



REQUIRES BOARD ACTION

Due: Mon. March 15—return ballot in enclosed envelope

January 29, 2021

MEMORANDUM

To: All Board Presidents and Superintendents — CSBA Member Boards
From: Suzanne Kitchens, CSBA President
Re: 2021 Ballot for CSBA Delegate Assembly — **U.S. Postmark Deadline is Mon. March 15**

Enclosed is the ballot material for election to CSBA's Delegate Assembly from your region or subregion. It consists of: 1) the ballot (on red paper), the reverse side of which contains the names of ALL current members of the Delegate Assembly from your region or subregion; and 2) the required candidate biographical sketch form and, if submitted, a resume. In addition, provided is a copy of the ballot on white paper to include with your board agenda. **Only the ballot on red paper is to be completed and returned to CSBA. It must be postmarked by the U.S. Post Office on or before Monday, March 15, 2021.**

Your Board 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, the Board may vote for up to three candidates. However, your 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 along with the region or subregion number on the bottom left corner of the envelope (this number appears at the top of the ballot).

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, 2021 – March 31, 2023. Following the election, an updated list of all Delegates will be available on CSBA's website no later than April 1, 2021. The next meeting of the Delegate Assembly takes place on Saturday, May 15 and Sunday, May 16, 2021. Please do not hesitate to contact Jamille Peters at jpeters@csba.org should you have any questions.

Encs: Ballot on red paper and watermarked "copy" of ballot on white paper
List of all current Delegates on reverse side of ballot
Candidate(s)' required Biographical Sketch Forms and optional resumes
CSBA-addressed envelope to send back ballots

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 **MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2021**. 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 2021 DELEGATE ASSEMBLY BALLOT
SUBREGION 18-A
(Riverside County)

Number of vacancies: 6 (Vote for no more than 6 candidates)

Delegates will serve two-year terms beginning April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2023

**denotes incumbent*

☐

Robert Garcia (Jurupa USD)*

☐

Madonna M. Gerrell (Palm Springs USD)*

☐

Sandy Hinkson (Temecula Valley USD)

☐

Gerard Reller (Romoland ESD)*

☐

David Sanchez (Beaumont USD)

☐

Jason Smith (Banning USD)

☐

Kris Thomasian (Murrieta Valley USD)*

Provision for Write-in Candidate Name

School District

Signature of Superintendent or Board Clerk

Title

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

REGION 18 – 21 Delegates (16 elected/5 appointed◆)

Director: Wendy Jonathan (Desert Sands USD)

Below is a list of all elected or appointed Delegates from this Region.

Subregion 18-A (Riverside)

Angelov Farooq (Riverside USD)◆, appointed term expires 2022
Robert Garcia (Jurupa USD), term expires 2021
Madonna Gerrell (Palm Springs USD), term expires 2021
Virniecia Green-Jordan (Perris ESD), term expires 2022
Tom Hunt (Riverside USD)◆, appointed term expires 2021
Cleveland Johnson (Moreno Valley USD)◆, appointed term expires 2021
Marla Kirkland (Val Verde USD), term expires 2022
Elizabeth Marroquin (Corona-Norco USD)◆, appointed term expires 2022
David Nelissen (Perris Union HSD), term expires 2022
Gerard Reller (Romoland ESD), term expires 2021
Kristi Rutz-Robbins (Temecula Valley USD), term expires 2021
Victor Scavarda (Hemet USD), term expires 2022
Susan Scott (Lake Elsinore USD), term expires 2022
Kris Thomasian (Murrieta Valley USD), term expires 2021
Lizeth Vega (Alvord USD), term expires 2022
Mary Ybarra (Corona-Norco USD)◆, appointed term expires 2021
Vacant, term expires 2021

Subregion 18-B (Imperial)

Diahna Garcia-Ruiz (Central Union HSD), term expires 2022
Gil Rebollar (Brawley ESD), term expires 2021
Vacant, term expires 2021

County Delegate:

Victor Jaime (Imperial COE), term expires 2022

<u>Counties</u>

Riverside (Subregion A)
Imperial (Subregion B)

Delegate Assembly Biographical Sketch Form for 2021 Election



Deadline: Thursday, January 7, 2021 | No late submissions accepted

This form is required. An optional, one-page, single-sided, résumé may also be submitted. Do not state "see résumé." Do not re-type this form. It is the candidate's responsibility to confirm that CSBA has received nomination materials prior to the deadline. Please submit completed form via e-mail to nominations@csba.org no later than 11:59 p.m. on January 7, 2021. Forms may also be submitted via mail to CSBA's Executive Office at 3251 Beacon Blvd., West Sacramento, CA 95691, with a postmark of no later than January 7, 2021.

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

Signature: Robert Garcia

Date: 12/18/2020

Name: Robert Garcia

CSBA Region & subregion #: 18A

District or COE: Jurupa Unified School District

Years on board: 6

Profession: Quality Assurance Manager

Contact Number (☒ Cell ☐ Home ☐ Bus.): (714) 745-9995

Primary E-mail: robert_garcia@jUSD.k12.ca.us

Are you an incumbent Delegate? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, year you became Delegate: 2017

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

CSBA provides great opportunities for school districts and governing boards to lead effectively. I'm interested in continuing my service as a Delegate Assembly Member so that I can continue representing my district and region and help take on the challenges facing education in California. I have been a lifelong leader in my career, I'm diplomatic, and I can see the big picture when making decisions.

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

I have served on all district subcommittees during my tenure on the board (facilities, budget, technology, etc). I serve through many different groups such as the Lions Club, VFW, and American Legion, helping our students with scholarships, opportunities to serve, and leadership programs. I attend CSBA and local county conferences and workshops. Completed Master's in Governance in 2015. This year, amid the COVID Pandemic, I teamed up with a fellow delegate to create a Coffee and Conversation Saturday Meeting. It's an opportunity for Riverside County School Board members to share ideas, best practices, and compare challenges facing our respective districts.

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

Two biggest challenges facing governing boards:

1. LCFF/LCAP Flexibility
2. Lack of Full and Fair funding for California schools.

CSBA can help by continuing it's efforts to inform the membership on the challenges and collectively push for changes in legislation. CSBA can also help by impressing on its membership, the importance of reaching out to our legislators.

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Signature: Madonna Gerrell Date: 1/7/2021

Name: Madonna Gerrell CSBA Region & subregion #: 18
District or COE: Palm Springs Unified School District Years on board: _____
Profession: Spec. Ed. Teacher Contact Number (☒ Cell ☐ Home ☐ Bus.): 1-(760)-969-8244
Primary E-mail: mgerrell@psusd.us
Are you an incumbent Delegate? ☒ Yes ☐ No If yes, year you became Delegate: 2018

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

My interest in becoming a Delegate includes being of service to my community and helping to make good changes for our children and families in our area. I am skilled and have experience in the field of education (for 51 years), and have in depth first-hand knowledge of pertinent issues and topics related to District policies and actions.

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

As a Board member it has been so rewarding to participate and share in all of the activities across the District including; school commencements, District meetings, breakfasts, training, program celebrations, sports, music and art events, and the ability to learn about what other Districts are doing by being involved in CSBA and affiliated with the strong organization.

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

Our biggest challenge is keeping above the water and making progress towards increasing students' achievement in our day and age. This whole new layer since March 13th has helped to wreak havoc on our world and for our students' every day lives.

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

Signature: _____

Date: 12-17-21

Name: Sandy Hinkson

CSBA Region & subregion #: 18A

District or COE: Temecula Valley Unified School District

Years on board: 6

Profession: Retired Teacher

Contact Number (☒ Cell ☐ Home ☐ Bus.): 951-970-3310

Primary E-mail: shinkson@tvusd.us

Are you an incumbent Delegate? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, year you became Delegate: _____

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

My experience includes almost 30 years in education. I am a retired teacher having taught for over 20 years. I hold a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology, and a Masters Degree in Teaching. After my retirement, I was elected to the Temecula Valley Unified School District Governing Board in 2014. I am currently serving my second term. Additionally, I have 15 years of business experience as a Store Manager for Target, Operations Manager, and a small business owner. I would love to bring my experience and knowledge to the table as a delegate to represent our region.

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

I have served our local board as President and Clerk. I have been highly engaged in developing our CTE programs and Equity, Access, and Inclusion programs, and in all aspects of LCAP. I sit on several district committees, and our Joint City/District committee. I've had the opportunity to work with numerous business partners, parent and teacher stakeholders, attend and speak at numerous school and community events, and bring our voice to the Legislative Action Day in Sacramento.

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

The pandemic has created a multitude of issues for schools. From learning loss, grading, social and emotional well being, safety and health concerns, budget considerations, equity, technology, return to school models, athletics, and so much more. CSBA can continue to help by keeping Board Members well informed, sharing best practices, research, politics, and news, and advocating on behalf of our schools at all levels.

There will be a light at the end of all this, and we will be challenged to envision how to reimagine schools as we return.

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Signature: _____

Date: January 7, 2021

Name: Gerard "Gary" Reller

CSBA Region & subregion #: 18

District or COE: Romoland Elementary School District

Years on board: 15

Profession: Middle School Principal Contact Number (☒ Cell ☐ Home ☐ Bus.): 909-910-8574

Primary E-mail: mrreller@hotmail.com

Are you an incumbent Delegate? ☒ Yes ☐ No If yes, year you became Delegate: 2

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

Serving as an elected board member for 15 years, I have always worked to reflect the interests of our students, staff, and community, and as a member of the CSBA Delegate Assembly, I would do the same; reflect the interests of all of the CSBA members and the students and communities they serve. I serve in a rural area of Riverside County in the Romoland Elementary School District where we are organized with PreK-5 schools and a 6-8 middle school. I am also very fortunate to serve as a middle school principal in a large urban school district in Riverside County. These two experiences give me a unique understanding and perspective of the needs of education in the State of California.

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

As a board member I have worked side by side with my colleagues to accomplish; the transition from a district organized as K-8 schools to those of Prek-5 and a 6-8 middle school; fiscal solvency during the state's budget crisis; building schools that are recognized in school architects literature; promoting school programs and staff where student achievement growth has been some of the highest in Riverside County. I have worked to promote strategic planning to prepare our district for the future. I have also been a member of the board of a local non for profit; I also work as a partner to Big Brothers and Big Sisters to provide mentorship for our community's youth.

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

We must take what we have learned from budget crisis years to prepare for future crises. Not only will the state budget uncertainties effect us all, we must prepare differently for those unique challenges facing each of our districts. For example, COVID 19 responses and plans, declining enrollment, Local Control Funding Formula effecting districts differently, and the lack of school construction dollars are causing local boards to become very creative. Together, CSBA and local boards can overcome these challenges.

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Signature: _____

Date: 1/04/2021

Name: David Sanchez

CSBA Region & subregion #: 18

District or COE: Beaumont Unified School District

Years on board: Sixteen (16)

Profession: Educator Contact Number (☐ Cell ☒ Home ☐ Bus.): 951-287-6575

Primary E-mail: dsanchez@beaumontusd.k12.ca.us

Are you an Incumbent Delegate? ☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, year you became Delegate: _____

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

A decade ago I proudly served as a CSBA Delegate and the Riverside County School Board Association, both as a member and president. These past ten years I have dedicated myself to opening and operating an alternative education campus in Banning, Ca. As the chapters in life change, so is true with me. My continued desire to serve and support my fellow board members across the State has brought my nomination to your docket. I believe our organization needs to continue focusing the resources of CSBA in fostering strong leadership skills, operational knowledge and increase CSBA involvement in establishing working governance teams with guidance, strength and professional insight in hiring the next generation of school leaders. I bring the experience of being a teacher, a principal, and an advocate.

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

As a trustee, I work as a member of a team. As a member of this team, I have a record of making sound and tough decisions over the past 20 years. Which is constantly reflected in our schools receiving Local, State, and National recognition.

I am an active volunteer for RCOE's Friday Night Life (FNL) program, serving on numerous school site councils, budget committees, and construction oversight committees. Other areas of involvement have included: Riverside Employer-Employee Partnership (a Vice President Term), State Council for California Teachers Association, Negotiations Chair for Union and District, and operated Political Action Committees for candidates seeking public office.

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

Under the current COVID 19 climate, District must remain flexible to protect students and teachers when they are studying in schools and provide a variety of choices for those learning at home or with online courses. The challenges that student, parents, teachers, and site level administration are facing need support structure of kindness and understanding.

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Signature: Jason Smith

Date: 1/6/2021

Name: Jason Smith

CSBA Region & subregion #: 18

District or COE: Banning Unified

Years on board: 3

Profession: Utility Management Contact Number (☒ Cell ☐ Home ☐ Bus.): 951-634-4291

Primary E-mail: jsmith@banning.k12.ca.us

Are you an incumbent Delegate? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, year you became Delegate: _____

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 expanding my knowledge of how the political process works at the State level. I believe I have an even keel approach to decision making while maintaining efficient progress.

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

I am currently serving a second consecutive term as Board President. I have served as Board Clerk and have been involved with the District's Parental Advisory Committee. I also work for the City of Banning so I get a different perspective from community stakeholders.

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

I feel that the biggest challenge for governing boards is the lack of funding from the State and Federal levels. It is accentuated in low income communities. Lack of parental involvement is also a major problem.

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Signature: Kris Thomasian

Date: January 2, 2021

Name: Kris Thomasian

CSBA Region & subregion #: 18 A

District or COE: Murrieta Valley Unified School District

Years on board: 19

Profession: Autism Behavior Specialist

Contact Number (☒ Cell ☐ Home ☐ Bus.): 909 730-7179

Primary E-mail: kthomasian@murrieta.k12.ca.us

Are you an incumbent Delegate? ☒ Yes ☐ No If yes, year you became Delegate: 2019

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

A Delegate position would allow me to continue to advocate for children. From my career as an Autism Behavior Specialist to school board position and with PTA, I have worked to promote improved safety and education for students. One of the highlights of my advocacy efforts was to chair a committee in 23rd District PTA (all of Riverside County) to create a Resolution to present at the California State PTA annual Convention regarding the inequity of school transportation funding. I worked with our local State Assemblyman create a Bill to address the transportation issue, resulting in testifying before the Assembly Education Committee, who approved the Bill.

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

Murrieta Valley Unified School Board: Member 19 years, President, Clerk

CSBA Conferences and other learning opportunities

PTA - Board member 22 years: School sites, Murrieta Council, 23rd District

Presenter - NSBA Conference Chicago and San Francisco, California State PTA Annual Convention

Murrieta Girl Scout Leader, 16 years, leading 2 troops through high school scouting

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

The most significant challenge is to successfully transition back to in-person learning. It is crucial that we address multiple tasks simultaneously, including ensuring that students and staff are safely protected from COVID. We must tackle the learning loss that most of our students have experienced. Social-emotional needs must be attended to, as students and staff have been traumatized by isolation and the stress of learning a new system of education. It is vital that state and federal funding is authorized to deliver the resources to local school districts so they may focus on delivering an optimal education for our students. CSBA has continually advocated at both the state and federal level for funding and resources to support our goals for student success. That activism is more important today.