



SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 8.1m

Meeting Date: February 20, 2025

Subject: Approve Election of Delegates to the California School Boards Association (CSBA) Delegate Assembly, Subregion 6-B (Sacramento County)

- Information Item Only
- Approval on Consent Agenda
- Conference (for discussion only)
- Conference/First Reading (Action Anticipated: _____)
- Conference/Action
- Action
- Public Hearing

Department: Superintendent's Office

Recommendation: Approve election of delegates to fill vacancies in Subregion 6-B (Sacramento County) CSBA Delegate Assembly as recommended by the Board of Education.

Background/Rationale: The California School Boards Association (CSBA) Delegate Assembly is the policy-making body of the association. Delegates adopt the association's legislative platform, take positions on other critical issues that may come before it, elect the officers and directors, and adopt bylaw changes. Delegates also serve as a two-way communication link between the board members in the region and the regional director, and play an important role in fostering collegiality within their region. This year there are five vacancies for Subregion 6-B and there are five candidates. The candidates are Michael Baker (Twin Rivers USD), Craig DeLuz (Robla ESD), Annette Kunze (Galt Joint Union ESD), Kara Lofthouse (Folsom-Cordova USD), and Noel Mora (Natomas USD). The official ballot must be submitted to CSBA on or before Monday, March 17, 2025. No exceptions are allowed.

Financial Considerations: None

LCAP Goal(s): Family and Community Engagement

Documents Attached:

1. Official CSBA 2025 Delegate Assembly Ballot
2. Candidates' CSBA 2025 Delegate Assembly Biographical Sketch Forms

<p>Estimated Time of Presentation: n/a Submitted by: Lisa Allen, Superintendent Approved by: Lisa Allen, Superintendent</p>
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REQUIRES BOARD ACTION

January 31, 2025

MEMORANDUM

To: CSBA Member Boards and Odd-numbered County Board Presidents and Superintendents
From: Dr. Bettye Lusk, CSBA President
Re: 2025 Ballot for CSBA Delegate Assembly — **U.S. Postmark Deadline is Mon. March 17**

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) listing the candidates, 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. 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 to CSBA. It must be postmarked by the U.S. Post Office on or before Monday, March 17, 2025.**

Your Board may vote for up to the number of seats to be filled in the region or subregion as indicated on the ballot. For example, if there are three seats up for election, 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 or county office must be clearly printed in the space provided.

The ballot must be signed by the Board President, Board Clerk, or Superintendent as a designee of the board, and returned in the enclosed envelope; if the envelope is misplaced, you may use your district's or county office'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, and ballots will need to be postmarked on or before April 30. Results will be published by May 11, 2025.

For County Boards of Education Only:

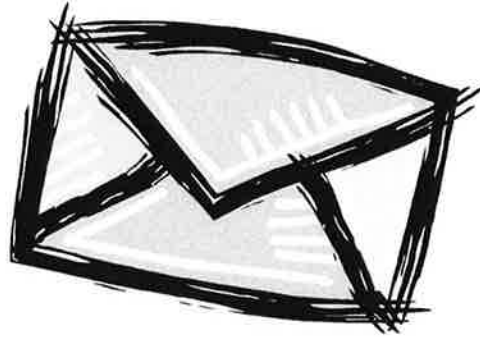
Per Standing Rule 52, in regions with more than one county, each county board of education has one vote to elect the county board member who represents the county board(s) in the region in the Delegate Assembly. One-county regions will appoint the county Delegate. Your county board may vote for only one candidate to fill the Delegate position representing the county boards within your region. Enclosed is the ballot material for election to CSBA's Delegate Assembly of the county board representative from your region. It consists of 1) the ballot (on GREEN paper) listing the candidates, the reverse side of which contains the name of the current member of the Delegate Assembly representing the county boards in your region; and 2) the required candidate biographical sketch form and, if submitted, a resume. In addition, also provided is a copy of the ballot on white paper to include with your board

agenda. **Only the ballot on GREEN paper is to be completed and returned to CSBA. Like the ballot on red paper for the other Delegate seats in your region, it must be postmarked by the U.S. Post Office on or before Monday, March 17, 2025.**

The ballot on GREEN paper must be signed by the Board President, Board Clerk, or by the County Superintendent, as a designee of the board, and returned in the enclosed envelope. If the envelope is misplaced, you may use your county office's stationery. Please write **DELEGATE ELECTION** prominently on the envelope along with the region 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, and ballots will need to be postmarked by April 30. The results for the county board seat in each region will also be published by May 11, 2025.

All re-elected and newly elected Delegates will serve two-year terms beginning April 1, 2025 – March 31, 2027. The next meeting of the Delegate Assembly takes place on Saturday, May 17 and Sunday, May 18, 2025. Please do not hesitate to contact the Executive Office at nominations@csba.org should you have any questions.

Encs: Ballot on red paper and watermarked "copy" of ballot on white paper
 Ballot on green paper and watermarked "copy" of ballot on white paper
 List of all current Delegates on reverse side of ballot
 Candidate(s)' required Biographical Sketch Forms and optional resumes
 CSBA-addressed envelope to send back ballots



**BALLOTS SHOULD BE RETURNED IN THE
ENCLOSED ENVELOPE; HOWEVER, SHOULD
THE ENVELOPE BECOME MISPLACED; PLEASE
USE YOUR STATIONERY AND RETURN TO:**

**CSBA
DELEGATE ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS
3251 BEACON BLVD.
WEST SACRAMENTO, CA 95691**

**ON THE BOTTOM LEFT CORNER OF THE
ENVELOPE, WRITE THE REGION OR
SUBREGION NUMBER (THIS NUMBER APPEARS
ON THE BALLOT AT THE TOP).**

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 **MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2025**. 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 2025 DELEGATE ASSEMBLY BALLOT
SUBREGION 6-B
(Sacramento County)

Number of seats: 5 (Vote for no more than 5 candidates)

Delegates will serve two-year terms beginning April 1, 2025 - March 31, 2027

**denotes incumbent*

Michael Baker (Twin Rivers USD)*

Craig DeLuz (Robla ESD)*

Annette Kunze (Galt Joint Union ESD)

Kara Lofthouse (Folsom-Cordova USD)

Noel Mora (Natomas 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.

REGION 6 – 18 Delegates (11 elected/7 appointed)◆

Director: Jackie Thu-Huong Wong (Washington USD)

Below is a list of all elected or appointed Delegates from this Region.

***Please note that as of 2025, subregion 6B will have 1 loss of an appointed seat (Twin Rivers USD)**

Subregion 6-A (Yolo)

Deborah Bautista-Zavala (Woodland Joint USD), term expires 2026

Subregion 6-B (Sacramento)

Michael Baker (Twin Rivers USD)◆, appointed term expires 2025

Ken Barnes (Robla SD), term expires 2026

Stacey Bastain (Twin Rivers USD), term expires 2025

Pam Costa (San Juan USD), term expires 2025

Craig DeLuz (Robla ESD), term expires 2025

Tara Jeane (Sacramento City USD)◆, appointed term expires 2026

Christine Jefferson (Twin Rivers USD), term expires 2026

Tanya Kravchuk (San Juan USD)◆, appointed term expires 2026

Kara Lofthouse (Folsom-Cordova USD), term expires 2025

Noel Mara (Natomas USD), term expires 2025

Chinua Rhodes (Sacramento City USD)◆, appointed term expires 2025

Michael Vargas (Elk Grove USD) ◆, appointed term expires 2026

Vacant (Elk Grove USD) ◆, appointed term expires 2025

Vacant (San Juan USD)◆, appointed term expires 2025

Subregion 6-C (Alpine, El Dorado, Mono)

Misty diVittorio (Placerville Union ESD), term expires 2026

Jessicca Rodgers (El Dorado Union HSD), term expires 2025

County Delegate:

Shelton Yip (Yolo COE), term expires 2026

Counties

Yolo (Subregion A)

Sacramento (Subregion B)

Alpine, El Dorado, Mono (Subregion C)

REQUIRES BOARD ACTION

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Kara Lofthouse (Folsom-Cordova USD)

Noel Mora (Natomas USD)*

Provision for Write-in Candidate Name

School District

Signature of Superintendent or Board Clerk

Title

School District Name

Date of Board Action

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Christine Jefferson (Twin Rivers USD), term expires 2026
Tanya Kravchuk (San Juan USD)◇, appointed term expires 2026
Kara Lofthouse (Folsom-Cordova USD), term expires 2025
Noel Mara (Natomas USD), term expires 2025
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Michael Vargas (Elk Grove USD) ◇, appointed term expires 2026
Vacant (Elk Grove USD) ◇, appointed term expires 2025
Vacant (San Juan USD)◇, appointed term expires 2025

Subregion 6-C (Alpine, El Dorado, Mono)

Misty diVittorio (Placerville Union ESD), term expires 2026
Jessica Rodgers (El Dorado Union HSD), term expires 2025

County Delegate:

Shelton Yip (Yolo COE), term expires 2026

Counties

Yolo (Subregion A)
Sacramento (Subregion B)
Alpine, El Dorado, Mono (Subregion C)

View results

Respondent

45

Anonymous

09:58

Time to complete

1. I have been... *

Appointed

Nominated

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

Annette Kunze

3. Full name *

Annette Kunze

4. Region/subregion *

6B



5. Name of District or COE *

Galt Joint Union Elementary School District

6. Years on board *

2

7. Profession

Retired

8. Contact number *

209.327.9312

9. Primary email address *

akunze@galt.k12.ca.us

10. Are you an incumbent Delegate? *

Yes

No

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

I am interested in becoming a CSBA delegate to bring to a perspective that has developed during my professional career of almost 30 years and various community roles. I have a keen sense of emerging trends, pending legislation, and legal developments on relevant issues. I willingly share those insights and encourage critical thinking and sound decisions, especially in such swiftly changing educational, economic and political environments. I have led several sensitive multi-agency projects during my tenure as a state leader, which has given me valuable experience in visioning, communication, policy development, and risk management. The role often required balancing competing interests. Additionally, I was the director for a large policy team, with members in several in-state and out-of-state offices. We were responsible for procedural development/rollout and case quality control.

I am a graduate of the Leadership for the Government Executive and was selected as cohort sponsor for Leadership for the Government Supervisor. In my role as a legislative director, I worked closely with legislative offices and have testified in California legislative committees. Because of my proven track record in leading challenging tasks, I was often consulted on potentially risky decisions, to identify root causes, or to build/rebuild working groups.

I also introduced a "Pathways"-inspired model program into a governmental organization after consultation with several educational professionals on human-centered design. This was unique in that it brought public education concepts into a professional environment. The goal was to maximize professional staff proficiency levels and engagement with a blend of coursework, enriching experiences, and fruitful partnerships.

I believe my blend of experiences in leadership, the public sector, education, and my acute instincts will serve the CSBA Delegate Assembly and governing boards in this State.

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

Over the years, I have been involved in my local community, with youth, education, and nonprofit organizations. Specifically, I have:

- Served as a school board member for two years, going into the third year of my term;
- Participated as member of the district's policy committee for two years and entering my third year on this committee, diligently reviewing proposed policies and offering input and identifying potential concerns;
- Participated on site councils, including the Sacramento Youth Detention Facility;
- Coordinated student volunteers for our local historical society;
- Attended the CSBA conference as a new board member and provided reflective feedback following the conference;
- Closely monitored legal and legislative developments on education-related topics and openly shared findings;
- Provided financial literacy, income tax, and goal-setting classes in a local high school resource class; and participated as panel member on mock interviews and senior project judging;
- Helped build and lead a local teen center, obtaining several grants to make notable improvements at the center;

In building the local teen center, I designed and hosted a community workshop with our leadership team to gain input and perspective into the local needs and desires of our community. I also successfully applied for and received several grants for the teen center, highlighting the center's accomplishments and impacts. For example, the teen center received a notable grant for outdoor design and as a result was able to provide an attractive outdoor space for the teens. I presented at several city council and school board meetings to promote the center.

My husband and I have lived in Galt for over 20 years and have raised our four children in the community, all attending local schools (now graduated). My husband has been a baseball coach at the local high school for almost fifteen years, instilling valuable lessons in the players in citizenship, teamwork, and commitment. I am currently the homeschool instructor for our granddaughters, gaining experience and knowledge in the homeschool domain as compared to public education. I believe I can bring a unique perspective to the delegate role, asking critical questions when warranted and sharing relevant information to help decision-making.

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

I see declining enrollment and academic/fiscal accountability as the biggest challenges facing governing boards and public education. One source of this epidemic is the degree of openness to varying perspectives and different ideas, as well as the asking of vital questions. The absence of critical dialogue puts the education system and local education agencies at risk. If individuals do not exist in an environment that welcomes different ideas and spurs debate, the LEA's risk becoming ineffective or constrained in their purpose; and ultimately the public-school model suffers.

Other highly impactful challenges are rapidly changing technology, an uncertain economy, changing state demographics, and increased focus on non-academic topics. We now see many of these factors manifesting in California test scores. I also believe certain policies that do not consider rights of parents, students, and faculty together are leading many to abandon the public school experience for other options such as homeschool, private school, or are just leaving the state altogether. This seems to be occurring in a way not existing in the past as many are left feeling unheard. I believe the culture of the CSBA can help drive these crucial, honest -- and sometimes spirited -- debates that are needed in today's educational arena.

As one example, my husband and I were ardent voices regarding certain COVID-related policies that are now openly acknowledged and observed at a national level as damaging to students' learning with minimal true risk to them. My husband and I instinctively recognized the potential risk to public education and learning. We spoke out passionately to bring light to these potential impacts; not only in education, but in the community at large, even though these were highly unpopular views at the time. In a similar vein, we also instinctively recognize critical patterns as they emerge. We willing to ask key questions and offer our support to decision-makers.

Delegate Assembly Biographical Sketch Form for 2025 Election



Deadline: Tuesday, January 7, 2025 | No late submissions accepted

This form is required. An optional, one-page, single-sided, résumé may also be submitted. Do not state "see résumé." Do not re-type this form. Please submit completed form via e-mail to nominations@csba.org by no later than 11:59 p.m. on January 7, 2025. Forms may also be submitted via mail, to CSBA's Executive Office, at 3251 Beacon Blvd., West Sacramento, CA 95691, with a postmark of no later than January 7, 2025. It is the candidate's responsibility to confirm that CSBA has received nomination materials prior to the deadline.

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

Signature: noel mora

Date: 01/22/2025

Name: Noel Mora

CSBA Region & subregion #: 6

District or COE: Natomas Unified School District Area 1

Years on board: 2

Profession: Higher Education Contact Number (Cell Home Bus.): 916-761-3627

Primary E-mail: nmora@natomasunified.org

Are you an incumbent Delegate? Yes No If yes, year you became Delegate: 2023

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

I am interested in being a delegate so that I may represent my district and community, as well as communicate important information and resources to fellow trustees in my region (whom I see a lot). I would also like to bring the representation of being a young/Latino/LGBTQ+ trustee to this body. In the time that I have already served as a delegate, I have felt more prepared to fulfill my trustee role in my district. I bring skills from my time in youth development and higher education. These skills include communication, conflict deescalation, analytical and critical thinking skills, and many more.

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

I have done purposeful work not only in our district, but also in our community. I was the youngest executive officer in my neighborhood association and a trusted leader, for the simple fact that I wanted to stay informed and then share what I heard with others. Additionally, my day job has been in the CSU system for the past almost five years. I believe those skills in direct student support and later higher level student support will also help me do well in this position. I learned not only about strategies to ensure students succeed, but also strategies to make sure these approaches are equitable and inclusive.

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

I think it is very clear that the biggest challenges presently facing school boards are addressing the literacy crisis, addressing AI, and navigating policy changes at the federal level. I think that by collaborating with the CSBA Board and Delegate Assembly, CSBA can provide very timely and needed updates regarding all of these things. I myself have found the email updates and webinars to be very useful and it helps to know it will be legitimate information.

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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: _____ Date: _____

Name: Michael Baker _____ CSBA Region & subregion #: 6B

District or COE: Twin Rivers _____ Years on board: 14 _____

Profession: Health Care Professional _____ Contact Number (X Cell Home Bus.): 916-465-0657 _____

Primary E-mail: Michael.baker@twinriversusd.org

Are you an incumbent Delegate? X 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.

I have served on the Delegate Assembly for several years and have enjoyed the community of practice with Delegates. My long tenure as a school board member and delegate have given the skills, experience and insight to help move forward the voice of school boards in my region.

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

Michael Baker and his wife grew up in Twin Rivers Unified schools where their two children now attend. Trustee Baker has lived in the community for 41 years and is a graduate of Foothill High School where he was active in student leadership and JROTC. He is the Director of Compliance and Strategy for an emergency medical agency in northern California. Trustee Baker serves as the President of the Old Foothill Farms Neighborhood Association, Vice President of the Foothill High School Alumni Association and Chairman on the Foothill High School Hall of Fame Committee. Trustee Baker is a proud alumnus of Foothill High where his son now attends. First elected to the Twin Rivers School Board in 2012, Trustee Baker felt the need to serve in the district and community that helped raise him. Trustee Baker had been a boys and girls basketball coach at Foothill for over 10 years. In his spare time Trustee Baker enjoys racquetball and golf.

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

Good governance and clarity in roles. CSBA can take an active role in engaging members in organizational priorities.

View results

Respondent

106

Anonymous

21:24

Time to complete

1. I have been... *

Appointed

Nominated

2. Your signature indicates your consent to serve as a Delegate *

Kara Lofthouse

3. Full name *

Kara Lofthouse

4. Region/subregion *

6B



5. Name of District or COE *

Folsom Cordova USD

6. Years on board *

2

7. Profession

Business Owner/Education

8. Contact number *

9162949000

9. Primary email address *

klofthouse@fcusd.org

10. Are you an incumbent Delegate? *

Yes

No

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

As an educator I feel I bring extensive knowledge of education into both my board and the delegate assembly. This is a perspective that is often lacking on school boards and with deep passion for equitable learning I am passionate about bringing that stateside.

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

This year I will be the VP of the FCUSD board. I've been a delegate since starting on the FCUSD board and I completed the master of governance my first year. I'm very involved in my community as well as I own a business, and grew up in the community. I am often the board member both community members and teachers alike communicate with to get direction and answers.

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

Currently I believe the polarization in our country is the biggest challenge as we face on our governing boards and truly being bipartisan.

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Signature: Craig J. DeLuz Date: 1/23/25

Name: Craig DeLuz CSBA Region & subregion #: 6
District or COE: Robla ESD Years on board: 20
Profession: Business Owner Contact Number (Cell Home Bus.): 916-595-0264
Primary E-mail: cdeluz@robla.k12.ca.us
Are you an incumbent Delegate? Yes No If yes, year you became Delegate: 2011

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

I have over 30 years experience in public policy analysis, advocacy, media and marketing.

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

Since 2005, I have served as a member of the Robla School District Board of Trustees. I have had the honor of serving as Board President 13 of my 20 years on the board. I have also served on the CSBA Delegate Assembly since 2011.

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

The state of California seems intent of limiting local control of educational decisions. CSBA needs fight this tendency more aggressively.