

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 *

Joshua Mahoney

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 *

~13 years

HAVE YOU EVER HAD CHILDREN ATTENDING DISTRICT SCHOOLS? *

☒ YES

☐ NO

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

My daughter just graduated from AHS, after also attending Marin & AMS; My son will be a junior at AHS

HOME PHONE NUMBER *



CELL PHONE NUMBER *

[REDACTED]

OCCUPATION *

Chief Product Officer

EMPLOYER *

N/A

LENGTH OF TIME AT CURRENT EMPLOYER *

Left Evernow after ~2.5 yers in April

WORK ADDRESS *

N/A (Home)

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've been on a corporate advisory board for TalkSpace (2021-2022)

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

Not Recently; My early career was focused on education. I began my career as a math teacher, and also worked in educational research at the University of Maryland; I also worked at an educational nonprofit in Washington, DC, the Council of Chief State School Officers.

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

My early career was focused on education. I began my career as a math teacher, and also worked in educational research at the University of Maryland; I also worked at an educational nonprofit in Washington, DC, the Council of Chief State School Officers. At the Gap, I was member of the Old Navy Foundation, selecting local organizations with one educational orientation for grants.

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

I began my career and education, and since the pandemic have begun to reorient my career to focused on thing that are more meaningful to me personally. I was interested in running for School Board a few years ago, but could not give it the time commitment it required. Given my current situation, I'm able now give it the time I believe it will require.

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

I'm passionate about local public education, having worked in education for much of my early career. As such, I see the role of public schools to not only educate and prepare young people with the academic and social skills needed to thrive in our ever-changing world, but also to, ideally, help students find their passions. Public schools, for me, are also a hub of a community, and serve as a place where we can find common ground in empowering our children to thrive.

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

I think the school board provides a key role. A successful school board must understand the diverse needs of the community and help bring the to light. They must hire and empower administrators to create spaces where students feel safe as well as being excited and energized to learn. The school board should help bring accountability to our school leaders, help guide decision making when required, and challenge thinking to ensure great outcomes for the community.

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

I think that there are two main things that i'm passionate about, shaped by my experiences. Based on my experience in the district, I think that there remain academic areas where we can improve (including math, history, etc.) as well as make additional investments in the arts, including theater/drama. From my prior educational research background (including my time at the University of Maryland focused on use of technology by students with disabilities), I remain passionate about access for all members of the community. I realize that in the land of finite resources, balancing these can be a challenge.

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

In general, I think the role of the board is to help guide the broader direction of the district. We need to have an administration that we trust, that is transparent, and that is willing to engage and align with the board when more serious issues come up. I generally believe that those closest to the work are best positioned to make decisions about the work, and that our job is to provide guidance based on knowledge and the value of the community.

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? *

I think the hiring of a superintendent is the most pressing need. During my career as a C-level executive, I've had to hire other C-level executives at companies, so I think I have a good understanding of how to understand needs, interview candidates, and align senior leaders around the selection. For me, these roles are not just how people manage, but perhaps more importantly, how they think about problem spaces and who they engage when challenges inevitably arise.

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

The academic track record of the school district has been terrific. I also think that education has served as a focus for this community, and that is a key element that we can use as a foundation for growth and change going forward.

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

As stated above, I know that there are areas where we can get better from an academic focus perspective. When I look at the high school, I think there is an opportunity to better support the arts. Having said that, I am aware that given the ages of my kids I have less information about the concerns of elementary/middle school aged parents/students/educators, so there is work for me to do there before having a strong opinion.

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

at this point, i believe i can attend all of these meetings

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

I'm excited about this opportunity, but realize that whomever takes this position, there is a lot of work to do to get up to speed on the issues and challenges of the district. I look forward to taking that challenge and hearing from the current administration, teachers and parents across our multiple schools and across the community.

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

MM DD YYYY

08 / 06 / 2024

This form was created inside of Albany Unified School District.

Google Forms