SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 8.1h

Meeting Date: March 5, 2026

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

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

Department: Board Office

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

Background/Rationale: The California School Boards Association (CSBA) Delegate Assembly is the policy-making body of the association. Delegates adopt the association's legislative platform, take positions on other critical issues that may come before it, elect the officers and directors, and adopt bylaw changes. Delegates also serve as a two-way communication link between the board members in the region and the regional director, and play an important role in fostering collegiality within their region. This year there are two vacancies for Subregion 6-B and there is one candidate. The candidate is Sumiti Mehta (Natomas USD). The official ballot must be submitted to CSBA on or before Monday, March 16, 2026. No exceptions are allowed.

Financial Considerations: None

LCAP Goal(s): Family and Community Engagement

Documents Attached:
1. Official CSBA 2026 Delegate Assembly Ballot
2. Candidate CSBA 2026 Delegate Assembly Biographical Sketch Form

Estimated Time of Presentation: n/a
Submitted by: Board Office
Approved by: Cancy McArn, Interim Superintendent

REQUIRES BOARD ACTION

January 31, 2026
MEMORANDUM

To: CSBA Member Boards and Even-numbered County Board Presidents and Superintendents
From: Dr. Debra Schade, CSBA President
Re: 2026 Ballot for CSBA Delegate Assembly — **U.S. Postmark Deadline is Mon. March 16**

CSBA is transitioning to an all-electronic voting process, beginning with an electronic "option" this year and moving to all-electronic voting in 2027. For those wishing to submit an electronic ballot this year, an email with the unique link to your ballot is sent to the primary contact on file with CSBA for your district or county office on February 1, 2026. Electronic ballot submissions still require board action as described in this memo, however no mailing is required. If both a paper ballot and electronic ballot are submitted, only the electronic ballot will be counted.

Enclosed is the ballot material for election to CSBA's Delegate Assembly from your region or subregion. It consists of: 1) the ballot (on red paper) listing the candidates, the reverse side of which contains the names of ALL current members of the Delegate Assembly from your region or subregion; and 2) the required candidate biographical sketch form and, if submitted, a resume. In addition, provided is a copy of the ballot on white paper to include with your board agenda. **Only the ballot on red paper is to be completed and returned to CSBA if your district or county board chooses to submit a paper ballot. Ballots must be submitted electronically or postmarked by the U.S. Post Office on or before Monday, March 16, 2026.**

Your Board may vote for up to the number of seats to be filled in the region or subregion as indicated on the ballot. For example, if there are three seats up for election, the Board may vote for up to three candidates. However, your Board may cast no more than one vote for any one candidate. The ballot also contains a provision for write-in candidates; their name and district or county office must be clearly printed in the space provided.

The paper ballot must be signed by the Board President, Board Clerk, or Superintendent as a designee of the board, and returned in the enclosed envelope; if the envelope is misplaced, you may use your district's or county office's stationery. Please write **DELEGATE ELECTION** prominently on the envelope along with the region or subregion number on the bottom left corner of the envelope (this number appears at the top of the ballot). If there is a tie vote, a run-off election will be held, and ballots will need to be postmarked on or before April 30. Results will be published by May 11, 2026.

For County Boards of Education Only:

County boards of education may receive up to two emails with unique links for electronic voting: one for their subregion ballot and one for their regional county Delegate ballot, if applicable.

Per Standing Rule 52, in regions with more than one county, each county board of education has one vote to elect the county board member who represents the county board(s) in the region in the Delegate Assembly. One-county regions will appoint the county Delegate. Your county board may vote for only one candidate to fill the Delegate position representing the county boards within your region. Enclosed is the ballot material for election to CSBA's Delegate Assembly of the county board representative from your region. It consists of 1) the ballot (on GREEN paper) listing the candidates, the reverse side of which contains the name of the current member of the Delegate Assembly representing the county boards in your region; and 2) the required candidate biographical sketch form and, if submitted, a resume. In addition, also provided is a copy of the ballot on white paper to include with your board agenda. **Only the ballot on GREEN paper is to be completed and returned to CSBA if your county board chooses to submit a paper ballot. Like the ballot on red paper for the other Delegate seats in your region, it must be submitted electronically or postmarked by the U.S. Post Office on or before Monday, March 16, 2026.**

The paper ballot on GREEN paper must be signed by the Board President, Board Clerk, or by the County Superintendent, as a designee of the board, and returned in the enclosed envelope. If the envelope is misplaced, you may use your county office's stationery. Please write **DELEGATE ELECTION** prominently on the envelope along with the region number on the bottom left corner of the envelope (this number appears at the top of the ballot). If there is a tie vote, a run-off election will be held, and ballots will need to be postmarked by April 30. The results for the county board seat in each region will also be published by May 11, 2026.

All re-elected and newly elected Delegates will serve two-year terms beginning April 1, 2026 – March 31, 2028. The next meeting of the Delegate Assembly takes place on Saturday, May 16 and Sunday, May 17, 2026. Please do not hesitate to contact the Executive Office at nominations@csba.org should you have any questions.

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

REQUIRES BOARD ACTION

This complete, **CORRECTED** Ballot must be **SIGNED** by the Superintendent or Board Clerk and returned in the enclosed envelope postmarked by the post office no later than **MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2026**. Only ONE Ballot per Board. Be sure to mark your vote "X" in the box. *A PARTIAL, UNSIGNED, PHOTOCOPIED, OR LATE BALLOT WILL NOT BE VALID.*

OFFICIAL 2026 DELEGATE ASSEMBLY **CORRECTED** BALLOT
SUBREGION 6-B
(Sacramento County)

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

Delegates will serve two-year terms beginning April 1, 2026 - March 31, 2028

**denotes incumbent*

[X] Sumiti Mehta (Natomas USD)

[ ] Not enough nominations were received for a second candidate, however your board may vote to write in the name of a board member to fill this seat.

Corrected Ballot Please Use This Ballot

_____ _____
Provision for Write-in Candidate Name *School District*

_____ _____
Signature of Superintendent or Board Clerk *Title*

_____ _____
School District Name *Date of Board Action*

See reverse side for list of all current Delegates in your Region.

REGION 6 – 18 Delegates (11 elected/7 appointed0)

Director: Vacant

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

Subregion 6-A (Yolo)

Deborah Bautista Zavala (Woodland Joint USD), 2026

Subregion 6-B (Sacramento)

Ben Avey (San Juan USD)*, 2027
Michael Baker (Twin Rivers USD), 2027
Ken Barnes (Robla ESD), 2026
Susan Davis (Elk Grove USD)*, 2027
Craig DeLuz (Robla ESD), 2027
Tara Jeane (Sacramento City USD)*, 2026
Christine Jefferson (Twin Rivers USD), 2026
Tanya Kravchuk (San Juan USD)*, 2026
Annette Kunze (Galt Joint Union ESD), 2027
Kara Lofthouse (Folsom-Cordova USD), 2027
Noel Mora (Natomas USD), 2027
Chinua Rhodes (Sacramento City USD)*, 2027

Counties

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

Cast Ballot Please Use This Ballot

REQUIRES BOARD ACTION

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**denotes incumbent*

[X] Sumiti Mehta (Natomas USD)

[ ] Not enough nominations were received for a second candidate, however your board may vote to write in the name of a board member to fill this seat.

Provision for Write-in Candidate Name _____ *School District* _____

Signature of Superintendent or Board Clerk _____ *Title* _____

School District Name _____ *Date of Board Action* _____

See reverse side for list of all current Delegates in your Region.

Copy Corrected Ballot Please Use This Ballot

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Noel Mora (Natomas USD), 2027
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Counties

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

Copy Corrected Ballot Please Use This Ballot

View results

Respondent

57 Anonymous

92:46
Time to complete

1. I have been... *

- ◯ Appointed
- ◉ Nominated

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

Sumiti

3. Full name *

Sumiti Mehta

4. Region/subregion *

6B

5. Name of District or COE *

Natomas Unified School District

6. Years on board *

1

7. Profession

School Board Trustee / Stay at Home Mom

8. Contact number *

9167189340

9. Primary email address *

sumitimehta@gmail.com

10. Are you an incumbent Delegate? *

- ( ) Yes
- (•) No

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

I am interested in becoming a CSBA Delegate because effective school governance requires strong collaboration between local boards, communities, and statewide leadership. Serving as a Delegate would allow me to represent my district's viewpoints and contribute meaningfully to discussions shaping public education policy across California. My experience in communications, community advocacy, and cross-sector leadership qualifies me to address complex governance challenges, including fiscal pressures and community polarization, effectively.
I bring a combination of school board governance experience, community advocacy, and cross-sector leadership. As a school board member, long-time education advocate, and parent, I understand the importance of student-centered decision-making grounded in equity, transparency, and collaboration. My professional background in communications and public relations enables me to communicate complex issues and build agreement among diverse stakeholders clearly. Additionally, as a Youth, Parks, and Community Enrichment Commissioner for the City of Sacramento, I have gained valuable experience working across departments and agencies to expand access to enrichment, recreation, and safe spaces for youth insights that strongly inform my approach to student well-being and expanded learning opportunities.

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

As a school Board Trustee, I actively participate in governance discussions on academic achievement, student wellness, fiscal accountability, and workforce support. I prioritize partnership with educators, classified staff, administrators, and families, and I consistently advocate for inclusive, transparent decision-making.
In the broader community, I have volunteered in schools and youth-serving organizations for over a decade. My role as a City of Sacramento Youth, Parks, and Community Enrichment Commissioner has further strengthened my understanding of how city–school partnerships can support after-school programs, youth development, and safe, engaging environments for students beyond the school day. I believe CSBA can facilitate stronger partnerships by providing resources and platforms for shared learning and collaboration among local boards and community organizations.
I am and will remain engaged with CSBA by participating in trainings, conferences, and governance workshops, and I value CSBA's role in supporting effective board leadership statewide.

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

One of the biggest challenges facing governing boards today is navigating increasingly complex expectations, including academic recovery, student mental health, staff retention, fiscal pressures, and elevated community polarization, while maintaining public trust and a clear focus on student success. I am aware of these issues and believe CSBA can help by offering targeted training, policy guidance, and peer learning opportunities that empower boards to lead with clarity and empathy in these areas.
CSBA can help address this challenge by continuing to provide strong governance training, clear policy guidance, and opportunities for collaboration and peer learning. By equipping board members with tools to lead with clarity, empathy, and data-informed decision-making, CSBA strengthens local governance. CSBA also plays a vital role in elevating local board voices at the state level and ensuring policies reflect the diverse needs of California's school communities.