chair, committee chair, legislative chair, and parliamentarian for the elementary and middle school PTAs, in non-pandemic times. She has also been the council health and welfare VP, and is currently the legislative chair at the elementary school PTA.

On the School Board, Ms. Freemon has completed her Masters in Governance training. She has served on many district committees including the World Languages Committee, LCAP Committee, Superintendent Facility Advisory Committee, Glendale Educational Foundation board representative, Crescenta Valley Legislative Committee, Glendale Civic Leaders Roundtable, and the Five Star Education Coalition.