

Delegate Assembly Biographical Sketch Form for 2020 election

DUE: Tuesday, January 7, 2020 – no late submissions accepted

Please complete, sign, and date this required biographical sketch form. An optional, ONE-page, single-sided, résumé may also be submitted. 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, call 800.266.3382 or email at nominations@csba.org.

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

Signature: Marla Kirkland Date: Jan 4, 2020

Name: Marla Kirkland CSBA Region & subregion #: 18A
 District or COE: Val Verde Unified School District Years on board: 29
 Profession: Teacher Contact Number (please v Cell Home Bus.): _____
 *Primary E-mail: mkirkland@valverde.edu
 (*Communications from CSBA will be sent to primary email)
 Are you an incumbent Delegate? Yes No | If yes, year you became Delegate: 2003

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

I have over 29 years of experience as a board member at the school level. I have been a member of the CSBA Delegate Assembly for 14 years. CSBA is constantly reviewing legislation and policies to keep up with the vast changes in education. As a teacher and a board member, I can offer perspectives from both fields and how these changes of legislation and policy affect all areas of education. I am energetic and passionate about education. I always have the best interest of our students at heart. I am highly interested in continuing the collaboration with CSBA to set policies and procedures that are going to both benefit and protect our students as a whole.

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

I have been a school board member for 29 years. I have been a member of the CSBA Delegate Assembly for 14 years. I am a current member of the Riverside County School Boards Association. I am a founding member of the Val Verde Unified School District Educational Foundation which provides scholarship opportunities for our students. I was instrumental in the development of the first Police Department in a Riverside County School District. As a parent, I was involved in School Site Council and PTA. I attend Board meetings prepared and attend as many school functions as I can to show support for our students, teachers, and programs.

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

One of the biggest challenges facing governing board members is the shortage of teachers in the classroom. We will have an influx of baby boomers retiring and not enough teachers to fill the demand. CSBA can help by creating a campaign to recruit college students. Take this campaign nationwide and market it through all social media avenues. Motivate college students to consider a career in a rewarding field such as education.

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Signature: 

Date: Jan. 24, 2020

Name: David Nelissen CSBA Region & subregion #: 18A

District or COE: Perris Union High School District Years on board: 7

Profession: Teacher Contact Number (please v Cell Home Bus.): 909-935-9441

*Primary E-mail: david.nelissen@puhsd.org

(*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.

I would like to be a Delegate to be able to give my district a voice in the decisions of CSBA. As a board member, I have had experiences that will help me in the Delegate Assembly. These experiences include, but are not limited to, running board meetings, facilitating conflict resolution, collaborating with other board members, and making difficult decisions for the good of student education.

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

As part of the PUHSD board, I have performed many activities. These include: leading board meetings, listening to community input, making decisions on local education issues, attending multiple school district functions, etc. I am an active member in the community with coaching my daughters’ sports teams, helping out at my church, and attending many community functions in the city/county. For CSBA, I have been a Delegate for the past two years, attending all Delegate Assembly functions and meetings, and voting on important issues of which CSBA has been a part.

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


One of the biggest challenges that school districts and their respective governing boards face in today’s culture is the underfunding of special education students. Many school boards are facing major hits to their general funds each year, trying to cover the rising costs of special education. We are mandated by the state to provide extra services for special education students, and yet we do not get funding enough to cover those extra costs. Something needs to be done to help offset our costs for these mandated programs.

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Signature: 

Date: December 18, 2019

Name: Victor Scavarda CSBA Region & subregion #: 18A
 District or COE: Hemet Unified School District Years on board: 8
 Profession: Retired Teacher Contact Number (please v Cell Home Bus.): 951-751-3836
 *Primary E-mail: vscavarda@hemetusd.org
 (*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.

I have been privileged to represent region 18 at the Delegate Convention for the last two years. As a Board member of a fairly large district, it's important to bring that perspective to the discussion table. Further, I represent a small school in an outlying area of a large district so I have the benefit of being able to see issues from the perspectives of both large and small schools. It's important to remember that one size does NOT fit all, and solutions very often require thoughtful compromise. This same approach is beneficial to the legislative actions of CSBA. We are a state of diverse districts and one approach does not necessarily reflect the needs and interests of all.

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

As a representative of a small outlying school in a large district, I have been able to supply a voice for a population that could easily get lost in the larger picture. Idyllwild School has about 350 students, and Hemet Unified has about 21,000 students altogether. I have also been a staunch advocate for the Visual and Performing Arts Programs in the District and have served on the Head Start Committee, the Facilities Committee, the Finance Committee, and the Technical Committee. It was my privilege to serve as President of the School Board in 2016. I volunteer for local school activities as I am able, most recently as Spelling Master for the local Spelling Bee. I am an ongoing volunteer for the Idyllwild 5-10k Run, raising funds for the PE program at the school, and as sound technician for the School Talent Show.

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

School districts in California are facing challenges with school safety issues and underfunded programs, especially in counseling and social services that encroach on the General Funds of our districts. For many districts, the cost of services for our special education students is rising dramatically and the resources allotted to us from the State is not enough to cover those costs. Districts that have suffered from recent wildfires and floods find themselves in a funding crunch due to lost ADA. I believe the challenges that CSBA faces now, and in the future, consist of shaping policy and allocating resources toward the betterment of education for all students in the State of California. We are a diverse state with large and small Districts, rural and urban, so it's important to try to get the 'big picture'. Thoughtful, open discourse will continue to be essential as we move forward.

Climate change is emerging as a global issue in this scenario, and that issue will be a major challenge for CSBA and the USA. Whether the change is due to human activity or not doesn't alter the fact that it must be dealt with for the health and safety of our students. CSBA needs to advocate on behalf of the Districts and students so all students are enabled to thrive in our schools and their needs are addressed adequately. California has one of the largest economies in the world and we can do better. Thank you for your consideration.

Submit biographical sketch form only once, do not send multiple times. E-mail: nominations@csba.org, or fax to (916) 371-3407, or US Mail to: CSBA Exec. Office | Attn: DA Elections | 3251 Beacon Blvd., West Sacto, CA 95691 by the deadline: Tues. Jan. 7, 2020.



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Signature: [Handwritten Signature] Date: 11/6/19

Name: Susan E Scott CSBA Region & subregion #: 18 A

District or COE: Lake Elsinore Years on board: 11

Profession: Superintendent Contact Number (please Cell Home Bus.): 951 296 8412

*Primary E-mail: suscott@lcusd.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: 2016

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

I am serving my 12th year as a Trustee and my 5th year as a Superintendent. I have experience in large and very small rural school districts. I would like to continue as a delegate to represent our district.

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

Served on the Nominating Committee and as the Chairperson of the Nominating committee. I have attended Legislative Action Day.

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

Each board faces its own challenges due to demographics, geography & local issues. CSBA is challenged in providing support to such diversity as one teacher has the same challenge. Professional development and training are the key to helping local governing boards.

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Signature: *Lizeth Vega*

Date: 1/29/2020

Name: Lizeth Vega CSBA Region & subregion #: 18A

District or COE: Alvord Unified School District Years on board: 1.5

Profession: Legislative Field Representative Contact Number (please v Cell Home Bus.): (951) 201-7692

*Primary E-mail: vega.lizeth06@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.

As a delegate, I can continue to advocate for my community and local school districts to make sure the important issues are being addressed. CSBA has the resources to help I have been involved with Hispanas Organized for Political Equality in 2017 as part of its College Leadership Program. I learned to advocate for bills and represent my local community. Also, as a first-generation college student, I was involved in the Puente program which promotes higher education to underrepresented students.

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

I serve on the Technology Advisory Committee (TAC) for Alvord Unified School District and on the board for Chicano Latino Alumni Association at the University of California, Riverside. TAC identifies expenditure reductions and revenue enhancements. The Chicano Latino Alumni Association builds a community for professional growth and is actively fundraising to provide students with scholarships.

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

The biggest challenge facing governing boards is the lack of funding. CSBA will be able to voice our concerns with legislators and our local elected officials to push for effective change.