Application

Requesting Interested Candidates to apply before the submission deadline at 4:00 p.m. on July 23, 2025, in the office of the Superintendent or by email to: juranekl@mdusd.org. Candidates may submit a statement as part of their candidate application.

Name: Albert (Al) Anderson Date: 7/21/25

Address: [redacted] Phone: [redacted]

Email: [redacted]

Employment:

Employer	Position	Dates of Employment
Nova Group, Inc.	Proposal Manager	12/2010 to Present

Education:

Institution	Degress	Dates of Attendance
University of California (Berkeley)	--	1979-1981
U.C.L.A.	B.A. English	1981-1983
Cal State Hayward (East Bay)	Single Subject Clear Teaching Credential English	1984-1985
Cal State Hayward (East Bay)	M.A. English	1984-1989

Candidate Questions (each with a 300-word Limit):

1) Why do you want to be a school board member?

I have been concerned about the quality of public education in general, and I would like to contribute in some small way to improve the success of students and the satisfaction of parents in the Mount Diablo Unified School District. I think it would also be an opportunity to further educate myself about the details of the operations of our large school district, and to contemplate ways to make it more efficient and effective. Overall, I think it would just be a good way to serve my community.

2) What specific experience do you have that would qualify you to serve as a member of the Mt. Diablo Unified School District?

I have a Master's Degree and Clear Single Subject Teaching Credential in English (though I would need to pay a fee to reactivate my credential). I did some of my student teaching at College Park High School. I was a high school teacher at a private high school, and I was a substitute teacher (including a stint as a long-term substitute) for MDUSD in the 2000-2001 school year. I have also spent many years as a coach and youth leader, so I'm familiar with working with students. Also, my two children attended MDUSD schools for parts of their education. Finally, I am a lifelong resident of Contra Costa County and was educated in the public schools (in the San Ramon Valley Unified School District).

3) What specific strengths, skills, or abilities, both personal and professional, would you contribute to the board? Do you have input on how the school district should align financial resources to improve student achievement, equity, and wellness?

Having been a teacher and a youth leader and coach I am familiar with working with students. Having been a parent in the district, I am familiar with many parental concerns. I would like to see the district's resources focus primarily on student achievement. I would like the budget to be balanced, as I don't believe in budgeting on a credit card. Although not neglecting teachers and administrators, I would like to focus on those things that are most important to parents, as well as students.

4) How have you been engaged with members of the Mt. Diablo Unified School District community (staff and parents)?

I have been engaged as a parent of students in the MDUSD, but have not engaged with the MDUSD directly for many years (my youngest graduated from Clayton Valley Charter High School in 2019). If I were a member of the Board, I would make plans to interview the school leadership and parents' groups of all the schools in my area.

5) What do you see as the strengths of the Mt. Diablo Unified School District?

The large size of the district gives it a lot of resources, if prioritized effectively.

6) What do you see as the area(s) most needing improvement in the Mt. Diablo Unified School District?

In my previous experience working in the district (admittedly many years ago), discipline is a problem in the upper grades, and student achievement is an issue in all grades. I'm also concerned that there are not enough technical classes in the upper grades.

7) Identify a recent board decision that you felt strongly about, and describe how you would balance community concerns, student needs, state and federal law, staff considerations, and your personal values and beliefs to determine how to vote on the issue:

I think the district is too focused on divisive issues like proclaiming Pride Month rather than actual basic education, especially when once considers that so many students do not operate at grade level. These kinds of social justice proclamations serve no useful purpose if our goal is to educate students so they can be knowledgeable citizens who can think effectively for themselves. These are simply divisive gestures that alienate parents and turn many of our best potential students into homeschoolers or private school attendees. They are far from "welcoming everyone" and only signal to people who disagree that they and their opinions are not wanted. None of these side issues are as important as students learning how to read, and read critically, how to do math and apply it, and learn about history and science and art, and other disciplines that will make them productive and useful citizens.

8) What do you see as the basic purpose of public schools?

It is to educate the future generations to be useful, productive citizens who contribute to our society in a positive way. It gives an opportunity for students who come from low-income backgrounds to have a sound education that can improve their prospects in life. Of course, the quality of the education they get depends on the combined efforts of teachers, administrators, and parents. The ultimate goal would be to provide an education that is at least equal to what a child could get from homeschool or an expensive private eduation.

9) What is the role of the governing board in the fulfillment of that purpose?

A key role is financial management. Another is monitoring the effectiveness of our programs and personnel in improving student achievement.

10) How does the board's role differ from that of the superintendent?

My understanding is that the superintendent runs the day-to-day activity of the district, while the board monitors him and that activity.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the forgoing Application for a Provisional Appointment is true and correct. Executed July 21, 2025 at Napa, California.

Name: Albert (Al) Anderson Signature: Albert Anderson

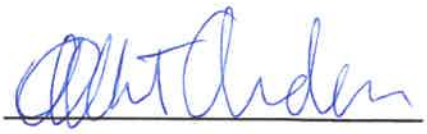
Complete the Verification of Education Code § 3517 requirement:

Please verify by indicating Yes or No to the following:	Yes	No
Are you 18 years of age or older?	X	
Are you a U.S. citizen?	X	
Do you reside within Trustee Area # 4 of Mt. Diablo Unified School District?	X	
Are you a registered voter?	X	
I am not disqualified by the United States Constitution or the laws of the State of California from holding civil office, and I am eligible to be appointed a member of the governing board of the Mt. Diablo Unified School District.	X	
I am willing to file a Conflict of Interest Statement.	X	
Are you disqualified by the Constitution and/or the laws of the state from holding a civil office for any of the following reasons:	**Yes**	**No**
Have you ever received a reward for an appointment to an office?		X
Have you ever asked for or received a bribe for the purposes of obtaining an office or election?		X
Have you ever been convicted of embezzlement or falsification of accounts?		X
Have you ever been convicted of forgery?		X
Have you ever been convicted of racketeering, extortion, or conspiracy?		X
Have you ever been impeached from office?		X
Have you ever served as a legislator and been found in contempt of the legislature?		X
Have you ever been convicted for neglect or violation of official duty?		X
Have you ever been convicted of illegal participation in public contracts and conveyances?		X
Have you ever been convicted of perjury? Have you ever taken an oath of assumption of foreign obligations?		X
Signature: Elliot Anderson		
Date: 7/21/25		

This application is public information

RESIDENCY DECLARATION

I, Albert Anderson, hereby declare that I reside within the boundaries of Trustee Area Four of the Mt. Diablo Unified School District, pursuant to the statutory definition of residency provided in Government Code § 244 and applicable law. Trustee Area Four includes the Walnut Creek, Clayton and Concord Areas. A map of Trustee Area Four is enclosed. If there is any change in the status of my residency, I agree to immediately notify the Mt. Diablo Unified School District in writing.

Name: Albert (Al) Anderson Signature: 

Date: 7/21/25