

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 *

Jared Brandt

COMPLETE HOME ADDRESS (physical address) *

Albany, CA 94706

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

N/a

LENGTH OF RESIDENCE IN THE DISTRICT *

5. (Previously another 5)

HAVE YOU EVER HAD CHILDREN ATTENDING DISTRICT SCHOOLS? *



YES



NO

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

AMS 2022 - Present

HOME PHONE NUMBER *



CELL PHONE NUMBER *

[REDACTED]

OCCUPATION *

Consultant and small business owner

EMPLOYER *

Donkey and Goat

LENGTH OF TIME AT CURRENT EMPLOYER *

20

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. *

I have served on several startup advisory boards.

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

PTA. I ran the gathering of alcohol for the auction. I also volunteer and am active in club sport.

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

I have not had extensive volunteering activities.

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

My interest in becoming a school board member stems from a deep desire to give back to Albany and its schools, which have served my younger daughter exceptionally well. During a challenging period for our family, as we navigated an extremely difficult divorce, Albany Middle School (AMS) provided my daughter with an uplifting academic and social experiences. The support and positive environment offered by AMS have been invaluable to her growth and well-being during this trying time.

This personal experience has highlighted for me the crucial role that schools play in students' lives, particularly during times of personal hardship. By serving on the school board, I aim to contribute to maintaining and enhancing the quality of education and support that our schools provide. My goal is to ensure that all students, regardless of their personal circumstances, have access to the same level of nurturing and enriching educational experiences that have been so beneficial to my daughter. Simply put – I want to give back.

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

The fundamental purpose of public school is to provide universal access to quality education, empowering all children in our society to thrive both academically and personally. Public schools aim to equip students with essential knowledge, skills, and values necessary for success in higher education, future careers, and civic life. By offering equal educational opportunities, fostering social development, and cultivating individual potential, public schools play a crucial role in building a capable, informed, and engaged citizenry that contributes positively to society's progress.

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

The Albany board plays a vital role in fulfilling the purpose of public education through several responsibilities. It sets policies that support quality education for all students and manages resources by allocating budgets to support educational programs and equal opportunities. It monitors school and district performance to ensure educational goals are met. Additionally, the board should develop long-term strategic plans to improve the education system and adapt to changing enrollment. Lastly, the board will approve the hiring of the superintendent. The school board helps ensure public schools provide quality education, prepare students for the future, and contribute to developing an informed citizenry.

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

I'm most passionate about helping our school district navigate the challenges and opportunities of social media. As social media becomes increasingly important in students' lives, it's crucial we address its impact on education. This includes teaching responsible digital use, using social media to enhance learning, and tackling issues like cyberbullying. As a single parent, I am unsure of the proper steps to take.

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

The relationship between AUSD Board members and the administration should be one of constructive partnership. Board members must support the administration while also fulfilling their oversight role. This involves asking challenging questions to ensure thorough understanding and accountability, demanding excellence in leadership and performance from administrators, and working as team players to achieve common educational goals. This approach fosters a collaborative environment where both the Board and administration can work together to address school concerns effectively and improve educational outcomes.

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? *

The most critical issue facing the District is managing limited financial resources. With ongoing budget constraints in public education, we must make every dollar count to maintain and improve our schools. My background in running a small business and consulting on division and product turnarounds is directly relevant to this challenge. I have experience optimizing resources, finding cost-saving opportunities, and developing creative solutions to financial problems. These skills will help AUSD make intelligent financial decisions that prioritize student needs and educational outcomes, even with limited resources. I aim to apply practical business principles to ensure we continue providing excellent education despite financial constraints.

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

The greatest strength of AUSD is its community of dedicated parents. Families choose to live in Albany specifically for its schools, creating a unique asset: a community deeply invested in educational excellence. This commitment fosters a supportive learning environment, enhances collaboration between families and educators, and ultimately improves educational outcomes for all students in Albany.

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

I see two key areas needing improvement in the Albany Unified School District. First is helping students and parents navigate social media, providing guidance on responsible use, online safety, and managing digital footprints. Second is effectively incorporating changing technology into learning, ensuring our curriculum and teaching methods evolve with technological advancements. This involves meaningfully integrating technology into the learning process to enhance educational outcomes and develop essential skills. By focusing on these areas, we can better prepare our students for the digital world they inhabit, both academically and socially. Additionally, it's crucial to teach students how to beneficially use AI tools, understanding both their potential and limitations, to prepare them for a future where AI will play an increasingly significant role.

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 not attend Oct 22.

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

I would welcome the opportunity to serve AUSD and Albany.

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

MM DD YYYY

08 / 08 / 2024

This form was created inside of Albany Unified School District.

Google Forms