CANDIDATE APPLICATION FORM
San Leandro Unified School District

Please fill out and return by 4:00 pm January 30, 2015, to Mike McLauglin, Ed.D. Superintendent, or leave at the Superintendent's office.

Date: 1/29/15

Tate	Monique	M.
(Last Name)	**(First Name)**	**(Initial)**

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Occupation and Employer: Administrative Assistant, Alameda County Office of Education (ACOE)

No of Years Residing in District: 25

Do you have children in the district's schools? Yes X **No** __

If yes, what schools? San Leandro High School (SLHS)

1. Do you have prior experience serving on a governing board, specifically a school district board? Please list such prior experience.

I am currently serving on two boards. I was elected on the San Leandro Education Foundation (SLED) Board of Trustees in October 2014. I also serve on the Executive Board of my local chapter of California School Employees Association (CSEA) as the Communications Public Relations Officer (CPRO) and job steward at ACOE.

2. Have you worked on any school committees or participated in any school activities recently? Please list them.

- Currently I am assisting the Parent Leaders of the Black Student Union (BSU) at SLHS. Most of the students are juniors and seniors. I am acclimating myself to recruit new students to continue the club and its legacy.
- I volunteered at the Beautification Day at Washington Elementary as a SLED representative.
- In 2014 I assisted my daughter with a community service project. She founded a club at the high school; School Supplies for Success and I helped her coordinate the event and collect donations. She and her peers facilitated several workshops and I volunteered providing San Leandro families with school age children with school supplies and food. Upon completion of the workshop families were eligible to receive a box of food to feed approximately a family of 4-6 people and each student received a backpack with supplies to use mid-year when supplies are often needed.

3. Describe any other community or business activities in which you have participated, describe your role, and whether your work was volunteer or employment-related.

I was selected and served as a volunteer parent stakeholder on the first Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) Design Team in 2014. My role was to provide input and assist the team with developing the plan to submit to ACOE for review and approval. Upon approval the plan was then forwarded to the California Department of Education (CDE).

4. Why do you want to be a school board member?

From the time I can remember education has always had great value to me. When I became a parent I began to fully understand the complexities of the public education system. I had a desire to become even more involved. I have spent the last 14 years volunteering, assisting and coordinating projects with the schools my children have attended. I have also been invited at the district level to participate in community forums and provide input for the selection for principals and superintendent. Actively working in education I understand how policies impact student success and achievement. In 2014 I took a chance and entered the race for the At-Large School Board seat. The experience taught me how important it is to be part of the decision making process at the district level to accomplish the work necessary for all students to succeed.

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

The basic purpose of public schools is to provide free education to all students so that they have an opportunity to learn and be prepared for society, college/career and contribute to the greater global market upon graduation.

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

The role of the School Board is to ensure that each school is provided with the necessary resources to equip each student with the opportunity to learn. The board also provides oversight to ensure that the district is compliant with regulations set forth by the state education code.

7. How does the board's role differ from that of the superintendent?

Board Members are elected and/or appointed representatives of the community. They provide oversight and support in understanding the district's policies and procedures. They are not employees of the district but officials that work in partnership with the Superintendent to provide leadership and organizational structure for the district.

The Superintendent's role as an employee of the district is to provide leadership and administrative regulations and organizational structures. The Superintendent is also responsible with the decision making processes and staff action plans to fulfill the district's vision and goals.

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

The relationship between Board Members and the administration should be neutral. However, Board Members should be compelled to communicate and address issues raised from schools, parents and the community with fellow Board Members and the Superintendent to reach a conclusion for the stakeholders.

9. Briefly describe your commitment to public education and our local school district.

My commitment is to help all students receive quality free education in our district. I know this is possible by nurturing and supporting students and families. My children received an excellent education in our district. My oldest, a 2009 graduate is now an engineer and graduate of Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. My second daughter, a 2014 graduate is a freshman at Biola University studying psychology. My son, a 9th grader at the high school is doing well and being challenged in all of his subjects. I was compelled to return to college at the age of 40 and within six years while working full-time I earned my AA, BA and MPA. While my children continued to excel in their learning experience I wanted to model that going to college and becoming a life-long learner was attainable.

I have had many opportunities to help students and families realize that it is possible to accomplish their goals even when there are obstacles that we face.

10. What do you see as the strengths of the school board?

San Leandro Unified School District (SLUSD) has evolved into a progressive and dynamic district. At this point and time the paradigm is shifting to meet the needs of the student population. As a result community members have been encouraged to be active participants in this process.

11. What do you see as the area(s) most needing improvement in the school district?

Since SLUSD is evolving with the inception of the LCAP and the Common Core State Standards the district is faced with incorporating both of these changes into an existing model to serve an ever-changing student population.