

RECEIVED

FEB - 7 2019

SUPERINTENDENT  
MDUSD



**REQUIRES BOARD ACTION**

**Due: Fri. Mar. 15 return ballot in enclosed envelope**

January 31, 2019

**MEMORANDUM**

To: All Board Presidents and Superintendents — CSBA Member Boards – **SUBREGION 7-A**  
From: Emma Turner, CSBA President  
Re: 2019 Ballot for CSBA Delegate Assembly — **U.S. Postmark Deadline is Fri. March 15**

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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, which will be on the reverse side of the biographical sketch form. 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. It must be postmarked by the U.S. Post Office on or before Friday, March 15, 2019. No exceptions.**

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, 2019 – March 31, 2021. The next meeting of the Delegate Assembly takes place on Saturday, May 18 and Sunday, May 19 at the Hyatt Regency in Sacramento. The names of all Delegates will be available on CSBA's website no later than Monday, April 1. Please do not hesitate to contact CSBA's Executive Office at (800) 266-3382 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 (red paper and white paper)  
Candidate(s)' required Biographical Sketch Forms and resumes, if provided  
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 **FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 2019**. 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 2019 DELEGATE ASSEMBLY BALLOT  
SUBREGION 7-A  
(Contra Costa County)

Number of vacancies: 3 (Vote for no more than 3 candidates)

*Delegates will serve two-year terms beginning April 1, 2019 - March 31, 2021*

*\*denotes incumbent*

☐ Elizabeth (Liz) Bettis (Walnut Creek ESD)\*

☐ Meredith Meade (Lafayette ESD)

☐ Marina Ramos (John Swett USD)\*

☐ Richard Severy (Moraga ESD)\*

☐ De'shawn Woolridge (Pittsburg USD)

\_\_\_\_\_  
*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.*

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## **REGION 7 – 20 Delegates (15 elected/5 appointed◆)**

**Director: Yolanda Peña Mendrek (Liberty Union HSD)**

**Below is a list of all the current Delegates.**

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### **Subregion 7-A (Contra Costa)**

Elizabeth (Liz) Bettis (Walnut Creek ESD), term expires 2019  
Laura Canciamilla (Pittsburg USD), term expires 2020  
Linda K. Mayo (Mt. Diablo USD)◆, appointed term expires 2019  
Marina Ramos (John Swett USD), term expires 2019  
Richard Severy (Moraga ESD), term expires 2019  
Raymond Valverde (Liberty Union HSD), term expires 2020  
Vacant, term expires 2020  
Vacant (West Contra Costa USD)◆, appointed term expires 2020

### **Subregion 7-B (Alameda)**

Valerie Arkin (Pleasanton USD), term expires 2020  
Ann Crosbie (Fremont USD)◆, appointed term expires 2021  
Beatriz Leyva-Cutler (Berkeley USD), term expires 2019  
Jody London (Oakland USD)◆, appointed term expires 2019  
Amy Miller (Dublin USD), term expires 2020  
Diana J. Prola (San Leandro USD), term expires 2019  
Nancy Thomas (Newark USD), term expires 2019  
Annette Walker (Hayward USD), term expires 2020  
Anne White (Livermore Valley Joint USD), term expires 2020  
Vacant, term expires 2019  
Vacant (Oakland USD)◆, appointed term expires 2020

### **County Delegate:**

Fatima Alleyne (Contra Costa COE), term expires 2019

<b><u>Counties</u></b>
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Contra Costa (Subregion A)  
Alameda (Subregion B)

## 2019 Delegate Assembly Candidate Biographical Sketch Form

**DUE: Monday, January 7, 2019 – no late submissions accepted**

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 do not re-type this form. It is the candidate's responsibility to confirm that all nomination materials have been received by the CSBA Executive Office.

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

Signature: Elizabeth L. Bettis Date: 1/5/19

Name: Elizabeth (Liz) Bettis CSBA Region & subregion #: 7A  
 District or COE: Walnut Creek School District Years on board: 6  
 Profession: Community Volunteer Contact Number (please v ☒ Cell ☐ Home ☐ Bus.): 925-286-7182  
 \*Primary E-mail: lizbettis@me.com  
 (\*Communications from CSBA will be sent to primary email)  
 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.** (Character count limit: 700)

It has been an honor to serve on Delegate Assembly for the past two years where I have had the opportunity to network with districts and delegates from across the state to learn about public education on a much deeper level as well as represent the concerns from our region. My strong leadership, advocacy, communication and organization skills have served me well in both my board and CSBA work. My work with our city and state legislators have strengthened connections to those who make laws that can benefit our students and districts. I have continually worked to become a more educated board member by completing Masters In Governance and attending CSBA conferences and trainings annually.

**Please describe your activities and involvement on your local board, community, and/or CSBA.** (Character count limit: 700)

For over 20 years, I have been involved with volunteering in my community through PTA at the unit, council and district level. At WCSD, I have sat on numerous committees including strategic planning, master planning, curriculum, facilities and technology, homework, personnel and negotiations. I have been board president for two years during which time we did boundary changes, opened a new project based K-8 school and hired a new superintendent. As the board representative for Contra Costa County School Board Association, I have held leadership roles for two terms. Recently, I have been appointed to serve on the CSBA Annual Conference Planning committee for the upcoming year.

**What do you see as the biggest challenge facing governing boards and how can CSBA help address it?** (Character count limit: 700)

Strengthening public school funding is by far the greatest challenge facing school districts! Most will or are facing deficit spending as California continues to fall behind in school funding. It is a travesty that California is near the bottom in funding per pupil rather than at the top! The advocacy of CSBA is essential as we work alongside our legislators to make TK-12 funding a top priority. As a current delegate, I understand the importance of not just being informed but advocating support for ALL students.

E-mail: [nominations@csba.org](mailto:nominations@csba.org), or fax to (916) 371-3407, or US Mail to: CSBA | Attn: Executive Office | 3251 Beacon Blvd., West Sacramento, CA 95691. Please only submit biosketch form via one of these modes only; do not send multiple times. If you have any questions, please contact the Executive Office at (800) 266-3382.

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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: Meredith Meade

Date: 01/04/2019

Name: Meredith Meade

CSBA Region & subregion #: 7A

District or COE: Lafayette School District

Years on board: 2

Profession: volunteer/homemaker

Contact Number (please v ☒ Cell ☐ Home ☐ Bus.): 925-285-7225

\*Primary E-mail: mmeade@lafsd.org

(\*Communications from CSBA will be sent to primary email)

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.** (Character count limit: 700)

I ran for governing board because it has always been my priority to do everything I can to help make our public schools the best they can be. If elected as a Delegate, I will work for all of our students by strengthening CSBA's partnership with our local districts by advocating regionally and at the state level for increased resources for CSBA's priorities, including supportive school environments, teacher recruitment and retention, and stable funding. I have experience leading organizations through building community and consensus in PTA/education foundation/parcel tax & bond campaigns. I am an active listener and leader who collaborates with others to get things done.

**Please describe your activities and involvement on your local board, community, and/or CSBA.** (Character count limit: 700)

I was elected to the Lafayette School Board in 2016. Since then I have enrolled in Masters in Governance and anticipate completing the program in the next year; met with our local legislators and participated in CSBA's Legislative Action Day in Sacramento; began collaborating with our PACER, Gabe Weis; and attended the annual conference and regional CSBA meetings. Through my community work as a PTA and education foundation leader, I have learned to effectively advocate for our children. My board positions have included policy, traffic & safety, curriculum, communications and legislative representative to our PTA.

**What do you see as the biggest challenge facing governing boards and how can CSBA help address it?** (Character count limit: 700)

Our diverse region is represented by 18 districts of varying sizes and demographics and one county office. My priority is to learn all of the unique challenges that face our schools and represent our region effectively. While half of our districts are small (under 5,000), they are also characterized by a wide range of socioeconomically disadvantaged and English learners. I believe that the biggest challenge facing school boards is inadequate funding. CSBA can help board members learn, strategize, and advocate for increased funding on behalf of our students. As a collective body, CSBA can also encourage and identify innovative ideas to address increasing mandated state costs.

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

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 11/14/2018

Name: MARINA RAMOS

CSBA Region & subregion #: 7/7A

District or COE: DR. CHARLES MILLER

Years on board: 2

Profession: BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Contact Number (please V ☒ Cell ☐ Home ☐ Bus.): (510)672-9462

\*Primary E-mail: MRAMOS@JSUSD.ORG

(\*Communications from CSBA will be sent to primary email)

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. (Character count limit: 700)**

I am interested in continuing serving as a delegate for region 7. I was appointed by our region director to fill a position. In my experience as a delegate I have encounter and network with a wider group of board members and share the equal needs in our districts. Furthermore, I have been able to participate at the CSBA Action Day in Sacramento, which allowed us to directly presents the various needs of education to members of the assembly. I would like to continue growing and representing our region 7 in the best manner possible.

**Please describe your activities and involvement on your local board, community, and/or CSBA. (Character count limit: 700)**

I am a board member active in community engagement. I represent JSUSD at the Community Advisory Panel of the S.F. Refinery located in Rodeo California; advocating and informing the company of district's events, needs, and concerns. I report back to the JSUSD board on health issues, practices and changes the corporation is going through. I am a graduate from MIG; Which has enhanced my growth amazingly to better advocate for student's needs and education equality.

**What do you see as the biggest challenge facing governing boards and how can CSBA help address it? (Character count limit: 700)**

In my experience I see the lack of information been a challenged. Especially to those members that have been serving without seeking a way to inform themselves to advocate with extragenic means to be effective and serve with effectiveness in governance.

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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: Richard Severy

Date: December 21, 2018

Name: Richard Severy CSBA Region & subregion #: 7-A  
District or COE: Moraga School District Years on board: 3  
Profession: Attorney - retired Contact Number (please v ☒ Cell ☐ Home ☐ Bus.): (925) 999-5119  
\*Primary E-mail: rsevery@moraga.k12.ca.us  
(\*Communications from CSBA will be sent to primary email)  
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. (Character count limit: 700)**

I was privileged to be on the Delegate Assembly this year. I view it as a vital forum and voice for advancing the interests of our districts and students. With a long career focused on public policy I will bring my skills as an advocate, strategist and consensus-builder to the group's work, especially as CSBA launches bold plans for dramatically increasing school funding through the legislature and ballot box. My involvement with CSBA has enhanced my abilities as a trustee, our district's governance practices and decisions. CSBA can accomplish much if we act collectively. I look forward to helping develop and advance policies that best serve all of our students and schools.

**Please describe your activities and involvement on your local board, community, and/or CSBA. (Character count limit: 700)**

I have served on the Moraga school board for three years, and as President in 2018. I co-chaired a campaign committee that secured approval of a school facilities bond with overwhelming (72%) community support. I am active on the Student Safety Committee, updating school safety plans and incorporating safety initiatives into planned construction projects. I am on CSBA's Delegate Assembly, have attended two CSBA Leadership Institutes and other conferences, participated in CSBA's Legislative Day, and will complete the Masters in Governance program this year. Regionally, I have been on the Executive Committee, and Vice President - Legislation, of the Contra Costa County School Board Assn.

**What do you see as the biggest challenge facing governing boards and how can CSBA help address it? (Character count limit: 700)**

Obtaining "Full and Fair Funding" is essential to ensuring that districts have sufficient resources to address the educational, social and emotional needs of all students in a safe environment, and to close the achievement gap. Schools are under intense financial pressure. CSBA can be a forceful advocate for resolving those challenges by reducing skyrocketing pension costs, securing funds to support special education programs, and obtaining speedy release of Prop 55 funds. Creating the PACER program is an important step to harnessing the voices and resources of school communities throughout California to expand CSBA's voice and influence in the legislative and public arenas.

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**RICHARD SEVERY**  
199 Calle La Mesa, Moraga, CA 94556  
Phone: (925) 999-5119

**Professional Experience**

**Pro-Bono Attorney for Oasis Legal Services** (Oakland, CA -- 2018-present): Represent applicants for affirmative asylum before U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

**Assistant General Counsel, Verizon** (San Francisco, CA -- 2006-2014): Responsible for advocating and implementing Verizon's strategic regulatory policy initiatives across the United States.

**Director, Regulatory and Government Affairs, MCI** (San Francisco, CA -- 1990-2005): Responsible for MCI's regulatory, legislative and public policy activities in 18 western states. Managed team of in-house and contract attorneys and lobbyists to achieve the company's policy goals.

**Associate Regulatory Counsel, MCI Telecommunications Corp.** (Washington, D.C. -- 1983-1990): Represented MCI on technology and federal regulatory policy issues before the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and U.S. Courts of Appeals. Managed regulatory and litigation activities of MCI's wireless subsidiary before federal and state regulatory agencies.

**Associate Attorney, Fortas and Koven** (Washington, D.C. -- 1977-1981): Represented national wireless industry association before the FCC, federal appellate court and Congress.

**Attorney, Federal Communications Commission** (Washington, D.C. -- 1975-1977): Provided legal and analytical support for the development of new regulatory policies for the telecommunications industry, and prepared orders for Commission approval.

**School Board Experience**

Member, Moraga School Board of Trustees (2016-present)  
Co-Chair, Measure V (Moraga) School Bond Campaign Committee (2016)  
Member, CSBA Delegate Assembly (2018)  
Vice President-Legislation, Contra Costa County School Boards Association (2017-2018)

**Education**

University of California, Berkeley (A.B. 1972)  
Catholic University of America (J.D. 1975)

**Professional Activities**

Board of Directors, California Association of Telecommunications Companies (1991-2005)  
Speaker at more than 30 legal education seminars and professional conferences  
Contributor to *Telecommunications Law, Regulation, and Policy* (1998)



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Signature:  Date: 12/20/2018

Name: De'shawn Woolridge CSBA Region & subregion #: 7A

District or COE: Pittsburg Unified School District Years on board: 4

Profession: Special Education Teacher Contact Number (please V ☒ Cell ☐ Home ☐ Bus.): \_\_\_\_\_

\*Primary E-mail: dwoolridgetc03@gmail.com

(\*Communications from CSBA will be sent to primary email)

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. (Character count limit: 700)**

I want to become a delegate with CSBA because I want to empower school board members with the needed support, tools and resources to be able to address the needs and complex challenges within the school district. I want to be a part of the crafting, shaping, and advocacy of policies that support the preservation of a system of education that equips school board members with the tools to be effective and support students with the opportunity to receive a high quality education. I want to be a part of the advocacy of full funding for our schools. I want to be a part of CSBA's effort to protect and preserve a quality public education.

**Please describe your activities and involvement on your local board, community, and/or CSBA. (Character count limit: 700)**

I have completed two terms as the Board President. I am also currently serving on the Budget and Curriculum sub committees. I am a special education teacher, six years proud. I have attended every CSBA conference, since 2014. I completed the Masters in Governance modules and presented at two CSBA conferences on two board policies, the Quality Education for All Students, the first Safe Haven resolution in our County. The second board policy established a Board Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity in Hiring and Retaining Staff that initiated work, resulting in an increase in diversity of district staff. I have supported my school district's local bond and parcel tax campaigns.

**What do you see as the biggest challenge facing governing boards and how can CSBA help address it? (Character count limit: 700)**

The biggest challenges facing governing boards is the expansion of charter schools and limited resources needed to fulfill vast needs, as well as challenges. Charter schools take away resources from our struggling schools needed to offer our students a high quality education. CSBA provides a forum for school board members to come together on a larger scale and address problems that are happening across school districts, but happening statewide. CSBA provides a forum for school board members to come together on a larger scale and address problems that are across districts and are happening statewide. CSBA provides opportunities for school board members to mobilize and unite.

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