



REQUIRES BOARD ACTION

Due: Fri. Mar. 15 return ballot in enclosed envelope

January 31, 2019

MEMORANDUM

To: All Board Presidents and Superintendents — CSBA Member Boards – **SUBREGION 23-A**
From: Emma Turner, CSBA President
Re: 2019 Ballot for CSBA Delegate Assembly — **U.S. Postmark Deadline is Fri. March 15**

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), 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, which will be on the reverse side of the biographical sketch form. 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. It must be postmarked by the U.S. Post Office on or before Friday, March 15, 2019. No exceptions.**

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

The ballot must be signed by the Superintendent or Board Clerk and returned in the enclosed envelope; if the envelope is misplaced, you may use your district'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. All re-elected and newly elected Delegates will serve two-year terms beginning April 1, 2019 – March 31, 2021. The next meeting of the Delegate Assembly takes place on Saturday, May 18 and Sunday, May 19 at the Hyatt Regency in Sacramento. The names of all Delegates will be available on CSBA's website no later than Monday, April 1. Please do not hesitate to contact CSBA's Executive Office at (800) 266-3382 should you have any questions.

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

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 **FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 2019**. 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 2019 DELEGATE ASSEMBLY BALLOT
SUBREGION 23-A
(Los Angeles County)

Number of vacancies: 2 (Vote for no more than 2 candidates)

Delegates will serve two-year terms beginning April 1, 2019 - March 31, 2021

**denotes incumbent*

☐

Suzie Abajian (South Pasadena USD)*

☐

Jennifer Freemon (Glendale USD)

☐

Robert "Bob" Gin (Alhambra 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 23 – 15 Delegates (13 elected/2 Appointed♦)

Director: Helen Hall (Walnut Valley USD)

Below is a list of all the current Delegates with expired terms from this Region.

**Los Angeles County: San Gabriel Valley & East Los Angeles
Subregion 23-A**

Suzie Abajian (South Pasadena USD), term expires 2019
Kimberly (Kim) Kenne (Pasadena USD), term expires 2020
Gregory Krikorian (Glendale USD), term expires 2020
Gary Scott (San Gabriel USD), term expires 2020
Vacant, term expires 2019

Subregion 23-B

Anthony Duarte (Hacienda La Puente USD), term expires 2020
Larry Redinger (Walnut Valley USD), term expires 2019
Vacant, term expires 2019

Subregion 23-C

Cory Ellenson (Glendora USD), term expires 2020
Steven Llanusa (Claremont USD), term expires 2020
Christina Lucero (Baldwin Park USD), term expires 2019
Eileen Miranda Jimenez (West Covina USD), term expires 2019
Roberta Perlman (Pomona USD)♦, appointed term expires 2021
Paul Solano (Bassett USD), term expires 2020

<u>County</u>

Los Angeles



2019 Delegate Assembly Candidate Biographical Sketch Form

DUE: Monday, January 7, 2019 – no late submissions accepted

Please complete, sign, and date this required ONE-page candidate biographical sketch form. An optional, ONE-page, single-sided, résumé may also be submitted; both will be copied exactly as received. 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.

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

Signature: _____

Date: Jan. 5-2019

Name: Suzie Abajian, Ph.D. CSBA Region & subregion #: 23-A
District or COE: South Pasadena Unified School District Years on board: 3
Profession: Educational Administrator Contact Number (please v ☒ Cell ☐ Home ☐ Bus.): 818-720-0107
*Primary E-mail: suzieabajian@gmail.com
(*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. (Character count limit: 700)

I am interested in becoming a Delegate because I want to continue being involved in CSBA's governance structure. I am committed to ensuring that CSBA reflects the interests of our school districts in Region 23. I have been an active member of the CSBA Delegate Assembly the past two years and have attended CSBA's Legislative Action days in Sacramento. I have also helped in organizing one of the local CSBA PAC fundraisers. Additionally, I have been actively involved in local and statewide campaigns for full and fair funding for public education and culturally responsive curriculum for CA students such as Luis Alejo's AB2016 that enabled CDE to develop a state framework for Ethnic Studies.

Please describe your activities and involvement on your local board, community, and/or CSBA. (Character count limit: 700)

During my tenure on the SPUSD Board, we passed a \$98 million bond measure to upgrade and modernize our schools and district facilities and renewed/expanded our parcel tax to support our vast offerings of educational programs in the Arts and CTE. I was actively involved in both campaigns and have raised awareness in my community regarding educational funding issues in CA. Also, during my tenure we implemented and expanded two Dual Language Immersion Programs and a Multicultural Literature Course for our 9th graders. As a board member, I have served on the 5-Star Educational Coalition board and was recently elected as SPUSD's School Board President.

What do you see as the biggest challenge facing governing boards and how can CSBA help address it? (Character count limit: 700)

The biggest challenge facing governing boards in California is the volatile funding stream for K-12. Ever since the passage of Prop 13, our schools have come to rely heavily on state revenues rather than property taxes. Although the passages of Prop 30 and 55 have substantially mitigated the situation in recent years, they have not been sufficient, particularly because of the rising costs associated with CalSTRS and PERs contributions falling on local districts. The way that CSBA can address this issue is by raising public awareness, advocating for the state to take responsibility of CalSTRS and PERs and build public support of the split roll of Prop 13 that will be on the 2020 ballot.

E-mail: nominations@csba.org, or fax to (916) 371-3407, or US Mail to: CSBA | Attn: Executive Office | 3251 Beacon Blvd., West Sacramento, CA 95691. Please only submit biosketch form via one of these modes only; do not send multiple times. If you have any questions, please contact the Executive Office at (800) 266-3382.

Suzie M. Abajian

suzieabajian@gmail.com

818-720-0107

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in EDUCATION, 2013

University of California Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California

M.A. in TEACHING MATHEMATICS, 2000

Occidental College, Los Angeles, California

B.A. in MATHEMATICS, 1998

Occidental College, Los Angeles, California

CREDENTIALS

- **California Preliminary Administrative Credential** Issued 2018 - Valid until 2022
- **California Clear Single Subject Teaching Credential in Mathematics** Issued 2000 - Valid until 2022

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

South Pasadena Unified School District Board President

2018-Present

South Pasadena Unified School District Board Member

2015-Present

CSBA Delegate Assembly

2017-Present

Five Star Coalition Secretary and School Board Liaison for SPUSD

2015-2017

Vecinos de South Pasadena

2013-present

Executive Board Member

2014-2015

Women Involved in South Pasadena Political Action

2013-present

Executive Board Member

2014-2015

Communications and Media Chair

2013-2014

TEACHING AND EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

EL Specialist- Educational Administrator- Orange County Department of Education

2018-2019

NTT Assistant Professor of Education- Occidental College, Los Angeles, California

2014-2018

Mathematics Lecturer- Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, California

2010- 2014

Assistant Field Supervisor for Mathematics Teachers- Teacher Education Program, UCLA

2004-2007

Secondary Mathematics Teacher- South Pasadena High School, South Pasadena, California

2009-2010

Secondary Mathematics Teacher- Abraham Lincoln High School, Los Angeles, California

2001-2003

FELLOWSHIPS/AWARDS

Congressional Woman of the Year for South Pasadena- United States Congresswoman Judy Chu April 2018

Democrat of the Year for 41st Assembly District- Los Angeles County Democratic Party

October 2017

Certificate of Congressional Recognition- United States Congresswoman Judy Chu

September 2014

BUSINESS

A&A Consultants, LLC

2012-present

Co-founder and President

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Signature: Jennifer Freemon Date: 12/19/2018

Name: Jennifer Freemon CSBA Region & subregion #: 23A
District or COE: Glendale Unified School District Years on board: 3.5
Profession: Educator Contact Number (please v ☒ Cell ☐ Home ☐ Bus.): 8183881251
*Primary E-mail: jfreemon@gusd.net
(*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. (Character count limit: 700)

I am a passionate public education advocate who is committed to full and fair state funding for public schools. I am interested in becoming a delegate to empower school Boards in their efforts to build and maintain quality public schools at the local level. I am excited to bring several years of public school teacher experience to the delegate assembly. Moreover, I have served as a leader on multiple community organizations, including my role on the Glendale USD Board. Some experiences I bring to the delegate assembly center around budget and charter school challenges, and a variety of community issues around district boundaries and facility improvements bonds.

Please describe your activities and involvement on your local board, community, and/or CSBA. (Character count limit: 700)

My local Board serves 26,000 student and is actively engaged in advocacy on many levels. Together, we passed a \$285 million dollar facilities bond. Collectively, we approve and monitor a \$290 million dollar annual budget. As a Board member, I am engaged with our staff in the examination of academic programs such as our dual immersion and CTE programs. I serve on various Board appointed subcommittees that strengthen our district. I serve as a Cub Scout leader, school volunteer, and am actively addressing the issue of homelessness in the region. Moreover, I am a CSBA Masters in Governance graduate and regular CSBA AEC attendee.

What do you see as the biggest challenge facing governing boards and how can CSBA help address it? (Character count limit: 700)

The single biggest issue facing governing Boards across the state is funding. School Boards are consistently asked to do more with the same dollars. School Boards are facing STRS/PERS obligations, increased needs for mental health services, rising special education costs, and increased services to meet LCAP goals. CSBA should lead the state in advocating for full and fair state funding. Additionally, CSBA has the ability to work with partner organizations such as CASBO, ACSA, CTA and CSEA to build a unified voice to change the state budget priorities. CSBA is able to help districts connect and share best practices on budget management and meeting the needs of all students.

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Jennifer Freemon
Vice President, Board of Education
Glendale Unified School District
(818) 388-1251 ▪ jfreemon@gusd.net

Jennifer Freemon was first elected to the Glendale Unified School District Board of Education in 2015. Prior to her election on the board, she served as a middle school teacher and high school coach in the district for several years. She has three children currently attending GUSD schools, one in elementary school, one in middle school, and one in high school.

Ms. Freemon started her career in education after completing her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts in Teaching from Occidental College. She began in the Glendale Unified School District teaching middle school social studies. Over the years she taught, she was the head aquatics coach for Hoover High School, coaching and managing the boys and girls swim and water polo programs. She also had the opportunity to lead the AVID program at the middle school.

After teaching in the district, Ms. Freemon moved into children and family ministry. She currently is the Coordinator for Children and Youth at the First United Methodist Church of Glendale. Her duties include program management, curriculum development, and general leadership for all the church programs involving children and youth.

In the community, Ms. Freemon is a Cub Scout leader for Pack 313 and a regular team parent and coach for the various AYSO, Baseball, Track, and Volleyball teams on which her children participate. She is a regular volunteer and organizer for Family Promise, which provides housing and support to displaced families. She is the team leader for the local Sierra Service Project team, who go to areas in need to build and repair homes. Ms. Freemon is also an experienced PTA board member, having served in many roles over the years. She has been the president, treasurer, membership chair, committee chair, legislative chair, and parliamentarian for the elementary school PTA. She has also been the council health and welfare VP, and is currently the parliamentarian for the middle school PTA.

On the School Board, Ms. Freemon has completed her Masters in Governance training. She has served on many district committees including the World Languages Committee, LCAP Committee, Superintendent Facility Advisory Committee, Glendale Educational Foundation board representative, Crescenta Valley Legislative Committee, Glendale Civic Leaders Roundtable, and the Five Star Education Coalition.

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Signature: Robert Gin **Date:** 12/11/18

Name: Robert "Bob" Gin CSBA Region & subregion #: 23 A
District or COE: Alhambra Unified School District Years on board: 16
Profession: Retired Contact Number (please V ☒ Cell ☐ Home ☐ Bus.): (323) 376-7795
*Primary E-mail: gin_bob@ausd.us
(*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. (Character count limit: 700)

To support CSBA and Public Education agenda to help secure Full and Fair Funding and to assure our school district are providing a equitable education for all students. I have been involved with CSBA since 2005, when I was first elected to Delegate Assembly and since I have served on various committees for CSBA, elected as the API Director-At-Large and served on the Board of Directors for the last 4 years. I have served on my own Board for the last 16 years and focus on student learning, keeping the district financially sound and supported The Gateway Success Program, a nationally recognized program.

Please describe your activities and involvement on your local board, community, and/or CSBA. (Character count limit: 700)

Community Activities: Alhambra Educational Foundation, Monterey Park Library Foundation, President, Greater Los Angeles Area Coordinating Council, BSA - District Chair and Greater San Gabriel Chinese American Citizens Alliance, Past President.
Local Board: Served as Board President, Vice President and Clerk of the Board. Chaird 3 major bond -\$389 million, Liaison to the Los Angeles County School Trustee Association.
California School Board Association: API Director-At-Large & Board of Directors(2014-2018), Finance & Golden Bell Committee(2018), Governance Study Group & Equity Advisory Group(2018), Programmatic Advisory Group, Legislative & Bylaw Committee and Delegate Assembly (2009-2010)

What do you see as the biggest challenge facing governing boards and how can CSBA help address it? (Character count limit: 700)

Funding will always be the biggest challenge that governing boards will face, along with all of the unfunded liabilities, rising health cost every year and the challenge of funding for special education. These are the issues that CSBA can provide continual education and solutions to help make sure every school districts in the State of California stay solvent.

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