



Santa Clara County Office of Education

Jon R. Gundry
County Superintendent of Schools

September 28, 2015

TO: Santa Clara County School District Superintendents and
School Board Presidents

FROM: Suzanne Carrig, Administrative Program & Evaluation Specialist
Office of the Deputy Superintendent

SUBJECT: Candidates for the Santa Clara County Committee on School
District Organization

The Santa Clara County Committee on School District Organization, the elected body responsible for school district organization and boundaries, will hold an election on November 24, 2015 to fill three seats. Voters in the election are the designated school board members of each school district in the county (California Education Code 35023 requires that each school board annually select one of its members to vote in the county committee election); candidates for the County Committee must be registered voters who reside within the supervisorial district they wish to represent. County Committee members serve four-year terms.

There are eleven seats on the County Committee – two from each of the five county supervisorial districts, and one at-large seat. This year, three seats are up for election, one each in Supervisorial Districts 1, 3, and 5. The Supervisorial Districts include local school districts as follows (*high school districts are not listed since they belong in the same supervisorial districts as their feeder elementary school districts*):

Supervisorial District 1 (Mike Wasserman, County Supervisor)

Area contains most of south county, encompassing all or parts of the following school districts: Cambrian, Franklin-McKinley, Gilroy Unified, Lakeside Union, Loma Prieta Joint Union, Los Gatos Union, Morgan Hill Unified, Oak Grove, San Jose Unified, Saratoga Union, and Union.

Supervisorial District 3 (Dave Cortese, County Supervisor)

Area contains most of northeast county, encompassing all or parts of the following school districts: Alum Rock Union Elementary, Berryessa Union, Cupertino Union, Evergreen, Milpitas Unified, Mount Pleasant, Mountain View Whisman, Oak Grove, Orchard, San Jose Unified, Santa Clara Unified, and Sunnyvale.

Supervisory District 5 (Joe Simitian, County Supervisor)

Area contains most of northwest county, encompassing all or parts of the following school districts: Campbell Union, Cupertino Union, Los Altos, Moreland, Mountain View-Whisman, Palo Alto Unified, Santa Clara Unified, and Saratoga Union.

The purpose of this letter is to ask for your help in identifying and encouraging qualified candidates to stand for election to the County Committee. No employee of a public school district or of the County Office of Education may serve on the County Committee, but members of school boards **may** serve. If you know of someone who meets these eligibility requirements and would be willing to contribute to the work of the County Committee, please ask them to consider submitting an application to the County Office of Education. The application should consist of a letter of intent to serve and a brief résumé of background and experience which would contribute to participation in the activities of the County Committee. Candidates must submit the letter and résumé by 5:00 p.m., October 28, 2015 to:

suzanne_carrig@sccoe.org

or

County Superintendent of Schools
c/o Suzanne Carrig: MC 243
Santa Clara County Office of Education
1290 Ridder Park Drive
San Jose, CA 95131

Candidate materials and the election ballots will be mailed the first week in November and must be returned by Tuesday, November 24, 2015 (information regarding where to send the ballot will be provided at a later time). It is recommended that districts place this election item on their agendas. Any ballots received after November 24th will not be counted.

Please contact me at 408-453-6869 if you have any questions.

Thank you.

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY
COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION**

The Santa Clara County Committee on School District Organization (County Committee) is comprised of 11 elected members -- two members from each of the five County Supervisorial Districts and one at-large member. Members are elected to four year terms by representatives from the governing boards of the 35 Santa Clara County school districts (one vote from each district). All candidates must be registered voters and reside within the County Supervisorial District which they wish to represent. No employee of a public school district or the County Office of Education may serve on the County Committee. However, members of the governing board of a school district may serve.

The primary responsibilities of the County Committee are the reorganization of school districts (through territory transfers and unification) and the establishment/rearrangement of governing board trustee areas in the school districts. The County Committee is the central initiator, coordinator, facilitator, and arbitrator for these operations. It formulates plans, responds to petitions, conducts public hearings, develops and releases information, and analyzes proposals.

The County Committee is subject to the legal requirements expressed in the California Education Code and to policies and regulations of the State Board of Education. County Committees are given great latitude within which to work so that each local situation can be considered in its own context.

Following is a list of Santa Clara County Committee members as of September 2015. The County Committee is readily accessible through its staff at the Santa Clara County Office of Education.

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
Kathy Sullivan	1	2017
Vacant	3	2017
Josephine Lucey	5	2017
Ernest Guzman	2	2018
Nejleh Abed	4	2018
Bob Benevento	1	2015
Frank Biehl	3	2015
Mandy Lowell	5	2015
Vacant	2	2016
Teresa O'Neill	4	2016
Albert Beltran	At-large	2016

Santa Clara County Office of Education staff:

Suzanne Carrig (408) 453-6869

COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION
Residency Requirements and County Supervisorial Districts

Seats on the County Committee are allocated to areas from which County Supervisors are elected. These supervisorial district boundaries do not always coincide with school district boundary lines. Each member of the County Committee must reside within the supervisorial district in which he/she serves. For more complete information on the boundaries of supervisorial districts, contact the Registrar of Voters Office at (408) 299-2694 or Suzanne Carrig at the County Office of Education (408) 453-6869.

Supervisorial District 1 (Mike Wasserman, County Supervisor)

Area contains most of south county, encompassing all or parts of the following school districts*: Cambrian, Franklin-McKinley, Gilroy Unified, Lakeside Union, Loma Prieta Joint Union, Los Gatos Union, Morgan Hill Unified, Oak Grove, San Jose Unified, Saratoga Union, and Union.

Supervisorial District 2 (Cindy Chavez, County Supervisor)

Area contains most of east county, encompassing all or parts of the following school districts*: Alum Rock Union Elementary, Evergreen, Franklin-McKinley, Oak Grove, and San Jose Unified.

Supervisorial District 3 (Dave Cortese, County Supervisor)

Area contains most of northeast county, encompassing all or parts of the following school districts*: Alum Rock Union Elementary, Berryessa Union, Cupertino Union, Evergreen, Milpitas Unified, Mount Pleasant, Mountain View Whisman, Oak Grove, Orchard, San Jose Unified, Santa Clara Unified, and Sunnyvale.

Supervisorial District 4 (Ken Yeager, County Supervisor)

Area contains most of central county, encompassing all or parts of the following school districts*: Cambrian, Campbell Union, Cupertino Union, Luther Burbank, Moreland, San Jose Unified, Santa Clara Unified, and Union.

Supervisorial District 5 (Joe Simitian, County Supervisor)

Area contains most of northwest county, encompassing all or parts of the following school districts*: Campbell Union, Cupertino Union, Los Altos, Moreland, Mountain View-Whisman, Palo Alto Unified, Santa Clara Unified, and Saratoga Union.

* High School Districts are not listed since they belong in the same supervisorial districts as their feeder elementary school districts in most instances; Los Gatos-Saratoga Joint High School District has a small portion in Supervisorial District 5. If a candidate wished to run for a particular district it is recommended that he/she contact the Registrar of Voters office to verify Supervisorial District of residency.