Serving as a TRUSTEE

Currently Seeking an Area 7 (Capitola) Trustee

In California's public education system, a trustee is elected or appointed to serve on a school district or county board of education. Trustees work with each other and the Superintendent to bring unique skills, values and beliefs to their board In order to govern effectively, and to ensure that a high quality education is provided to each student. **The Board is seeking:**

- An Area 7 (Capitola) resident who is: at least 18 years of age, a citizen of the CA & a registered voter
- A track record of public service, especially in a leadership role
- A willingness & ability to donate necessary time & energy to fulfill the duties listed below
- 3 Letters of recommendation from community members

A Trustee's Responsibilities:

- **Keeps learning & achievement** for all students as a primary focus
- **Value, supports & advocates** for public education
- **Recognizes & respects differences** of perspective & style on the board & among staff, students, parents & the community
- **Acts with dignity** & understands the implications of *demeanor & behavior*
- **Keeps confidential matters** confidential.
- **Participates in professional development** & commits the time & energy necessary to be an informed & effective leader.
- **Understands distinctions** between board & staff roles; refrains from performing Superintendent and staff management functions
- **Understands authority** rests with the whole board, not with individuals

The Board

Schools districts are governed by boards, not individual trustees. The board and Superintendent work together as a "governance team" while understanding their separate roles. This team assumes collective responsibility for building unity & creating a positive organizational culture in order to govern effectively.

To be effective, The Board must have a unity of purpose and:

- Keep the district focused on learning & achievement for all students.
- Communicate a common vision.
- Operate openly, with trust and integrity.
- Govern in a dignified & professional manner, treating everyone with civility & respect
- Govern within board-adopted policies and procedures.
- Take collective responsibility for the board's performance.
- Periodically evaluate its own effectiveness.
- Ensure opportunities for the diverse range of views in the community to inform board deliberations.

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The Board's Role

The primary responsibilities of the board are to set a direction for the district, provide a structure by establishing policies, ensure accountability and provide community leadership on behalf of the district and public education. To fulfill these responsibilities, there are a number of specific jobs that effective boards must carry out.

Effective Boards:

- **Involve the community**, parents, students & staff in creating a common district vision that advocates for public education & focuses on the learning & achievement of all students.
- **Adopt, evaluate and update policies** consistent with the law and the district's vision and goals.
- Maintain accountability for student learning by adopting the district curriculum and monitoring student progress.
- **Hire and support the Superintendent** so that the vision, goals and policies of the district can be implemented.
- **Conduct regular and timely evaluations** of the Superintendent based on the vision, goals and performance of the district, and ensure that the Superintendent holds district personnel accountable.
- **Adopt a fiscally responsible budget** based on the district's vision & goals; regularly monitor district's fiscal health
- **Ensure that a safe and appropriate educational environment** is provided to all students.

Board Members:

- **Kevin Grossman**
- **Kyle Kelley**
- **John Owen**
- **Angela Meeker**
- **Mary Anne Robb**
- **Cindy Ruhsam**

District Administration

- **Kris Munro** *Superintendent*
- **Jim Monreal** *Assistant Superintendent, Business Services*
- **Dorothy Coito** *Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services*
- **Dr. Molly Parks** *Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources*

Timeline

December 8, 2026—Application deadline

December 9, 2026—Candidate Orientation with Superintendent & Board President

December 15, 2026—Candidate Interviews at Special Board Meeting (***Board selects provisional appointee by majority vote and makes the provisional appointment)***

Interested?

Reach out to the district office to confirm District 7 Address at **831-429-3410 x48220** or stop by at 133 Mission St. Ste. 100, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

Prepare **3 letters of recommendation** from community members to be considered!