SUGGESTED CANDIDATE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

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1. What do you see as the basic purpose of the public schools? What is the role of the board of trustees in the fulfillment of that purpose?

2. What are you proud of in this district? What would you like to accomplish as a board member? Which is your highest priority, and why?

3. As a trustee, what do you see as your primary purpose or primary role? How would you fulfill that role, both as an individual and as a member of the governing board?

4. Describe a good board meeting. What are the objectives of a good board meeting?

5. What would you do if you believed administrators had not provided you with accurate and complete information for making a decision?

6. Describe your response if a parent cornered you in the grocery store and asked for your support on a particularly hot issue.

7. How does an effective school board ensure opportunities for parents and community members to express their diverse range of views to inform board deliberations on important policy issues?

8. Please summarize the strengths you would bring as a member of the board.

9. What will you do to become more effective as a board member?

10. Identify a recent board decision that you felt strongly about, and describe how you would balance community concerns, student needs, state and federal law, staff considerations, and your personal value and beliefs to determine how to vote on the issue.

11. What questions do you have for the board to help you prepare to take on this commitment if chosen?

Note: Interviews or discussions of potential board members may not be held in closed session. The California Attorney General ruled that local office holders, whether elected or appointed, are excluded from the "personnel exception" (Government Code §54957) to the open meeting requirements of the Brown Act (Government Code §54950 et seq.) See also 59 Ops. Cal. Atty.Gen. 266 (1976)