

**San Rafael Elementary and High School District  
(San Rafael City Schools)  
Office of the Superintendent**



**Board of Education  
Vacancy Application**

This application, including all attachments, constitutes a public record.

**Deadline for Submission:**  
**Thursday, February 26, 2015**  
**4:30 p.m.**

**310 Nova Albion Way  
San Rafael, CA 94903**

**Board of Trustees**  
Natu Tuatagaloa, President  
Rachel Kertz, Vice President  
Greg Knell, Trustee  
Linda M. Jackson, Trustee

**Superintendent**  
Michael Watenpaugh, Ed.D.



**APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE  
SAN RAFAEL ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
(SAN RAFAEL CITY SCHOOLS)  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**This Application Is A Public Document**

**The appointee will hold office until the next Board Trustee election,  
which occurs at the next Statewide General Election on Tuesday, November 3, 2015.**

**QUALIFICATIONS**

To be eligible for consideration (Education Code 35107), an applicant must:

- Be 18 years of age or older.
- Be a citizen of the state.
- Be a resident of the San Rafael Elementary or High School District.
- Be a registered voter.
- Not be disqualified by the Constitution or laws of the state to hold a civil office.

An employee of a school district may not be sworn into office as an elected or appointed member of that school district's governing board unless and until he or she resigns as an employee.

Certification of qualifications on page six (6) must be signed by the applicant.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE**

Applications must be received by the Office of the Superintendent no later than 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 26, 2015. Applications can be mailed or hand delivered to Michael Watenpaugh, Ed.D., Superintendent, 310 Nova Albion Way, San Rafael, CA 94903. Applications can also be submitted electronically to [superintendent@srcs.org](mailto:superintendent@srcs.org).

*Please type or print all responses*

Name: Len Schultz

Address: 232 Waterside Circle, San Rafael, CA 94903

Phone: 415-686-1256 Cellular: same

Email Address: len@winequest.com

Years of residence in the San Rafael Elementary and/or High School District(s): 13

Do you have children attending SRCS? Yes

## **WRITTEN RESPONSES**

**Please stay within space allowed for response. Do not attach extra pages.**

- 1. Please describe your educational, work and/or public service background.** Include educational background; skills, experiences, interests and/or expertise you will bring to the Board; and other public service, including involvement in San Rafael City Schools.

I have a BS in Computer Engineering and Business from Carnegie-Mellon University. I worked for Intel for 10 years with microprocessors. In 2002 I started my own business (WineQuest) which creates software for restaurants and hotels. I volunteer in my children's classrooms every other week, and as a YMCA basketball coach and SRLL assistant coach. I'm on the Glenwood SLT, I've volunteered for taskforces in Family Engagement, LCAP, and Facilities. As of April 2014, I'm President of my HOA Board.

- 2. Why do you wish to serve on the Board? What do you hope to accomplish?**

One is compelled to serve when 3 things happen: there is an important problem to solve, one feels they can solve it, and nobody else can or will. I have been thinking about the SRCS Board, and not all these are perfectly aligned for me now, but I feel will be soon. I've had enough parent leaders at Glenwood ask me to run for Paul's seat, that I feel this pushed me to apply even though I don't have everything aligned yet. The Facilities Plan and bond is something in particular I'd like to help with in 2015.

- 3. List, in order of importance, three major issues confronting public education and, specifically, San Rafael City Schools.**

The two important problems I understand best are the opportunity gap based on SE (starting in early childhood ed), and the dramatically different experiences within SRCS schools. The latter is caused by lack of family engagement at some schools which is caused by lack of neighborhood schools. There are many other issues which I currently don't grasp as well as these two. To pick a third issue here, I would say the time it takes for an ELL to become proficient. There is a big difference in performance of an ELL in Cupertino and an ELL in San Rafael, which hints perhaps it is possible to improve.

**4. What do you see as the top strengths of San Rafael City Schools?**

Top is dedicated parent leaders and volunteers. The level of engagement at Glenwood is amazing. I hear also about dedicated parent leaders at Sun Valley, Coleman, and Bahia Vista. I know great parent leaders at Venetia Valley, but their numbers are fewer. Equally on top, the staff at SRCS is a strength: there are great professionals dedicated to children's education. Also a strength is the mix of cultures served: it's an opportunity for children and parents to see how our similarities far outweigh our differences.

**5. What is your understanding of the new Local Control Funding Formula, its relationship to the requirements of the Local Control Accountability Program (LCAP) and SRCS' LCAP goals?**

I served on the LCAP taskforce, and this is still a bit vague to me. What I understand is the LCFF removes state control of spending on particular programs, and shifts it to give the district control on how to spend, which will be specified in the LCAP. The LCFF still controls which groups certain dollars needs to be spent on, such as SED and ELL.

**6. The student demographics of San Rafael City Schools now reflect that of: 65% of students participate in Free and Reduced Lunch program; 60% of students are Hispanic/Latino; and 58% of students are English Learners. This population of students has been historically underserved. What implications does this have for the Board in terms of planning, goal setting and implementation?**

The underserved nature starts before the students even enters SRCS. While BV does have a small early childhood program, I don't know if SRCS can do much about that given it's K-12 focus. Within K-5, I hear a lot about the success at BV where they have the right programs and the right family engagement. The Board needs to understand what & where things work and don't work to drive the plans consistently at all schools, tailored to the population at each school.

**7. How does the Board's role differ from that of the Superintendent?**

The Board directs. The Superintendent executes. I see the role like a company Board compared to the CEO.

**8. California is among the 46 states that are implementing [Common Core State Standards](#). Based on what you know, what do you think of this educational reform?**

It seems to have lots of pluses. Consistency across areas, e.g. where Science teaches reading skill, makes a lot of sense. Being relatively new to SRCS, I didn't get a chance to experience the old way much and CCSS is basically all I know. The most common complaint I hear is in the implementation of some of the curricula, where some homework assignments are phrased in a confusing way, or where parents don't understand an unusual math assignment and feel there is a simpler way to the answer. But that complaint seems to have minor implications.

**9. Please describe your time availability and commitment constraints.** Experience indicates that, while actual time varies among trustees, it is not uncommon to spend 20-25 hours per month for Board service. Most frequently, meetings occur in the evenings. However, school site visits, committee meetings and Board work do occur during the daytime hours.

I have a generally flexible schedule, working from home for my own company. That said, time is the biggest challenge with my work, family, school volunteering, sports coaching, HOA president. Adjustments would be needed to make it all work.

## **CERTIFICATION OF QUALIFICATIONS**

I understand that this application is a public document and may be requested under provisions of the Public Records Act and/or be available to the public on the San Rafael City Schools website.

I understand that upon appointment I would be required to file a Conflict of Interest Statement / Form 700 (available for viewing at [www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov)) and take an Oath of Office.

I certify that I am not disqualified from holding this office because of a conviction of any of the crimes on the attached list and further certify I am not otherwise disqualified under the California Constitution or statutes from holding public office.

I certify that I am a citizen of California, a resident of the San Rafael Elementary or High School District and a registered voter.

I acknowledge that I am applying to fill a vacancy as a Board Trustee of the San Rafael Elementary School District and the San Rafael High School District, effective March 2, 2015 through December 2015, and that I will be available on March 2, 2015 at 4 p.m. for an interview.

I attest the foregoing information is true to the best of my knowledge.

_____	2 / 25 / 15
Signature of Applicant	Date

<b>APPLICATIONS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A STATEMENT OF NOT LESS THAN 200 WORDS;</b> similar to that which would appear on an election ballot, and will be accepted at the San Rafael City Schools Office of the Superintendent until 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 26, 2015.
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**The following is a list of crimes, conviction of which precludes a person from holding public office in the State of California. Conviction of these crimes renders a person “forever disqualified from holding any office in this state.”**

- Bribing executive officer (Penal Code § 67)
- Officer asking or receiving bribes (Penal Code §§ 68, 88)
- Receiving gratuity for appointment to office (Penal Code § 74)
- Judicial Officer who has asked for or received emoluments, gratuities, rewards, or the fee of a stenographer (Penal Code § 94)
- Giving or offering bribe to Councilman or Supervisor (Penal Code § 165)
- Misappropriation of public funds (Penal Code § 424)
- Interference with work or discipline of, or giving certain articles to prisoners (Penal Code § 2772)
- Interference with or giving certain articles to convicts (Penal Code § 2790)
- Officer making contracts in which he or she is interested (Government Code § 1097)
- Members of the Legislature convicted of any crime (Government Code § 9055)
- Corrupting the voting process (Elections Code § 18501)
- Convicted of a felony involving accepting, giving, or offering of any bribe, embezzlement or theft of public funds, extortion, perjury, or conspiracy to commit any such crime, except if a pardon has been granted in accordance with law (Elections Code § 20)

Please note that in addition to the above restrictions, Government Code § 1126 prohibits any local agency official from engaging “in any employment, activity, or enterprise for compensation which is inconsistent, incompatible, in conflict with, or inimical to his or her duties as a local agency officer or employee or with the duties, functions, or responsibilities of his or her appointing power or the agency by which he or she is employed.”

## STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR SRCS BOARD

LEN SCHULTZ Age: 45 Occupation: Business Owner

### Education and Qualifications:

I have a BS in Computer Engineering and Business from Carnegie-Mellon University. I worked for Intel for 10 years and in 2002 I started my own small software business. I have two children at Glenwood in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> grades. I volunteer in my children's classrooms every other week, and as a YMCA basketball coach and SRLI assistant coach. I'm on the Glenwood SLT, I've volunteered in SRCS for taskforces in Family Engagement, LCAP, and Facilities. As of April 2014, I'm President of my HOA Board.

The two most important SRCS problems are the opportunity gap based on socio-economics (starting in early childhood education), and the dramatically different desirability between SRCS schools. The latter is caused by lack of family engagement which is caused by lack of neighborhood schools.

As a board member, my main goal will be to improve the desirability of the district and each school to the families that live in the district, and to narrow the opportunity gap while building the experience for the top students. I will advocate for the needs of all students and families, from the socio-economically disadvantaged to the honor roll students. Some groups will need more of one thing, and other groups will need more of another thing. All groups are important, and issues are clearly very complex with lots of variables and lots of tradeoffs. So finding the right balance is essential.