

CARDIFF SCHOOL DISTRICT
1888 Montgomery Avenue
Cardiff-by-the-Sea, California

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

Written notice is hereby given in accordance with Education Code Section 35144, Government Code 54956, and other applicable law, that the following Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Cardiff School District will be held on:

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2021 • 5:00PM • PUBLIC MEETING
ADA HARRIS SCHOOL LIBRARY • 1508 WINDSOR ROAD • CARDIFF-BY-THE-SEA, CA 92007

The public's health and well-being are a top priority for the Board of Trustees of the Cardiff School District and you are urged to take all appropriate health and safety precautions.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance, disability-related modifications, or accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in the public meetings of the District's Board of Trustees, please contact the Office of the Superintendent at (760) 632-5890, Extension 101. Notification 24 hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make the necessary arrangements to ensure accommodation and accessibility to this meeting.

The business to be transacted at the meeting shall be limited to the following:

I. ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

- A. Call to Order
- B. Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Roll Call
 - Ms. Siena Randall, President
 - Mr. Nancy Orr, Clerk
 - Ms. Rhea Stewart, Member
 - Mr. Dave Clark, Member
 - Ms. Jill Vinson, Superintendent

- D. Approve Agenda for November 16, 2021 *(All items are action unless labeled information)*

II. HEARING SESSION

A. Public Comments

At a special meeting, only items listed on the agenda may be addressed in public comment. [GC 54954.3 (a)] The purpose of the Board meeting is to conduct the School Board's business in public. The Board welcomes and encourages public comments, however, in accordance with the Brown Act, Board members may not respond to comments during the public comment portion of the agenda. Any member of the public who wishes to address the Board on an item on the agenda or on another topic which lies within the Governing Board's jurisdiction may do so, but must submit a written request. Presentations are limited to 3 minutes per person per topic. The total amount of time to be allowed on any item is fifteen minutes, unless the time limit is waived by a majority vote of the Board. The Board may 1) acknowledge receipt of the information; 2) refer to staff for further study; or 3) refer the matter to a future agenda.

III. GENERAL FUNCTIONS

A. [Conduct Interviews of Candidates for Appointment to Governing Board Vacancy](#)

B. Appoint New Board Member to Fill Board Vacancy

C. Administer Oath of Office to New Board Member

IV. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

**Cardiff School District
Cardiff-By-The-Sea, California 92007
November 16, 2021**

ITEM: CONDUCT INTERVIEWS OF CANDIDATES FOR PROVISIONAL
APPOINTMENT TO FILL BOARD VACANCY

BACKGROUND

Board member Mark Whitehouse resigned his seat on the Cardiff School District Board of Trustees, effective October 7, 2021.

At their Regular Board Meeting on October 14, 2021, the Cardiff School District Board of Trustees approved a provisional appointment plan, in accordance with Board Bylaw 9223, to fill the vacancy created by Mr. Whitehouse's departure. The Board also approved the process, timeline, and Application for Governing Board Appointment.

The appointed individual shall hold office until the next regularly scheduled election for district Board members and shall be afforded all the powers and duties of a Board member upon appointment. (Education Code 5091)

CURRENT CONSIDERATIONS

The following candidates have submitted complete applications. All meet the requirements of being registered voters who reside within the school district. The candidates are as follows:

Sarah Aguilar
Richard Brocchini
Melissa DeVita
Reed Andrew Howard
Courtney Lapin
Ashok Swaminathan
Shad Thielman

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None

RECOMMENDATION

It is respectfully recommended that the Board conduct interviews of the above candidates for provisional appointment to fill the Board vacancy.

Cardiff School District

Application for Governing Board Appointment*

THIS APPLICATION IS A PUBLIC RECORD

The appointee will hold office until the next governing board member election, which occurs at the next Statewide General Election on November 8, 2022. [EC § 5091(e)]

QUALIFICATIONS:

Applicant must be a registered voter and a resident of the Cardiff School District. An employee of a school district may not be sworn into office as an elected or appointed member of that school district's governing board unless and until he or she resigns as an employee. [EC § 35107]

Certification of qualifications on page 5 must be signed by the applicant.

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

This application must be received no later than **November 5, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.**

Applications may be mailed, emailed, or hand-delivered to:

Secretary to the Board/Jill Vinson
Cardiff School District
1888 Montgomery Avenue,
Cardiff, CA 92007
Phone: (760) 632-5890
jill.vinson@cardiffschools.com

(Please type or print):

Name Sarah Aguilar

Address 1375 San Elijo Ave

Telephone No. Home (562) 400-7152 Business ()

Years of Residence in the Cardiff School District: 10

Do you have children in the district's schools? No If so, which schools? _____ Page 1

Cardiff School District

Application for Board Appointment

QUALIFICATIONS: *(Please stay within space allowed for answers. Do not attach extra pages.)*

1. Describe your educational, work and/or public service background, including any prior experience serving on a governing board.

I am currently a certificated teacher in the San Dieguito Union High School District (12 years), and I have a total of 16 years of teaching experience. I have taught in the Long Beach Unified School District and Temecula Unified School District. All of my teaching experience has been at the highschool level.

2. Why do you wish to serve on the Board? What do you hope to accomplish? Page 2

I wish to serve on the board because I have an invested interest in this community and its schools. I have enjoyed my years of public service and am looking forward to learning, supporting and carrying out the goals and mission of Cardiff School District. I think being in this role would allow me to gain experience in an administrative role and help build effective leadership and teamwork skills.

Cardiff School District
Application for Board Appointment

3. What skills, abilities, and experience would you bring to the Board to assist in carrying out its responsibilities?

With my 16 years public teaching experience I have worked successfully with adults and students. I have always had a great rapport with all stakeholders at the school I have worked at.

I have coached competitive sports teams for 10+ years (soccer) and have been a member of the Positive Coaching Alliance, this role has allowed me to strengthen my skills and abilities in leadership, goal setting, collaboration and organization.

I am currently serving on San Dieguito Union High School Districts Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee (DEI). We are in the beginning stages of a year-long process to address DEI on a school and district level.

4. List your involvement in activities that demonstrate your understanding and support for public education, such as membership on committees/organizations, offices held, volunteer work, and community service.

I am currently serving on San Dieguito Union High School Districts Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee (DEI). We are in the beginning stages of a year-long process to address DEI on a school and district level.

I am a member of the California Teachers Association (CTA) as well as the San Dieguito Teachers Union.

**Cardiff School District
Application for Board Appointment**

5. What do you see as the basic purpose of public schools, and what is the role of the school board in the fulfillment of that purpose?

I firmly believe in the role and importance of public education. Its purpose is to nurture young people as they establish their values and industry as it relates to school. I think public schools serve to cultivate and help encourage students' interest in various subjects and impart civic and patriotic values. The school board serves as a body that looks to manage and help carry out the mission and goals of the district as well as its stakeholders. The board should work with the schools administration and teachers to support them and help the community feel confident in the job teachers and on site staff are doing.

6. Briefly describe your commitment to public education and our local school district. *Page 4*

My partner and his family have lived in Cardiff since 1978, he attended Cardiff Elementary and our son Buck will attend it in 2024. We love this community and feel so fortunate to live here. I intend to be an active parent once my son enrolls in kindergarten and hopefully help support his teachers and peers. I am here to stay and think I could be a real asset to the board this year and if I run for reelection.

Cardiff School District
Application for Board Appointment

7. List, in order of importance, the major issues confronting public education and, specifically, the Cardiff School District.

- Public Health - COVID 19 measures and mandates
- Teacher support and autonomy in the classroom
- Diversity and Equity training
- Completion of the construction related to the bond measures
- Student Safety

8. Explain the vision, values, and areas of focus of the Cardiff School District. *Page 5*

The focus of the Cardiff School district is providing a quality education and learning environment for elementary students, supporting teachers, organizing curriculum and making sure the staffing of all schools meets the needs of the students. Last, helping with the completion of construction related to the Bond.

- Passion for learning and education
- Determination and creativity when approaching goals and potential solutions
- Collaboration
- Optimism and courage
- Equity

Cardiff School District
Application for Board Appointment

CERTIFICATION OF QUALIFICATIONS:

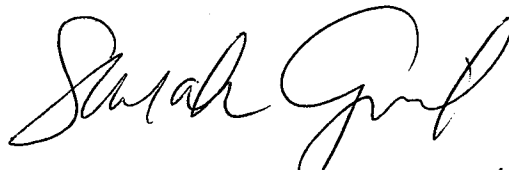
I understand that this application is a public document and may be requested under provisions of the Public Records Act and/or be available to the public on the Cardiff School District website.

I understand that upon appointment I would be required to file a Conflict of Interest Statement and take an Oath of Office.

I certify I am not disqualified to hold this office because of a conviction of any of the crimes on the attached list and further certify I am not otherwise disqualified under the California Constitution or statutes from holding public office.

I certify that I reside within the Cardiff School District boundaries that I am a registered voter in the Cardiff School District.

I attest the foregoing information is true to the best of my knowledge.



11/03/21

Signature of Applicant Date

Information contained on this application may be subject to verification.

This application must be received no later than Nov. 5, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.

No additional materials may be submitted.

Cardiff School District

Application for Governing Board Appointment*

THIS APPLICATION IS A PUBLIC RECORD

The appointee will hold office until the next governing board member election, which occurs at the next Statewide General Election on November 8, 2022. [EC § 5091(c)]

QUALIFICATIONS:

Applicant must be a registered voter and a resident of the Cardiff School District. An employee of a school district may not be sworn into office as an elected or appointed member of that school district's governing board unless and until he or she resigns as an employee. [EC § 35107]

Certification of qualifications on page 5 must be signed by the applicant.

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Cardiff School District
1888 Montgomery Avenue,
Cardiff, CA 92007
Phone: (760) 632-5890
jill.vinson@cardiffschools.com

(Please type or print):

Name Richard Brocchini

Address 2485 Caminito Ocean Cove Cardiff CA 92007

Telephone No. Home (619) 933-6386 Business ()

Years of Residence in the Cardiff School District: 3.5 months

Do you have children in the district's schools? Yes If so, which schools? Cardiff

Cardiff School District
Application for Board Appointment

QUALIFICATIONS: *(Please stay within space allowed for answers. Do not attach extra pages.)*

1. Describe your educational, work and/or public service background, including any prior experience serving on a governing board.

My education includes a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and a master's degree in Organizational Leadership. I have been in public service as a firefighter for over 30 years and currently hold the position of battalion chief. I was the vice president of my former homeowner's association. I'm a former Chula Vista Rotarian where I held a board position and was the chair of the Youth Initiative Committee and I'm currently attending the Encinitas Coastal Rotary Club. I'm a current member of the San Diego Leadership forum, Cardiff SEA and Cardiff School Site Council. I have also volunteered for the San Diego Burn Institute, MDA Telethon, Children Hospital Kids News Day and National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. As a former business owner, I partnered up with the Firefighter Cancer Support Network, donating 10% of proceeds to help firefighters affected by cancer.

2. Why do you wish to serve on the Board? What do you hope to accomplish?

I would like to be a board member to serve at a higher level in the school district to create positive impact. I enjoy being part of winning teams and doing good work. I want to do hard things with good people!

Cardiff School District
Application for Board Appointment

3. What skills, abilities, and experience would you bring to the Board to assist in carrying out its responsibilities?

I have a solid background in community service, putting others before myself. I also have experience working with organizations that understand the value of teamwork, commitment, relationships and leadership. This past and current experience has provided me a foundation to be successful with a team of likeminded champions with a heart to serve.

4. List your involvement in activities that demonstrate your understanding and support for public education, such as membership on committees/organizations, offices held, volunteer work, and community service.

I'm currently on the Cardiff SEA and Cardiff School Site Council. I was the past PTA class parent for my daughter's class also. Additionally, I have assisted My Lopez (TOSA) at Eastlake High and Chula Vista High School mentoring students.

Cardiff School District
Application for Board Appointment

5. What do you see as the basic purpose of public schools, and what is the role of the school board in the fulfillment of that purpose?

The role of public school is to educate our youth, empower our parents and community with tools and knowledge to create their vision of success. Additionally, public schools should create an inclusive and equitable environment for all students that supports their safety, wellbeing, social emotional growth and the pursuit of academic excellence. The role of the school board should be to foster transparency on how decisions are made and effective communication with the community, parents, educators and all stake holders in order to ensure that accountability is in place for public education to serve its purpose.

6. Briefly describe your commitment to public education and our local school district.

As a new parent to the district for the first year, I have jumped all in to help, grow, learn and serve. I'm currently a member of Cardiff SEA and Cardiff School Site Council. My commitment to public education is to support and serve our students, volunteers, educators and parents.

Cardiff School District

Application for Board Appointment

7. List, in order of importance, the major issues confronting public education and, specifically, the Cardiff School District.
 1. Ensure that LCAP goals are met
 - Ensure excellence in student learning for all students in all subject areas through high quality instruction and responsive intervention
 - Support the social and emotional growth of all students
 - Improve and/or increase parent participation in their child(ren)s learning process
 - Increase or improve services for foster youth, English learners and low-income students
 2. Use Cardiff Strategic Plan as a guide
 3. Covid learning laws/issues
 4. Support for educators
 5. Buildout of the remaining construction at Cardiff School
 6. Potentially establish multi-tier system of support as needed for students in academics, behavior and social emotional learning.
8. Explain the vision, values, and areas of focus of the Cardiff School District.

The Cardiff School District vision is Educational Excellence | Lifelong Learners | Contributing Citizens.

Core Values

- We are a community of learners, modeling a culture of reflection, continuous improvement, and high-quality instruction
- Students are recognized and nurtured as individuals, each contributing to the learning community.
- We facilitate engagement and passion for lifelong learning, which fosters an environment where all students learn and grow.
- We believe social-emotional learning supports academic and personal success and helps develop a sense of well-being.
- We wisely manage financial and physical resources.
- The schools, at the heart of the community, cultivate mutually beneficial relationships with stakeholders.
- Our stakeholders take pride in the success of our schools and students.

The areas of focus are Collaboration, Communication, Creativity, Critical Thinking and Problem Solving.

Cardiff School District
Application for Board Appointment

**Cardiff School District
Application for Board Appointment**

CERTIFICATION OF QUALIFICATIONS:

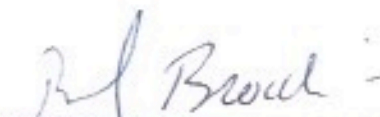
I understand that this application is a public document and may be requested under provisions of the Public Records Act and/or be available to the public on the Cardiff School District website.

I understand that upon appointment I would be required to file a Conflict of Interest Statement and take an Oath of Office.

I certify I am not disqualified to hold this office because of a conviction of any of the crimes on the attached list and further certify I am not otherwise disqualified under the California Constitution or statutes from holding public office.

I certify that I reside within the Cardiff School District boundaries that I am a registered voter in the Cardiff School District.

I attest the foregoing information is true to the best of my knowledge.



Signature of Applicant

10-20-21

Date

Information contained on this application may be subject to verification.

This application must be received no later than Nov. 5, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.

No additional materials may be submitted.

The following is a list of crimes, conviction of which precludes a person from holding public office in the State of California. Conviction of these crimes renders a person “forever disqualified from holding any office in this state.”

- *Bribing executive officer (Penal Code § 67)*
- *Officer asking or receiving bribes (Penal Code §§ 68, 88)*
- *Receiving gratuity for appointment to office (Penal Code § 74)*
- *Judicial Officer who has asked for or received emoluments, gratuities, rewards, or the fee of a stenographer (Penal Code § 94)*
- *Giving or offering bribe to Councilman or Supervisor (Penal Code § 165)*
- *Misappropriation of public funds (Penal Code § 424)*
- *Interference with work or discipline of, or giving certain articles to prisoners (Penal Code § 2772)*
- *Interference with or giving certain articles to convicts (Penal Code § 2790)*
- *Officer making contracts in which he or she is interested (Government Code § 1097)*
- *Members of the Legislature convicted of any crime (Government Code § 9055)*
- *Corrupting the voting process (Elections Code § 18501)*
- *Convicted of a felony involving accepting, giving, or offering of any bribe, embezzlement or theft of public funds, extortion, perjury, or conspiracy to commit any such crime, except if a pardon has been granted in accordance with law (Elections Code § 20)*

Please note that in addition to the above restrictions, Government Code § 1126 prohibits any local agency official from engaging “in any employment, activity, or enterprise for compensation which is inconsistent, incompatible, in conflict with, or inimical to his or her duties as a local agency officer or employee or with the duties, functions, or responsibilities of his or her appointing power or the agency by which he or she is employed.”

Cardiff School District

Application for Governing Board Appointment*

THIS APPLICATION IS A PUBLIC RECORD

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QUALIFICATIONS:

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Cardiff School District
1888 Montgomery Avenue,
Cardiff, CA 92007
Phone: (760) 632-5890
jill.vinson@cardiffschools.com

(Please type or print):

Name Melissa DeVita

Address 2410 Montgomery Ave, Cardiff CA 92007

Telephone No. Home (310) 617-5595 Business ()

Years of Residence in the Cardiff School District: 9.5

Do you have children in the district's schools? starting 2023 If so , which schools? Cardiff Elementary

Cardiff School District
Application for Board Appointment

QUALIFICATIONS: *(Please stay within space allowed for answers. Do not attach extra pages.)*

1. Describe your educational, work and/or public service background, including any prior experience serving on a governing board.

I have 23 years of experience in law and over a decade of service on non-profit boards. I have a history of commitment to my community and a passion for organizational and team success. As the mom of a 3 year old preschooler, I have become the go-to parent for all things in the classroom- I welcome this role so that my son and his classmates have the resources and support they need for a successful experience.

I graduated from UCLA *cum laude* in Political Science and completed my graduate education at USC School of Law. I currently serve as VP & Division Counsel at Qualcomm, where I have been employed for 15 years. Previously I was an Associate at Paul Hastings in Los Angeles and VP & Head of Business Affairs at TV Guide. At Qualcomm, I was the first co-chair of the Local Giving Committee, setting up a fair and transparent process for providing financial gifts to non-profits in our community. I also was selected to the first Women's Leadership Committee, which focused on providing feedback to senior executives at Qualcomm on issues of importance to the women at the company.

I have served on several non-profit boards, including my current position on the Board of San Diego Sport Innovators along with Bill Walton and many North County business leaders. Prior Board positions include those with San Diego Girl Scouts and The Marshall Faulk Foundation. I am a mentor at Qualcomm in several formal and informal roles, and I was selected as a mentor by KPMG and Condoleezza Rice Future Leaders Program.

I have received an Athena Pinnacle Award nomination twice, was honored as a Women of Influence in Law by the San Diego Business Journal, and was a finalist for the San Diego Daily Transcript Power of Attorneys Award.

2. Why do you wish to serve on the Board? What do you hope to accomplish?

I would like to serve on the Board to offer guidance and insight as much as possible- I feel my legal background, comfort with conflict through years of business negotiations and new perspective will be beneficial to the existing Board. I have a creative problem-solving mind which has been a great asset in business. I would hope it could also benefit the Board.

In addition, as a parent in the community with a child who will be attending Cardiff Elementary, I have a vested interest in the District and making it a place that is safe for all where kids can thrive. My brother-in-law has served on his local school board for many years -under his leadership, the local high school was able to get funding to provide a brand new aquatics center and athletics field. The passion which comes from a parent with a vested interest because they have a child actively enrolled is important to represent on the Board and I have seen first hand the results you can achieve when there is a will.

Over the past couple of years, I have seen the legal challenges from Save the Park. I engaged with the community to show support for the school. Should legal challenges persist, I believe my background would be helpful. I also see issues for the near term on vaccine mandates and California's T-K program roll out. These are difficult issues and I hope to be part of thoughtfully responding to the changing needs and requirements- addressing state and local needs with a community first viewpoint.

Cardiff School District

Application for Board Appointment

3. What skills, abilities, and experience would you bring to the Board to assist in carrying out its responsibilities?

As mentioned above, I believe that my years of service on Boards will help me get up to speed fast to fill this vacant spot, and my legal background will be helpful based on the last few years of events. I don't shy away from conflict and am comfortable with difficult conversations, though I always try to approach the most difficult of situations with civility. I am a do-er, a problem solver, a forward thinker, and a good communicator. I believe that many times, it's the way a decision is communicated and the transparency provided that can greatly influence how it is received. In business, I don't solely focus on the end result, I place importance on the process of getting there and the communication along the way. As an example of my drive- with the Girl Scouts, I jumped into chairing the Philanthropy Committee the first meeting I attended, and quickly assembled and led a great group of Board members in fundraising efforts.

4. List your involvement in activities that demonstrate your understanding and support for public education, such as membership on committees/organizations, offices held, volunteer work, and community service.

I've been around public education my entire life. My mom was a teacher who eventually took a role running a high school program in the Silicon Valley for teen girls who were pregnant and working towards finishing school. My mom did not know much about computers at the time she took the job, but she went to community college and self taught - eventually writing for technology grants and obtaining an expansive donated computer lab where the girls learned skills that allowed them to transfer into the tech workforce when their program was completed. I learned the importance of a good education and I believe that can be achieved in the public system. At Qualcomm, I was the lead lawyer for Qualcomm Education, which worked on solving the digital divide in education. I learned a lot during the years I supported that business about the varying needs of students and their families, which must be amplified now with so many hybrid work from home/school from home households. Currently, I lead the legal support of our Thinkabit Labs program, which provides curriculum and tools to schools to show students from all cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds that they can be part of inventing the wireless world of the future. The program tripled in size since my team took over and helped optimize it for scale, reaching many more students than previously imagined. On a smaller scale, I am the mom who can be asked to do anything for preschool. I have obtained donated play houses (refinishing them to keep them out of the landfill and then gifting them to the school), countless toys, hours putting together event decorations, etc. I am the go-to mom for the above and more, and I take pride in it. My son is entrusted to the teachers more waking hours than he is with me during the week, and it is my firm belief that we are in it together and it's my job to help support them.

Cardiff School District
Application for Board Appointment

5. What do you see as the basic purpose of public schools, and what is the role of the school board in the fulfillment of that purpose?

The purpose in my view of public schools is to provide a safe place for children to achieve their best potential academically and socially. The elementary years are so crucial to the development of our children- where the schools and kids do best is where the students, staff, families and general community work together support one another and the environment for learning and growth. The School Board, in my opinion, has a very important role in this ecosystem. The Board is a direct liason with the Superintendent, and that relationship needs to be one of trust and confidence. The Board thoughtfully sets rules and regulations, but also should be involved in ensuring their consistent and fair implementation. I feel the Board has a valuable and important role with the families and community as well - at the core there needs to be a mutual trust and understanding that the Board truly is doing what is best to foster its mission supporting the full ecosystem. The Board will inevitably have to take some difficult or controversial positions, especially on vaccine mandates and TK programs, but the Board's job is to understand the State level (and federal if applicable) requirements, distill them to identifiable needs and implement changes, programs or other efforts consistent with both the higher level mandates as well as the Board's mission, even when the end result might be opposed by many.

6. Briefly describe your commitment to public education and our local school district.

I am an involved and committed community member. With a child who will soon enter the district, I look forward to dedicating some of my public service time and my passion for quality public education to efforts on the Board. I did what I could informally on the Save the Park litigation as a member of the community, but I would like to transition to dedicated, formal efforts on the many issues (described below) which I believe our district is facing. I believe it's important to have a Board member who is a current (or soon to be) parent at the district school(s). It provides more insight in bridging the gap between the policies the Board adopts and what is actually happening at the schools, and brings a deeper level of vested interest in doing the best we can for the district, the kids, the staff, the families and community.

Cardiff School District
Application for Board Appointment

7. List, in order of importance, the major issues confronting public education and, specifically, the Cardiff School District.

1. vaccine and mask mandates/in person safety
2. TK mandates
3. Completion of build/Save the Park issue management
4. Workforce/teacher shortage and retention

8. Explain the vision, values, and areas of focus of the Cardiff School District.

The Cardiff Way sums up the core values well. There is a focus on acting responsibly and caring for others, while being honest and showing respect for one another. The values help set guidelines to achieve the environment best for learning and personal growth. The vision for the high performing district was taken to the next level with the rebuild at Cardiff School, and having the state of the art, thoughtfully designed, safe place of learning and growth is fundamental for the public education start which helps prepare students and families for Ada Harris. The district has focused not only on high quality education, but also the sense of community with our small town. I would be honored to be part of the Board to help shape the policies which achieve the district's end goals.

Cardiff School District
Application for Board Appointment

CERTIFICATION OF QUALIFICATIONS:

I understand that this application is a public document and may be requested under provisions of the Public Records Act and/or be available to the public on the Cardiff School District website.

I understand that upon appointment I would be required to file a Conflict of Interest Statement and take an Oath of Office.

I certify I am not disqualified to hold this office because of a conviction of any of the crimes on the attached list and further certify I am not otherwise disqualified under the California Constitution or statutes from holding public office.

I certify that I reside within the Cardiff School District boundaries that I am a registered voter in the Cardiff School District.

I attest the foregoing information is true to the best of my knowledge.

Melissa R DeVita

Signature of Applicant

November 4, 2021

Date

Information contained on this application may be subject to verification.

This application must be received no later than Nov. 5, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.

No additional materials may be submitted.

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- *Bribing executive officer (Penal Code § 67)*
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- *Giving or offering bribe to Councilman or Supervisor (Penal Code § 165)*
- *Misappropriation of public funds (Penal Code § 424)*
- *Interference with work or discipline of, or giving certain articles to prisoners (Penal Code § 2772)*
- *Interference with or giving certain articles to convicts (Penal Code § 2790)*
- *Officer making contracts in which he or she is interested (Government Code § 1097)*
- *Members of the Legislature convicted of any crime (Government Code § 9055)*
- *Corrupting the voting process (Elections Code § 18501)*
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Cardiff School District

Application for Governing Board Appointment*

THIS APPLICATION IS A PUBLIC RECORD

The appointee will hold office until the next governing board member election, which occurs at the next Statewide General Election on November 8, 2022. [EC § 5091(e)]

QUALIFICATIONS:

Applicant must be a registered voter and a resident of the Cardiff School District. An employee of a school district may not be sworn into office as an elected or appointed member of that school district's governing board unless and until he or she resigns as an employee. [EC § 35107]

Certification of qualifications on page 5 must be signed by the applicant.

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

This application must be received no later than **November 5, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.**

Applications may be mailed, emailed, or hand-delivered to:

Secretary to the Board/Jill Vinson
Cardiff School District
1888 Montgomery Avenue,
Cardiff, CA 92007
Phone: (760) 632-5890
jill.vinson@cardiffschools.com

(Please type or print):

Name Reed Andrew Howard

Address 1315 Cornish Drive, 92007

Telephone No. Home () 310.902.1327 Business () _____

Years of Residence in the Cardiff School District: 7

Do you have children in the district's schools? yes If so, which schools? Cardiff Elementary

Cardiff School District

Application for Board Appointment

QUALIFICATIONS: *(Please stay within space allowed for answers. Do not attach extra pages.)*

1. Describe your educational, work and/or public service background, including any prior experience serving on a governing board.

During college at the University of Michigan I was a substitute teacher in the Ann Arbor Public School System. I worked in elementary, middle school, and high schools, and worked with special needs students.

During college I also volunteered to coach at-risk students in an after-school problem solving program called Destination Imagination, where students learn to use their imagination to come up with novel solutions to problems. Students engage in divergent problem solving, where there is more than one correct solution to a challenge.

After college I founded an education company called Brain Hurricane. Our goal was to extend the same divergent problem solving skills to more at-risk students. We built a K-8 math and reading curriculum and provided free tutoring to students on free- and reduced-lunch who attended failing schools, and were paid by the government for our services. Over the course of 15 years we grew our program to serve more than 10,000 at-risk students per year. On average our students gained nearly one academic year on their test scores by participating in small-group tutoring, and also learned interpersonal and problem solving skills.

Ten years later I founded a second education company called Wowzers. We developed a K-8 math curriculum that uses game-based software to assesses what students need help with, then delivers personalized learning content that leverages artificial intelligence to individualize instruction for each student.

2. Why do you wish to serve on the Board? What do you hope to accomplish?

I want to serve on the board because I believe in public education and want to give back. My family has a long history of advocating public schools.

As a young lawyer, my dad was one of the attorneys that fought to integrate our local school system in Kalamazoo, MI. At the time Kalamazoo was a diverse community, but schools were homogenous because people tended to live near people of their same race. My dad fought to implement bussing, where students from white neighborhoods would be bussed to schools with minority students.

I personally benefited from this years later when I attended public schools, and was exposed to students from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds. Most of the kids in my neighborhood went to private schools because their parents didn't want their children exposed to this diversity. But for my parents it was very important that I have a public school experience, and it ended up informing my career delivering tutoring in public schools across the country.

I hope to bring my experience working in public schools that have a more diverse student body than we have in Cardiff, and find ways to expose our students to the broader community of San Diego and California.

Cardiff School District

Application for Board Appointment

3. What skills, abilities, and experience would you bring to the Board to assist in carrying out its responsibilities?

As a successful entrepreneur who has started two education companies, I would bring an operational competency to the Cardiff School Board. I know how to take ideas and turn them into action.

I am good at building consensus among peers. In my role as CEO of the tutoring company Brain Hurricane I worked with school district administrators, principals, teachers, and parents to create and deliver high-quality tutoring programs in public schools.

I have more than 20 years of experience working with public school districts across the country, and understand the structure and decision making process in schools, including the procurement and Human Resources processes that drive action.

I have a robust understanding of how to implement technology in schools. The second company I founded, Wowzers, is an online math program for K-8 students that uses adaptive technology and educational games to deliver engaging instruction that supports both teachers and students. Over the last 10 years I've learned how to overcome roadblocks in order to implement personalized learning through technology.

4. List your involvement in activities that demonstrate your understanding and support for public education, such as membership on committees/organizations, offices held, volunteer work, and community service.

As mentioned previously, I used to be a substitute teacher. I've volunteered to coach in after school programs. I've created a company that delivered tutoring to more than 10,000 students per year. I've created educational software that's been used by more than a million students around the country. I've volunteered to coach sports teams. My whole personal and professional life has been closely tied to public education.

Cardiff School District

Application for Board Appointment

5. What do you see as the basic purpose of public schools, and what is the role of the school board in the fulfillment of that purpose?

I believe the basic purpose of public schools is to be the foundation of the community that they support. Public schools are more than a place where kids go to learn. They are the hub in the wheel of the community, and every spoke of that wheel relies on them. Without public schools many students wouldn't get proper nutrition. Without public schools lots of smart kids from financially challenged households wouldn't get the education needed to get into college and ultimately become successful members of society. Without public schools students from different backgrounds wouldn't get exposed to the diversity that represents the community.

The school board's role is to make sure that the community's values are prioritized in the school district's governance, and that the district has the appropriate resources to ensure that those values are upheld.

6. Briefly describe your commitment to public education and our local school district.

As I've previously mentioned, my family has a long history of support for public education. I've worked in public school districts as a substitute teacher, volunteered in after school programs, and built two education companies that work with public schools.

I support Cardiff School District because I am a member of the community and I believe public schools are an essential component of civic life. And because of how much Cardiff School District has already provided for my family. My brother in law, David Menuck, lost his wife in a car accident several years ago when they lived in Vista. At the time his son and daughter were 4 and 6. My niece and nephew had to deal with the pain of losing their mother at a young age. We moved Dave and his kids into our duplex unit in Cardiff so that we could help support them. That fall he enrolled his kids in Kindergarten and 2nd grade at Cardiff Elementary. I remember being so worried that they would feel out of place, and sad in new surroundings without their mom. But they quickly found their footing, and today they are thriving as a 4th and 6th grader at Ada Harris. I believe they are both doing so well because of the warmth of the community that they have around them, and most of that is because of the Cardiff School District.

We now have a 5 year old daughter, Elliot, who is in Kindergarten at Cardiff. She wakes up every morning, excited to go to school. I would like to be a member of the school board so I can give back to a school district that has already given so much to my family.

Cardiff School District

Application for Board Appointment

7. List, in order of importance, the major issues confronting public education and, specifically, the Cardiff School District.

A major issue confronting public education is that many students were adversely affected by school closures due to COVID-19. Student learning during the school closures was very uneven. The lucky few were able to get private tutoring or had parents that had the time and resources to deliver a quality education. But many did not. My math tutoring company is getting contracts all around the country to provide targeted tutoring to students who fell behind. Using assessment scores we are able to identify the students who suffered the most from school closures, create individualized learning plans for them, and bring them back up to grade level. I am not aware of any programs like this in Cardiff schools, and though many parents in the district DID have the time and resources to keep their students on the right path, many did not. I would like to see an effort to target students who have fallen behind.

In general, public schools are confronting a once-in-a-generation challenge. There has been an exodus of students to private school because of myriad factors, including COVID, and the cultural values being imparted through curriculum. I believe this is an opportunity for public schools to reassert their position at the center of American civic life by providing first-class education in a safe, creative, and challenging environment. I believe that in order to do that, public schools in general, and Cardiff School District specifically, need to increase academic and enrichment after-school opportunities that put them on par with elite private schools. Furthermore, I believe it is important to expose our children to a more diverse racial and ethnic community outside of Cardiff. I would like to help build after-school programs that can do both.

I believe there are other issues confronting the Cardiff School District, like the ongoing construction issue at Cardiff Elementary, that also deserve our focus.

8. Explain the vision, values, and areas of focus of the Cardiff School District.

When we were growing up, my mom always used to repeat a mantra that defined the values that she wanted us to exemplify: I want you to be Kind, Caring, Loving, and Sharing. When I started taking my niece and nephew to school and saw "The Cardiff Way" it reminded me of my mom. Act Responsibly. Be Honest. Care for Others. Show Respect. These are the same values we try to instill in our daughter. We are all lucky to live in such a beautiful place, surrounded by the ocean. With all of the luxury that surrounds our kids I think it's important that we reinforce the humility and respect that The Cardiff Way represents.

**Cardiff School District
Application for Board Appointment**

CERTIFICATION OF QUALIFICATIONS:

I understand that this application is a public document and may be requested under provisions of the Public Records Act and/or be available to the public on the Cardiff School District website.

I understand that upon appointment I would be required to file a Conflict of Interest Statement and take an Oath of Office.

I certify I am not disqualified to hold this office because of a conviction of any of the crimes on the attached list and further certify I am not otherwise disqualified under the California Constitution or statutes from holding public office.

I certify that I reside within the Cardiff School District boundaries that I am a registered voter in the Cardiff School District.

I attest the foregoing information is true to the best of my knowledge.



Signature of Applicant

October 27, 2021

Date

Information contained on this application may be subject to verification.

This application must be received no later than Nov. 5, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.

No additional materials may be submitted.

The following is a list of crimes, conviction of which precludes a person from holding public office in the State of California. Conviction of these crimes renders a person “forever disqualified from holding any office in this state.”

- *Bribing executive officer (Penal Code § 67)*
- *Officer asking or receiving bribes (Penal Code §§ 68, 88)*
- *Receiving gratuity for appointment to office (Penal Code § 74)*
- *Judicial Officer who has asked for or received emoluments, gratuities, rewards, or the fee of a stenographer (Penal Code § 94)*
- *Giving or offering bribe to Councilman or Supervisor (Penal Code § 165)*
- *Misappropriation of public funds (Penal Code § 424)*
- *Interference with work or discipline of, or giving certain articles to prisoners (Penal Code § 2772)*
- *Interference with or giving certain articles to convicts (Penal Code § 2790)*
- *Officer making contracts in which he or she is interested (Government Code § 1097)*
- *Members of the Legislature convicted of any crime (Government Code § 9055)*
- *Corrupting the voting process (Elections Code § 18501)*
- *Convicted of a felony involving accepting, giving, or offering of any bribe, embezzlement or theft of public funds, extortion, perjury, or conspiracy to commit any such crime, except if a pardon has been granted in accordance with law (Elections Code § 20)*

Please note that in addition to the above restrictions, Government Code § 1126 prohibits any local agency official from engaging “in any employment, activity, or enterprise for compensation which is inconsistent, incompatible, in conflict with, or inimical to his or her duties as a local agency officer or employee or with the duties, functions, or responsibilities of his or her appointing power or the agency by which he or she is employed.”

Cardiff School District

Application for Governing Board Appointment*

THIS APPLICATION IS A PUBLIC RECORD

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QUALIFICATIONS:

Applicant must be a registered voter and a resident of the Cardiff School District. An employee of a school district may not be sworn into office as an elected or appointed member of that school district's governing board unless and until he or she resigns as an employee. [EC § 35107]

Certification of qualifications on page 5 must be signed by the applicant.

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Secretary to the Board/Jill Vinson
Cardiff School District
1888 Montgomery Avenue,
Cardiff, CA 92007
Phone: (760) 632-5890
jill.vinson@cardiffschools.com

(Please type or print):

Name Courtney Lapin

Address 2467 Newcastle Ave, Cardiff, CA 92007

Telephone No. Home (415) 592-4902 Business ()

Years of Residence in the Cardiff School District: 3.5

Do you have children in the district's schools? yes If so, which schools? Cardiff Elementary

Cardiff School District

Application for Board Appointment

QUALIFICATIONS: *(Please stay within space allowed for answers. Do not attach extra pages.)*

1. Describe your educational, work and/or public service background, including any prior experience serving on a governing board.

I have a BA from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. I majored in psychology and minored in coaching education. After college I worked in a number of industries culminating in 4+ years with Westfield Labs, a digital arm of the global shopping conglomerate, Westfield. I left that job in 2018 when we relocated from San Francisco to Cardiff. Since 2018 I have been a stay at home mom which has allowed me more freedom to be involved with various local organizations.

Most notably, I was appointed as a commissioner for the Encinitas Parks & Recreation commission in 2020. This is an advisory group to the city responsible for acting as a liason between the community and the city countil as it relates to the city's numerous parks, trails, beaches, and programming. While serving as a commissioner I was also fortunate enough to represent Parks & Recreation in this year's city grant selection & funding process.

In addition to these experiences with the city, I also was a regular volunteer in my son's preschool classroom (pre-covid) where I'd spend one day a week assisting the teachers and students in their small group work stations. I also volunteered on the fundraising committee, helping to host the preschool's annual fundraiser and silent auction. My kids and I have also volunteered at the Coastal Roots Farm in Encinitas, aiding staff with whatever work they needed help with around the farm.

2. Why do you wish to serve on the Board? What do you hope to accomplish?

My desire to serve on the school board stems from a belief that parents should be active and well represented in the decisions that directly impact our children, our community, and our public education system. I also recognize that it is a privilege to have the time and capacity to serve in such a role. Many families do not have the capacity to take on a voluntary role in their community while juggling multiple careers, an ever-increasing cost of living, and young children. I feel incredibly fortunate to have the support structure in place to represent all of our community parents in applying for this role and in doing so, I hope to represent parental voices of support, concern, or suggestion to the school board.

There is so much to be learned from our children as they race out of school each day, from comments the teachers make in passing or via weekly newsletter, and the parents as we aggregate after school for pickup which is missed when parents are not serving on the decision making boards. If selected to fill this vacancy, my primary goal would be to represent all of these voices to the school board and to truly serve as a liaison between families, students, and the decision makers.

Cardiff School District

Application for Board Appointment

3. What skills, abilities, and experience would you bring to the Board to assist in carrying out its responsibilities?

I believe the most relevant experience I'd bring to the school board is being an active parent in the school district. In addition to that, I am highly organized, motivated, and comfortable interacting with all members of our community.

My experience working with the Parks and Recreation commission has given me insight into the workings of boards and the amount of time/effort it takes to bring about change within an established institution. It's also taught me how important it is to be both mindful of the communities wants/needs but also focused on the end-goal of what is best and realistic for the community at large.

My time working at Westfield Labs as a product manager has given me the organizational, cross-team, goal-focused skill set needed to work against set timelines or to make difficult decisions in which you have to weigh a number of opinions, many of which may be of varied viewpoints.

My experience as a mother has taught me that you cannot over-invest in your children's education but that most families do not have the budget/time to devote to extensive extra-curricular activities so investing in the quality of our public education system is of critical importance not just to our kids, but to the community that they are a part of now and will continue to support as they age out of the school system.

4. List your involvement in activities that demonstrate your understanding and support for public education, such as membership on committees/organizations, offices held, volunteer work, and community service.

I have addressed most of these items already but will recap them again here:

1. I spent a year as a weekly preschool classroom volunteer for my son's class before volunteering was severely limited due to covid-19. While a parent volunteer I helped the preschool teachers prepare the day's lessons, oversaw and guided the children in small group activities ranging from the proper way to hold and cut with scissors to assisting lessons in baking, and then helped to clean up work spaces and prepare the kids snack. This was an invaluable opportunity to see how difficult it is for our teachers to manage a large group of kids who demonstrated a range of abilities, varying skills, and very different personalities. Our teachers work so hard to provide for our children, to educate them to the best of their abilities, and often do so at their own personal expense due to a lack of funding universal in public schooling environments. I was able to see all of these challenges first-hand as a regular classroom volunteer and would bring this perspective and experience with me as a board member.

2. I served on our preschool fundraising committee to help organize our annual silent auction fundraiser, a critical part of our school being able to fund much needed maintenance expenses, teacher bonuses, and to establish an "emergency fund" for situations like the ones that played out during covid when school had to shut down entirely. I served in a number of roles for the committee - from sourcing donations to merchandising the donations to setting up the event and ultimately writing thank you notes to all of our donors. This experience helped me to appreciate how important it is to fund our schools but simultaneously, how challenging it is to ask parents who are already spending a lot on preschool to spend even more. It's a sensitive balance, one that has to acknowledge the varying socio-economic and time constraints of our community. This experience will serve to help me remember that we are representing a very diverse group of kids and families within our district, that our SEA is critically important, and that keeping our teachers happy and engaged while at work is one of the best investments our district can make.

Cardiff School District

Application for Board Appointment

5. What do you see as the basic purpose of public schools, and what is the role of the school board in the fulfillment of that purpose?

I believe public schools to play two critical roles: first, it's probably the last equalizer our society has in place for kids to be able to elevate themselves from where they come from and second, it's critically important to building strong and productive communities.

I recognize that we are truly fortunate to live in a small, largely affluent school district that is able to provide ipads to all students, a range of pull-outs and STEAM-based learning opportunities, as well as ocean-views from the playground. Our kids are so lucky to grow up in a community like Cardiff and thanks to small class sizes, generous donations from the community, the hard work of our SEA, and an extraordinary staff kids from all different backgrounds are able to come to school and thrive. This is not the case for all public schools and it is a tremendous responsibility to be a part of the institution providing all of these experiences and opportunities for our kids.

In addition to the importance of a solid, early education which is the foundation for all future learning, public schools are capable of uniting a community in a unique way. I have never lived somewhere with a school district like Cardiff's and it was a big reason my husband and I decided to buy a home here when we relocated from San Francisco. I love that we see the same families at school, then at Glen Park, then at Seaside Market, or at the beach. When you have a group of kids who are a part of a community like Cardiff, there is a sense of responsibility instilled in the role they play to support the community in which they are so deeply a part of. I appreciate that my kids know their neighbors and friends, feel supported by the familiarity of the town, and are rooted in their time at the Cardiff schools. I believe this will empower them to grow up feeling a sense of pride in their communities, a desire to be deeply involved in the maintenance of this place, and a recognition that in a small town, you will be responsible for how you behave out in the world. I don't think you get that in schools where kids are bussed all over a county, where they are so big that you don't know half of the kids or families in attendance, nor do you see them outside of school to form deeper connections.

6. Briefly describe your commitment to public education and our local school district.

I believe the biggest sign of commitment to public education and our schools is to utilize it. If everyone with the means to go elsewhere were to leave our school would be a very different type of institution. I think the fact that so many local families take advantage of, invest in, and expect quality from our local public schools is the greatest commitment any of us can make.

Cardiff School District

Application for Board Appointment

7. List, in order of importance, the major issues confronting public education and, specifically, the Cardiff School District.

I don't believe it's possible to extract the major issues confronting public education, specifically here in Cardiff, without also addressing some of the major macroeconomic issues facing our region.

California is facing a number of really big issues right now: an ever-rising cost of living inadvertently leading to gentrification which slowly destroys diversity in a place, housing affordability for teachers and staff who have historically been grossly underpaid compared to the importance of the work that they do, and an ever-widening disparity between the have's and have-not's. How do you teach first graders well when half of the class has been to 3 years of preschool, experienced multiple extra-curricular activities, and was actively involved in a kindergarten class alongside students who are experiencing a school environment for the first time ever and/or don't have a fluent English speaker at home?

There are so many challenges public school districts face and in many ways, Cardiff is uniquely positioned to endure them. We are thankfully not dependent on state or federal funding in our district which, as we've learned in the past few years, can be fickle when the local elected leaders do not support a district's beliefs or mission as it relates to teaching students. While we do have a range of skills and backgrounds at Cardiff, we also have the means to support those kids with highly targeted programming combined with early intervention.

My youngest son is 4 years old and still in preschool. He qualified for early intervention speech therapy and is thriving thanks in large part to the special education staff at Cardiff and our ability to move quickly in enrolling, assessing, and enrollment that is so critical to the foundational education of these children. These are areas which Cardiff has done such a fantastic job of addressing community needs which could very easily become daunting challenges if not for the commitment and devotion of our staff.

All of this is to say, there are a number of challenges facing our district but as a parent, I have been genuinely impressed with the quality that the board and staff have shown in facing them. That doesn't mean it will always be easy to continue, but the path has been set to at least show us the way to continue achieving greatness for our kids.

8. Explain the vision, values, and areas of focus of the Cardiff School District.

Cardiff schools are ultimately rooted in community. We are focused on teaching our children the importance of being a part of a community, supporting their community, and improving their community. Our kids learn alongside their friends and neighbors and hold themselves accountable to be their best both in and out of school.

As they age, our kids are being taught that they are also stewards of their community. They are going to face big challenges in their lifetimes but by coming together, they will be able to work towards solutions that are both gentle to the planet on which they live and the community in which they are a part.

All children fortunate enough to move through the Cardiff school district go out into the world proud of the community where they live, educated by passionate teachers and their proximity to nature, and empowered to work together to tackle big challenges. Our kids are exposed to arts, garden, music, physical education, and science labs where they are exposed to all aspects of building an educational foundation. We are so fortunate to be a part of a district that values community, education, and exposure.

Cardiff School District
Application for Board Appointment

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I attest the foregoing information is true to the best of my knowledge.



Signature of Applicant

11/5/2021

Date

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Cardiff School District

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Certification of qualifications on page 5 must be signed by the applicant.

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Secretary to the Board/Jill Vinson
Cardiff School District
1888 Montgomery Avenue,
Cardiff, CA 92007
Phone: (760) 632-5890
jill.vinson@cardiffschools.com

(Please type or print):

Name Ashok Swaminathan

Address 2009 Freda Lane

Telephone No. Home (858) 699 7316 Business (858) 651 4701

Years of Residence in the Cardiff School District: 12

Do you have children in the district's schools? Y If so, which schools? Cardiff Elementary
Ada Harris Elementary

Cardiff School District
Application for Board Appointment

QUALIFICATIONS: *(Please stay within space allowed for answers. Do not attach extra pages.)*

1. Describe your educational, work and/or public service background, including any prior experience serving on a governing board.

I have a PhD in engineering and have held a variety of management positions at various tech. companies. Most recently I have been managing development on part of Qualcomm's cellular phone chips, specifically the hardware responsible for uplink. I have also served on the ICOC for measure GG which is detailed in question 4

2. Why do you wish to serve on the Board? What do you hope to accomplish?

I would do my best to make sure our kids get the best possible experience in the Cardiff School District. More specifically, I would like to contribute in the following ways:

1) I would like to get involved more in ideas to resolve the ongoing lawsuit. My emails to the LWCF department within NPS suggested that we need to acquire more land to trade for the boundary reduction in the school rebuild. I would push to see if this can be acquired from the state

2) I would like to explore ways of making the district attractive and inclusive to all the families in Cardiff. During the pandemic, a few of our friends moved to private schools. I would like to understand their concerns and see if any of their feedback can be incorporated to make Cardiff Schools the primary choice for Cardiff families.

Cardiff School District
Application for Board Appointment

3. What skills, abilities, and experience would you bring to the Board to assist in carrying out its responsibilities?

Most of my work involves project management to deliver hardware on schedule at Qualcomm. Thus I have a lot of experience organizing people and tasks to get a project completed. More recently, I was co-President of the Independent Citizens Oversight Committee (ICOC) for measure GG in Cardiff (described more below).

4. List your involvement in activities that demonstrate your understanding and support for public education, such as membership on committees/organizations, offices held, volunteer work, and community service.

The primary example of this would be my involvement in the ICOC for measure GG from 2020-2021. I started as a member & took over as co-President when Rhea moved to the School Board. On the ICOC, we had very good visibility into the school construction process & financing/cost.

Cardiff School District
Application for Board Appointment

5. What do you see as the basic purpose of public schools, and what is the role of the school board in the fulfillment of that purpose?

The purpose of public schools is to foster good learning practices in a nurturing environment. Additionally, public schools should foster attributes such as teamwork, kindness, patience & perseverance through learning.

I believe that the school board provides advice & oversight to the district in order to achieve these goals. Since the board is not employed by the district, it should be able to provide insights that are solely motivated by the needs of the students.

6. Briefly describe your commitment to public education and our local school district.

Having 2 kids who have at least 3 more years in the district makes me very motivated to be involved in any capacity that helps to enhance their education.

I have been lucky enough to be able to serve on the ICOC and help ensure that the school rebuild project proceeded smoothly.

For public education, both my mother & sister were elementary school teachers so I was lucky enough to see the impact they were able to have on their students. I would love to have a similar impact to ensure that our kids get the best possible education.

Cardiff School District
Application for Board Appointment

7. List, in order of importance, the major issues confronting public education and, specifically, the Cardiff School District.

- 1) Covid Protocols: Finding the right balance between health & safety and a conducive learning environment is difficult. So far, the district has done a great job getting the kids onsite safely, and we must continue to update guidelines quickly based on State & Federal guidelines.
- 2) Ongoing lawsuit: The multipurpose room & the pickup/drop off areas are still incomplete pending closure of the lawsuit. NPS told me that the best way to facilitate a change in LWCF boundaries is to replace the lost land with "equivalent" new park space. So I think the district should be looking at acquiring additional park space to eliminate any leverage the plaintiffs have using the LWCF agreement.
- 3) Funding for materials & extra curriculars: In this respect, the SEAT does a fantastic job fundraising for the District, providing a full experience for our kids.

8. Explain the vision, values, and areas of focus of the Cardiff School District.

The Cardiff School District vision is to develop lifelong learners & contributing citizens through educational excellence. The areas of focus are: 1) Excellence in Learning,

- 2) Engaged Learning environment, 3) Active Parent & Community Engagement
4) Effective Resource Management

My interpretation of this is that we want our children to remain engaged and curious as they go through life with confidence and kindness. We can best achieve this by modelling these attitudes at home and through a guided curriculum which emphasizes the process of learning as well as the subject matter.

**Cardiff School District
Application for Board Appointment**

CERTIFICATION OF QUALIFICATIONS:

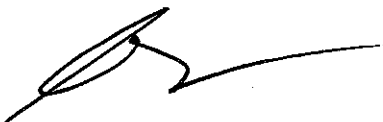
I understand that this application is a public document and may be requested under provisions of the Public Records Act and/or be available to the public on the Cardiff School District website.

I understand that upon appointment I would be required to file a Conflict of Interest Statement and take an Oath of Office.

I certify I am not disqualified to hold this office because of a conviction of any of the crimes on the attached list and further certify I am not otherwise disqualified under the California Constitution or statutes from holding public office.

I certify that I reside within the Cardiff School District boundaries that I am a registered voter in the Cardiff School District.

I attest the foregoing information is true to the best of my knowledge.



Signature of Applicant

Oct 22, 2021

Date

Information contained on this application may be subject to verification.

This application must be received no later than Nov. 5, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.

No additional materials may be submitted.

The following is a list of crimes, conviction of which precludes a person from holding public office in the State of California. Conviction of these crimes renders a person "forever disqualified from holding any office in this state."

- *Bribing executive officer (Penal Code § 67)*
- *Officer asking or receiving bribes (Penal Code §§ 68, 88)*
- *Receiving gratuity for appointment to office (Penal Code § 74)*
- *Judicial Officer who has asked for or received emoluments, gratuities, rewards, or the fee of a stenographer (Penal Code § 94)*
- *Giving or offering bribe to Councilman or Supervisor (Penal Code § 165)*
- *Misappropriation of public funds (Penal Code § 424)*
- *Interference with work or discipline of, or giving certain articles to prisoners (Penal Code § 2772)*
- *Interference with or giving certain articles to convicts (Penal Code § 2790)*
- *Officer making contracts in which he or she is interested (Government Code § 1097)*
- *Members of the Legislature convicted of any crime (Government Code § 9055)*
- *Corrupting the voting process (Elections Code § 18501)*
- *Convicted of a felony involving accepting, giving, or offering of any bribe, embezzlement or theft of public funds, extortion, perjury, or conspiracy to commit any such crime, except if a pardon has been granted in accordance with law (Elections Code § 20)*

Please note that in addition to the above restrictions, Government Code § 1126 prohibits any local agency official from engaging "in any employment, activity, or enterprise for compensation which is inconsistent, incompatible, in conflict with, or inimical to his or her duties as a local agency officer or employee or with the duties, functions, or responsibilities of his or her appointing power or the agency by which he or she is employed."

Cardiff School District

Application for Governing Board Appointment*

THIS APPLICATION IS A PUBLIC RECORD

The appointee will hold office until the next governing board member election, which occurs at the next Statewide General Election on November 8, 2022. [EC § 5091(e)]

QUALIFICATIONS:

Applicant must be a registered voter and a resident of the Cardiff School District. An employee of a school district may not be sworn into office as an elected or appointed member of that school district's governing board unless and until he or she resigns as an employee. [EC § 35107]

Certification of qualifications on page 5 must be signed by the applicant.

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

This application must be received no later than **November 5, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.**

Applications may be mailed, emailed, or hand-delivered to:

Secretary to the Board/Jill Vinson
Cardiff School District
1888 Montgomery Avenue,
Cardiff, CA 92007
Phone: (760) 632-5890
jill.vinson@cardiffschools.com

(Please type or print):

Name Shad Thielman

Address 1351 Rubenstein Ave, Cardiff, CA 92007

Telephone No. Home (858) 349-6664 Business ()

Years of Residence in the Cardiff School District: 15

Do you have children in the district's schools? Yes If so, which schools? Cardiff Elementary

Cardiff School District
Application for Board Appointment

QUALIFICATIONS: *(Please stay within space allowed for answers. Do not attach extra pages.)*

1. Describe your educational, work and/or public service background, including any prior experience serving on a governing board.

Currently, I am a lecturer in the Dept of History at California State University – San Marcos, where I have taught United States and World History courses. As a Professor of History, I am acutely familiar with student learning outcomes, curriculum planning, and regularly see the results of public education. In addition to my role as a lecturer, I have served on the Academic Senate as a Lecturer representative during the 2020/21 academic year and continue to do so. In this short time, I was part of the Lecturer Inclusion Work Group, which successfully passed a referendum to the university's constitution, which resulted in a standing committee of lecturers on the Academic Senate. This referendum, the first of its kind in higher education, will provide a framework for other universities to create a greater degree of equity within shared governance. In addition, my experience as a member and co-Chair of the Independent Citizens Oversight Committee (ICOC) for Measure GG has given me immeasurable experience working with the Cardiff School District, Cardiff School Board, and the Cardiff community.

2. Why do you wish to serve on the Board? What do you hope to accomplish?

First, as a parent of two children who have had the privilege of receiving their primary education in the Cardiff School District and a community member, I have a vested interest in the district and their goal to develop a culture of lifelong learning and mold civically-minded contributing citizens. Second, as a community member, I would argue that we have a moral obligation to provide the children of Cardiff School District with the means necessary to receive a safe and equitable education. In short, the students deserve to attend school in an environment that is equitable, adequate, safe, sustainable, and in keeping with the integrity of the community, Cardiff School District, and the Board of Trustees. By serving on the Cardiff School Board, I aim to work collectively with my counterparts and the Cardiff community to provide an engaged and safe learning environment for Cardiff Elementary and Ada Harris students.

Cardiff School District

Application for Board Appointment

3. What skills, abilities, and experience would you bring to the Board to assist in carrying out its responsibilities?

I believe that my combined skill set as an educator at California State University San Marcos and twenty years of experience in operations and supply chain management is commensurate with the expectations of a Cardiff School Board member. During my time in supply chain management, I became intimately familiar with research, budget preparation, budget analysis, procurement, logistics, best purchasing practices, efficiency, written and verbal communication, and establishing relationships. Furthermore, I can provide a unique perspective that can only come from being involved in higher education. I understand the complexities that drive student learning outcomes, curriculum development, pedagogical approaches, and shared governance as an educator. I am confident that I have the experience, passion, and communication skills necessary to adequately represent the Cardiff community and support the mission of the district to provide educational excellence, lifelong learning, civic engagement, and an engaging learning environment.

4. List your involvement in activities that demonstrate your understanding and support for public education, such as membership on committees/organizations, offices held, volunteer work, and community service.

As a veteran, I first served the community as a United States Marine from 2000 to 2004. I have coached youth soccer in the Encinitas area since 2011 and have been involved with the Cardiff Sockers FC in some capacity since 2013. I am an active member of the local chapter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion Post 416, where I served as the post historian. Within the walls of academia, I have served on the Academic Senate and as a member of the Lecturer Inclusion Work Group. In addition to these roles, I served as a member and co-Chair of the Independent Citizens Oversight Committee that oversaw Measure GG funding. Last, I am a faculty member of a public institution and a parent of children who attend Cardiff Elementary and Ada Harris, where I have participated in various school functions and attended school board meetings.

Cardiff School District
Application for Board Appointment

5. What do you see as the basic purpose of public schools, and what is the role of the school board in the fulfillment of that purpose?

On a micro-level, public education provides opportunity and mobility for those who attend. However, on a broader scale, public schools strengthen the communities that they serve. Historically, proponents of public education hoped to produce skilled workers and a culturally homogenous citizenry. However, education is not static and has changed over time. Contemporary schools differ from their predecessors and face unique challenges that call for modern solutions. Today, the purpose of public schools is to provide students with an equitable education in a safe environment, foster an appreciation of lifelong learning, and inform a student population that will become civically-minded citizens. Much like higher education, school districts, and the school boards that support them serve the public and operate under the guidance of shared governance. As elected officials, school boards are accountable to the communities they serve and have an obligation to extol the virtues of their constituents. School board members support, administer guidance, provide checks and balances, and perhaps most importantly, are advocates for the children, public schools, and districts that they serve.

6. Briefly describe your commitment to public education and our local school district.

As Americans and citizens, we are obligated to adhere to our civic duties. In a democracy, public institutions are only as strong as the support they receive. Noted scholar Timothy Snyder asserts that it is our duty to choose an institution to support as Americans and citizens. For many reasons, our public education system is the institution that I embrace and emphatically choose to support. Our public education system is a crucial foundational element of our democracy. As Private Schools and Charter Schools continue to proliferate throughout our communities, support for public education is as important today as it has ever been. As an individual raised in a lower socioeconomic household who attended public schools, I am apprised of the impact receiving a public education can have. I firmly contend that every child, regardless of socioeconomic status, has a right to receive an equitable education in a safe, engaging, and adequate environment. To that end, I supported Measure GG, served as a member and co-Chair of the ICOC, attended school board meetings, and remain a strong advocate of the public education system. What sets the Cardiff School District apart and makes it unique are the people and the relationships between the district, board, and the community. Also, unlike neighboring districts and those throughout the nation, our district does not suffer from a lack of funding to the degree that others do. Our students and teachers are fortunate to have the resources and social assets needed to receive and provide an exceptional educational experience. It is my hope to work with members of the school board, district, educators, and the community to ensure that we meet the needs of every student and provide educators with the tools that they need to be successful inside and outside of the classroom.

Cardiff School District

Application for Board Appointment

7. List, in order of importance, the major issues confronting public education and, specifically, the Cardiff School District.
 - Safety
 - Equity
 - Inclusion
 - Funding
 - Access to resources and technology.
 - Space, as is the case with many districts, preparing for future growth is always a priority.
 - Teacher/Student ratio.
 - The continued standardization of the educational process.
 - Adequate resources to address mental health and behavior. (Especially since Covid has influenced synchronous and asynchronous modalities)
 - Covid related learning loss.
 - Misinformation
8. Explain the vision, values, and areas of focus of the Cardiff School District.

School boards and school districts should exemplify the values, vision, and needs of the communities that they serve. Cardiff School District does well to integrate these traits into the mission of the district. Perhaps nothing is more critical to the vision of Cardiff School District than the relationship between the community, district, and the governing board. Through the collective efforts of the district, governing board, and community members, Cardiff School District has remained a top tier district with two award-winning schools. Within the overarching theme of growth and in tune with technological advances and other contemporary challenges, Cardiff School District remains focused on educational excellence, lifelong learning, and molding civically engaged contributing members of society. Previous success is due, in no small part, to the relationship between the governing board, district, and the community at large. Through the collaborative efforts of these groups, the educators and students of Cardiff School District have received the resources they need to be successful. As a result, students have been the beneficiaries of learning with a focus on collaboration, communication, creativity, and critical thinking. As a parent, I have seen the results and benefits of these efforts. As an educator, I have seen where other districts have failed to support these student learning outcomes. The vision and values implemented by Cardiff School District provide a blueprint for a lifetime of social, educational, and professional success.

Cardiff School District
Application for Board Appointment

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I certify that I reside within the Cardiff School District boundaries that I am a registered voter in the Cardiff School District.

I attest the foregoing information is true to the best of my knowledge.

Shad Thielman

Signature of Applicant

11-4-2021

Date

Information contained on this application may be subject to verification.

This application must be received no later than Nov. 5, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.

No additional materials may be submitted.

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- *Members of the Legislature convicted of any crime (Government Code § 9055)*
- *Corrupting the voting process (Elections Code § 18501)*
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