

AUSD Board of Education Provisional Appointment Application

Due to a mid-term resignation, a position on the AUSD Board of Education is available. **Being a member of the Board of Education is the most important position an Albany resident can hold to engage with and support public education.** The Board of Education consists of five members who collectively oversee the Superintendent of Schools, approve budgets and contracts, and set the direction and mission of the District.

All applicants are welcome! Please note that this appointed position is in **addition** to the two positions that will be selected by voters in the November 5, 2024 General Election. Mid-term resignations will be filled by appointment and not by election.

Candidates need to be present at the **Regular Meeting on Tuesday, August 13, 2024** at 7:00pm to interview with the Board of Education. The successful candidate will be appointed and will take their seat immediately. The new Board member will also need to participate in the **Special Meeting of the Board on Wednesday, August 14** at 6:00–8:30pm.

- **Applications due:** by Thursday, August 8, 2024 at midnight (PT)
- **Interviews and Appointment:** Tuesday, August 13, 2024 7:00pm (at Board Meeting)
- Provisional Appointment will be through December 2026

Email *

APPLICANT QUALIFICATION FORM

FULL NAME *

Jason Wittenberg

COMPLETE HOME ADDRESS (physical address) *

Albany, 94706

MAILING ADDRESS (If same as above, write N/A) *

N/A

LENGTH OF RESIDENCE IN THE DISTRICT *

11 years 3 months

HAVE YOU EVER HAD CHILDREN ATTENDING DISTRICT SCHOOLS? *

☒ YES

☐ NO

IF YES, SCHOOL(S) ATTENDED OR ATTENDING AND DATES *

Ocean View, AY 2021/2022 (TK), 2022/23 (K); Marin 2023/24 (1st), 2024/2025 (2nd)

HOME PHONE NUMBER *

CELL PHONE NUMBER *

[REDACTED]

OCCUPATION *

Professor

EMPLOYER *

UC Berkeley

LENGTH OF TIME AT CURRENT EMPLOYER *

19 years

WORK ADDRESS *

[REDACTED]

WORK PHONE NUMBER *

[REDACTED]

EMAIL ADDRESS *

[REDACTED]

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING AND CHECK BELOW INDICATING AGREEMENT: *

☒ I hereby certify that I am a qualified voter of the Albany Unified School District in the County of Alameda, in the State of California, and wish to be considered for appointment to fill a vacancy on the Governing Board of the Albany Unified School District.

☒ I hereby certify that I meet all legal requirement to be a member of the Governing Board of the Albany Unified School District.

☒ I hereby certify that the information I have presented in the submitted application packet is complete, accurate, and true to the best of my knowledge, and hereby authorize the Governing Board to verify this information as may be required. I understand that all application materials I have submitted are subject to the laws governing public information.

☒ I understand that the District will review my status in the "Megan's Law" database. I further agree that if I am appointed to fill the Board vacancy, I will obtain fingerprint clearance through the Department of Justice and Federal Bureau of Investigation within one (1) month of appointment and prior to visiting any District school sites when students are presented.

APPLICATION FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER PROVISIONAL APPOINTMENT

Please answer the following questions.

1. Have you served on any community commission, committee, or other type of board? If so, please list them below and dates served. *

No

2. Have you participated in any school activities or committees recently? Please list and explain. *

I am a member of the PTA. I have participated in various Marin school activities the past year.

*

3. Describe any present or past civic affiliations or activities, including volunteer activities.

I am new to civic participation.

4. Briefly explain your reason or interest in becoming a school board member. *

Two things. First, I want to help preserve Albany schools' stellar representation as one of the best systems in the area. Second, I have a mixed race special needs daughter and want to contribute on issues regarding inclusion.

5. What do you see as the basic purpose of public schools? *

Teaching our children the knowledge and skills necessary for becoming productive and engaged adult citizens.

6. What is the role of the school board in the fulfillment of that purpose? *

Well, doesn't the school board have a say in what get taught and how? And isn't it responsible for ensuring that all students have an equal opportunity and access to what AUSD has to offer?

7. What issue related to the District and/or public education do you feel most strongly about? *

Maintaining Albany's quality education, dedicated staff, and ensuring inclusion for all those in attendance.

8. What should be the relationship between the Board members and the administration in the handling of school concerns? *

Not sure about this but one thing I do know is that outcomes are better when there are attempts made to reach consensus when there are disagreements. The Board power to impose things should be used as sparingly as possible (unless of course there is evidence of malfeasance).

9. What is the single most critical issue facing the District in the immediate future and how would your background and experiences help the District to meet this challenge? *

Maintaining quality with fewer and fewer resources. I serve on a UC Berkeley committee tasked with the same problem, and we consider all aspects of the issue, from reducing energy costs to cutting programs to raising money. There are no easy solutions here.

10. What do you see as the strengths of the Albany Unified School District? *

Great community feeling, both at Oceanview and Marin. Excellent staff. And to repeat myself,, quality education.

11. What do you see as the areas(s) most needing improvement in the Albany Unified School District? *

Oe thing is that communication should be streamlined. Between Marin and AUSD there are too many emails and texts. It would be fine is there is a stay at home parent who can manage all this but it is a challenge for dual income families. Another is more transparency about the relationship between the Albany Children's Center and the schools. I have had email exchanges with Brian Biggs about this (in relationship to thus far failed attempts to get my autistic daughter enrolled in aftercare).

12. Can you commit to attending the Regular Board Meetings in person, or via teleconference if necessary? Most Regular meetings begin at 7:00pm; closed sessions may be held at 6:00pm. The scheduled dates are listed below. ***Please list in your response below any meetings that you know you will not be able to attend, or confirm that you can attend all meetings.*** *

August 13 & 27, 2024

September 10 & 24

October 8 & 22,

November 19

December 10 & 17

January 14 & 28, 2025

February 11

March 11 & 25

April 8 & 29

May 13 & 27

June 10 & 17

I can confirm attendance at all Tuesday meetings, mostly in person but sometimes by teleconference.

13. Any additional information or remarks you believe are relevant to this appointment. *

Thanks for considering my request.

Please enter the date here to finalize and submit your application. *

MM DD YYYY

08 / 02 / 2024

This form was created inside of Albany Unified School District.

Google Forms