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San Leandro Unified School District
Application for Governing Board Appointment
THIS APPLICATION IS A PUBLIC RECORD

The appointee will hold office until the next regularly scheduled Statewide General Election for governing board members, which will take place on November 8, 2022. [EC § 5091(e)]

QUALIFICATIONS:

Applicant must be a registered voter and a resident of the San Leandro Unified School District and a resident in Area 2. 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. [EC § 35107]

Certification of qualifications on page 5 must be signed by the applicant.

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

This application must be received no later than **January 28 at 5:00 p.m.** Applications may be mailed or hand-delivered to:

Dr. Michael McLaughlin, Superintendent
c/o Michelle Mayfield
San Leandro Unified School District Office
835 E. 14th Street, Suite 200
Tel: (510) 667-3522

(Please type or print):

Name Lance C. James

Address 308 Hollister Court San Leandro, CA 94577

Telephone No. Home ( ) 510.219.7398 Business ( ) 510.723.3925

Years of Residence in the San Leandro Unified School District: 23

San Leandro Unified School District
Application for Board Appointment

QUALIFICATIONS: (Limit each answer to no more than 500 words.)

1. Provide a description of your educational work and/or public service background.

I am an elementary school Teacher in Hayward Unified School District where I have practiced for 16 years. As an educator, I am very involved in the educational process and needs of my students especially emotionally and socially. I am a strong ABAR (Anti-Bias Anti- Racist) leader at my school site and am a strong voice for equity in the District. I am very involved in my teachers' association. I am an Elementary Director, Negotiator, Elementary Task Force member, PAC Chair, as well as other duties requested of me by my Association, HEA.
I served eight years on the San Leandro Unlfied School District Board from 2010-2018. I served as a Board Member, Clerk, Vice President, and President. Durring my tenure I was involved in the hiring of our Superintendent, Dr. McLaughlin. I was there on the ground floor as we refocused education in San Leandro into the service model where the student as well as the community are involved and engaged in making sure the needs of the whole child are met and addressed.

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

As a former Trustee who served two full terms, and as an active teacher and HEA represetnataive who has worked hand-in-hand with my districtthrough the last two years of unprecedented planning and decision-makingregarding the delivery of education during a pandemic, I am confident Ican assme the role and immediately be a working asset to the Board, theDistrict, and the community. Focus must be on moving forward with allBoard initiatives and tasks, and on allowing other community memberstime to learn about the Trustee role and consider running in the nextelection. As I do not have any desire to seek additional electedstatus, all of my focus will be on serving..

San Leandro Unified School District
Application for Board Appointment

3. What skills, abilities, and experience would you bring to the Board to assist in carrying out its responsibilities?

My experience as a Board member shows my abilities to work with my colleagues for the best outcomes needed by our students, staff, and community. My work as a teacher and union leader also bring more assets to my ability to prism ideas and work collectively for the best outcomes.
My careers in the Bay Area also help me bring a variety of experiences to the position. I was a principal dancer with The Oakland Ballet. Injury ended that career. I became the stage manager, tour manager, and company manager before leaving to work in technical theater at Berkely Community Theatre. There I worked with the High School students as well as professional shows using the facilities. I was the Stagehands Union Steward in my position there as well. Here too, working with others to meet their needs was a necessary skill. Injury ended this career and helped move me into education. I completed the five years educational program in four years to become an elementary multiple subject teacher.
Life continues to bring challenges that I meet in the most positive way I am able to continue on this journey for myself and my family. My personal challenges have helped me understand struggle, self-determination, and working towards doable goals.

4. List your involvement in activities that demonstrate your understanding and support for public education, such as membership on committees/organizations, offices held, volunteer work, and community service.

Elementary teacher 2006 to present.
National Education Association Member
California Teacher Association member
Hayward Education Association Member
- **Negotiator**
- **Elementary Task Force Member**
- **Political Action Chair**
- **Site Representative for 14 years**

Memeber IATSE Local 107 1986- present
San Leandro Unfied School Board Member 2010 - 2018
Drowning Darryls Board Member 2007-2010
- **Carol Alverez Award winner for Oustanding Service 2015**

Davis Street Volunteer of the Year 2004
Ameri Corp member 2002-2004

5. List, in order of importance, the major issues confronting public education and, specifically, the San Leandro Unified School District.

1. COVID 19 and the devastating effects of this pandemic on our families socially, emotionally, and educationally.
2. Equity is still a work in progress. Yes, a lot of good work has and is being done so this is a reminder that we need to continue this good work, so all voices are heard and recognized. Our country has taken some hits to equity over the last few years and we must let our community know we are there for all.
3. Money is still a big issue in education. Making sure our voices are heard at the state level will help keep awareness that we need enough funding to meet the diverse needs of our community. Technology costs will remain high as we have made a commitment to our students and community that we will make sure our students have the devices and tools they need for a strong future. Money is also needed to maintain the facilities that we have put so much time, effort, and resources into to make sure our students have a proper place to learn. Money for educational programs and staff development is also needed.
4. Continued emphasis in our communication and outreach to keep our community informed about what we are doing and to involve our community more in what we are doing.

6. Explain the mission of the San Leandro Unified School District.

I see the Mission of the San Leandro Unified School District as one that meets the needs of each student both socially and emotionally by including teachers, staff, Board, parents, guardians, and community members reciprocally involved as a whole that celebrates the individual student, offering opportunities for personal growth by removing biases that lead to inequitable outcomes. Yes, it does take a village and our village must support the whole child and work within a collaborative community framework for the best success and outcome of our students.

San Leandro Unified School District
Application for Board Appointment

CERTIFICATION OF QUALIFICATIONS:

I understand that upon appointment I would be required to file a Conflict of Interest Statement and take an Oath of Office.

I certify I am not disqualified to hold 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 I am a registered voter and that I reside within the San Leandro Unified School District, Area 2. I attest the foregoing information is true to the best of my knowledge.

Lance James	January 23, 2022
Signature of Applicant	Date

Information contained on this application may be subject to verification.