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California School Boards Association

TIME SENSITIVE, REQUIRES BOARD ACTION
DEADLINE **Wednesday, March 15, 2017**

January 31, 2017

MEMORANDUM

To: All Board Presidents and Superintendents
CSBA Member Boards of Education

From: Susan Henry, President

Re: 2017 CSBA Delegate Assembly Election
U.S. Postmark Deadline – Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Enclosed is the ballot material for election of a representative to the CSBA Delegate Assembly from your region or subregion. The material consists of the ballot (on red paper), required candidate biographical sketch form, and if submitted, résumé for each candidate. In addition, we are including a "copy" of the ballot on white paper so that it may be included in board agenda packets, if you choose to do so. **Only the ballot on red paper is to be completed and returned.**

The board as a whole may vote for up to the number of vacancies in the region or subregion as indicated on the ballot. For example, if there are three vacancies in the region or subregion, the board may vote for up to three individuals. Regardless of the number of vacancies, each board may cast no more than one vote for any one candidate. (The ballot also contains a provision for write-in candidates; their name and district must be clearly printed in the space provided.)

The ballot must be signed by the Superintendent or Board Clerk and returned in the enclosed envelope; if the envelope is misplaced, you may use your district's stationery; please write **DELEGATE ELECTION** prominently on the envelope with the region or subregion number on the bottom left corner. **Ballots must be postmarked by the U.S. Post Office on or before Wednesday, March 15, 2017.** ***No exceptions are allowed.***

Election results will be posted on CSBA's web site no later than Monday, April 3. If there is a tie vote, a run-off election will be held. All re-elected and newly elected Delegates will serve two-year terms beginning April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2019. The next meeting of the Delegate Assembly is on Saturday, May 20 – Sunday, May 21 at the Hyatt Regency in Sacramento.

Please do not hesitate to the Executive Office at (800) 266-3382 should you have any questions. Thank you.

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 **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2017**. 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 2017 DELEGATE ASSEMBLY BALLOT
SUBREGION 7-B
(Alameda County)

Number of vacancies: 4 (Vote for no more than 4 candidates)

Delegates will serve two-year terms beginning April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2019

**denotes incumbent*

☐ Beatriz Levya-Cutler (Berkeley USD)*

☐ William McGee (Hayward USD)*

☐ Diana Prola (San Leandro USD)*

☐ Nancy Thomas (Newark USD)

COPY

_____ _____
Provision for Write-in Candidate Name *School District*

_____ _____
Signature of Superintendent or Board Clerk *Title*

_____ _____
School District Name *Date of Board Action*

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

Region 7 – Anne White, Director (Livermore Valley Joint USD)
20 Delegates (15 elected/5 appointed)

Below is a list of all the current Delegates from this Region.

Subregion A
Elizabeth Block (West Contra Costa USD), appointed term expires 2017
Laura Canciamilla (Pittsburg USD), term expires 2018
Christine Deane (Contra Costa COE), term expires 2017
Madeline Kronenberg (West Contra Costa USD), term expires 2017
Linda K. Mayo (Mt. Diablo USD), appointed term expires 2017
Kathi McLaughlin (Martinez USD), term expires 2018
Yolanda C. Pena Mendrek (Liberty Union HSD), term expires 2017
Raymond (Ray) Valverde (Liberty Union HSD), term expires 2018

Subregion B
Valerie Arkin (Pleasanton USD), term expires 2018
Desire Campbell (Fremont USD), term expires 2018
Ann Crosbie (Fremont USD), appointed term expires 2019
Jamie Hintzke (Pleasanton USD), term expires 2018
Philip Hu (Alameda USD), term expires 2017
Beatriz Leyva-Cutler (Berkley USD), term expires 2017
Jody London (Oakland USD), appointed term expires 2019
William McGee (Hayward USD), term expires 2017
Amy Miller (Dublin USD), term expires 2018
Diana J. Prola (San Leandro USD), term expires 2017
Rosie Torres (Oakland USD), appointed term expires 2018

County Delegate
Aisha Knowles (Alameda COE), term expires 2017

Counties

Contra Costa (Subregion A)
Alameda (Subregion B)

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2017 Delegate Assembly Candidate Biographical Sketch Form

DUE: Saturday, January 7, 2017

Mail to: CSBA | Attn: Executive Office | 3251 Beacon Blvd., West Sacramento, CA 95691|fax: (916) 371-3407 |or email: nominations@csba.org.

Please complete, sign and date this required one-page candidate biographical sketch form. An optional, one-page, single-sided, résumé may also be submitted; both will be copied exactly as received. Please do not state "see résumé" and please do not re-type this form. Any additional page(s) exceeding this one-page candidate form will **not** be accepted. It is the candidate's responsibility to confirm that all nomination materials have been received by the CSBA Executive Office. Late submissions will not be accepted. If you have any questions, please contact the Executive Office at (800) 266-3382.

Name: Beatriz Leyva-Cutler

CSBA Region-subregion #: 7B

District or COE Name: Berkeley Unified School District

Years on board: 8 (Eight)

Profession: Executive Director /Child Care

Contact Number: 510-847-0784

E-mail: beatrizleyvac@gmail.com

Are you a continuing Delegate? ☒ Yes ☐ No If yes, how long have you served as a Delegate? 2

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

In my career span of over 37 years I have been dedicated to bilingual early to school age care and education and focused my work as a school board member on the achievement gap and equity. In my participation at Delegate meetings I have stood up to support bilingual education, equity and access to services and resources to families, and supporting the recruitment, retention and hiring of more teachers of color. I am an experienced educator with a strong focus on family/community engagement, bilingual education, early to school age care and education (preschool and after school programming) and state funding regulations. I am a leader in my community and also currently running for Democrat Delegate in Assembly District 15. In this capacity I can take what I know about public education, families and children, immigration and bilingual education and be a stronger advocate for our students and their families.

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

For six years now I have participated in the Students Attendance Review Board (SARB)to address truancy and absence of our students in Berkeley Unified. This has helped me be a vocal champion for how we as a school district can better support, understand and remedy the needs of our students to reduce truancy and absenteeism in our schools and through our LCAP. I have also attended the State Review Board to speak to the issues and concerns we have for our students as a district, county and state. I recently finished my term as Board President and I helped our board be more efficient in our time, agendas and meetings by working closely with the superintendent and fellow board members. For 8 years I have been and active participant in the DELAC Committee. In the community, I am the Executive Director of an well-established and respected quality bilingual early to school age care program in Berkeley. I am currently on the Transitional Kindergarten Professional Learning Steering Committee of which both Vernon Billy and Anne White, the CSBA Region 7 Director submitted my name for consideration to this steering committee that provides input into learning/training modules for TK/K teachers.

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

The biggest challenge facing governing boards today is the newly elected President, his administration, leadership and the new Secretary of Education in Washington, D.C. How can we as school districts, state, county address the threats of this newly elected president and his administration to dismantle, weaken or take apart public education. Our work towards equity in education and the vision that all children are entitled to a quality education from birth to college is being threaten as are the parents of our students who are valued partners. We all have a responsibility to say loudly and clearly to our communities that our schools are safe places and sanctuaries for our students and their families, it is no longer a simple understanding -- but must be clearly articulated, stated and practiced because our students and their families are threaten with deportation, registration and separation. This is a threat we must be prepared to respond to. As a CSBA Delegate I will help to address this issue by being a vocal advocate that school boards, campuses and policies and procedures will be in place to protect our students, families, teachers and public education.

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

Signature: Beatriz Leyva-Cutler

Date: January 6, 2017

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Name: William McGee

CSBA Region-subregion #: 7-B

District or COE Name: Hayward Unified School District

Years on board: Six

Profession: Principal, Middle School

Contact Number: 510-999-8092

E-mail: wmcgee@husd.k12.ca.us

Are you a continuing Delegate? ■ Yes ☐ No If yes, how long have you served as a Delegate? Two

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

I have been on the Delegate Assembly (DA) for one term. I would like to continue on the DA in order to see the work we have done as a region continue. The City of Hayward is one of the most diverse cities in California, and being a resident and Trustee in this city brings a lot of experience. I also bring the practice of being an educator to the Delegate Assembly. I am able to use my skills as an educator to intersect practice and policy, and help create policy that leads to increases in student achievement.

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

My involvement and activities on my local board include work for at-risk students. Since I became a Board member, I was able to champion an achievement initiative for African American students that was supported by our Board. Our Board has also created policy which allows fosterr youth to revieve and transfer variable credit while in high school. I also garnered support to have our district create an Academic Sub-committee which meets throughout the school year and focuses on academics. Our Board is also creating a Board Policy Sub-committee to have deepr conversations about board policies. My involvement with CSBA is with the Delegate Assembly, legislative action days, lobby days, and more. I am also a member of the National Hispanic Caucus and the National Black Caucus. I am active with the National School Boards Association and the Council of Urban Boards of Education.

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

I feel the biggest challenge facing governing boards is school board leadership, board members knowing their role, ad working with the Superintendent as a governance team. CSBA can address these issues by creating an adhawk committe of various school board members or Delegates to discuss how CSBA can improve Masters in Governance and CSBA's retreat delivery.

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

Signature: William Lowell McGee

Date: 1/6/2017

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Name: Diana Prola CSBA Region-subregion #: 7-B

District or COE Name: San Leandro Unified Years on board: 8

Profession: retired educator Contact Number: 510-483-0744 Email: dprola@yahoo.com

Are you a continuing Delegate? ☒ Yes ☐ No If yes, how long have you served as a Delegate? 6 years

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

I am interested in being re-elected to the Delegates Assembly for two reasons. First, I value the knowledge I get from attending the meetings, and the opportunity to network with people in other districts with similar concerns. Second, the information I bring back to the local Board is valuable to all of us in making decisions and in learning what is happening around the state. I bring to the position 40 years as a teacher and administrator in the public schools and 8 years of experience on the San Leandro School Board. I am also an elected member of the Democratic Central Committee and I have political connections around the state, as well as a strong background in financial, facilities and curricular issues.

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

I was elected to the San Leandro Board in 2008 during a 4-member turnover election. The Board and the City had a contentious relationship, and the Superintendent had some serious issues, which ended in her removal from the job. At my first meeting, we began the process of cutting $56 million from the budget due to the recession. I guess you would say these were strong introductions to the office of trustee!! I have served as chair of the Facilities Committee for 6 six years, implementing $150 million in bond projects. I have also served as Board president twice. During my second term I guided the hiring of a new Superintendent, and--with him--we have formed a public/private partnership with the City and with a multinational corporation, connecting all of our schools to a new fiber-optic loop and implementing technology, training teachers and purchasing 1:1 computers for use by every student in the District

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

I feel that our biggest upcoming challenge is the projected teacher shortage—especially in the areas of math and special education. My desire would be for CSBA to focus on this issue in a future conference. There are ways—such as wage and staff development incentives, creating a supportive workplace, training administrators to evaluate for positive improvement, rather than punitively, and so on. Because the coming teacher shortage will most likely be a nationwide problem, it is important for CSBA and California to get out in front of this issue.

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

Signature: Diana Prola *Date:* 3 Nov. 2016

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Name: Nancy Thomas

CSBA Region-subregion #: 7B

District or COE Name: Newark Unified School District

Years on board: 14

Profession: Retired engineer

Contact Number: 510-219-2718

E-mail: nancy@thomas94560.com

Are you a continuing Delegate? ☐ Yes ■ No If yes, how long have you served as a Delegate?_____

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

Although I am not currently a member, I was elected to the Delegate Assembly and previously served for seven years. My experience as a member has helped me understand the issues facing California School Boards and has provided me tools to advocate for my district's and the State's students, parents and community members. My 25-years' experience in tech industry engineering and management positions has given me a deep understanding of planning and budgeting issues. My participation in the CSBA Leg Action Day and my membership in the Alameda County Central Democratic Committee have helped me speak knowledgeably and share school board concerns with my local and state elected officials. I believe it is my responsibility as a board member to learn about and advocate for local control to effectively deal with the issues my district faces: high poverty, high numbers of English Learners, and drop-out and absenteeism rates that need to be improved.

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

I have served on the Newark Unified School District Board for 14 years. My CSBA experience has enabled me to be an effective advocate for our students as we move to manage our LCFF dollars and develop our LCAP. As a board appointee to our Mission Valley ROP Board, I continue to advocate for increased Career Technical Training opportunities for high school students in the region. I served on the recently-formed CSBA Adequacy Committee and am one of two CSBA representatives to the California Interscholastic Federation. Continuing education is important for all board members. Although I successfully completed the CSBA Masters in Governance Program years ago, I have repeated many of a modules a second time around with new members of our Board. I am an elected representative to the Alameda County Central Democratic Committee, a 13-year member of my local Rotary Club, and a 13-year member of the Kidango Board of Directors; Kidango educates and supports 4,000 pre-school children in the Bay Area. I am a member of the Ohlone College President's Advisory Committee. I attend the CSBA Annual Education Conference most years.

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

I think funding adequacy and the concomitant teacher shortages are the biggest challenges facing governing boards. Not only are fewer teachers entering the field as a result of the economic downturn of 2009, the rebounding economy where my district is located has put housing out of the reach of teachers entering the profession. Special Ed, math and science teachers are in short supply across the state. The increase burden on districts and teachers with STRS cost increases and escalating encroachment of special education are just two areas eating away at the recent increased LCFF dollars. Music and the fine arts, so important for brain development and student achievement, are out of the reach of many district budgets. I believe CSBA can and will continue its relentless focus on funding adequacy.

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

Signature: Nancy Thomas *Date:* Dec 14, 2016

Nancy Thomas

35146 Blackburn Drive
Newark, California 94560

(510) 792-4835
nancy@thomas94560.com

Experience

- Board Member, Newark Unified School District, 2002 – present
- CSBA Representative to CIF Federated Council, 2012-present
- CSBA Delegate Assembly Member, Region 7B Alameda County, 2007-2012, 2014-2016
- CSBA membership in the Adequacy Committee
- Hewlett-Packard Company, Engineer and Contributions Manager, 25 years, retired

Newark Unified School District Activities

- Mission Valley ROP Board, 2012-present, currently clerk, alternate in other years
- Audit Committee, 2010-2016
- City/District Joint Task Force on Youth Issues, 2006-2009
- Alameda County School Board Association, various years through 2010
- Volunteer for passage of Measure G, our successful 2011 bond
- Co-Principal Investigator on a $7 million NSF Math Science Partnership Grant and Noyce Supplemental Grant in which Newark science teachers participated, 2003-2013

Professional Development

- Masters in Governance
- New Board Member Workshop
- Board President Workshop
- Brown Act and Ethics Workshops
- Attendance at most CSBA Annual Conferences

Community Involvement

- Newark Rotary Club, 2003-present; president in 2010-11
- Newark Optimist Club, 2005-present
- Kidango Board Member, 2006-present
- Drivers for Survivors, associate board member, 2012-present
- Past Board member of RAFT (Resource Area for Teaching),
- Past Board member BSCS (Biological Sciences Curriculum Study), and California Science Advisory Committee

Other

- BS Electrical Engineering, San Jose State University
- MS Electrical Engineering, Stanford University
- Family – widow, three adult children, five grandchildren
- Hobbies – playing bridge, cycling, gardening