



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board Vacancy

Trustee Area 2

Appointment Process
Information & Supporting Documents

San Benito High School District

Office of the Superintendent • Shawn Tennenbaum, Ed.D., Superintendent
1220 Monterey Street, Hollister, CA 95023 • (831) 637-5831



San Benito

HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Continuing Excellence

1220 Monterey Street
Hollister, CA 95023

Phone (831) 637-5831x1132
Dr. Shawn Tennenbaum
Superintendent

www.sbhs.sbhsd.org

September 29, 2026

ANNOUNCEMENT OF BOARD VACANCY – CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

To the Hollister Community:

The term of the current member of the San Benito High School District Board of Trustees representing Trustee Area 2, Miguel Sahagun Jr., expires on December 15, 2026. This seat was scheduled for election in November 2026, however, no candidates filed for the election. Therefore, this Board seat will be filled by appointment.

The Board will be accepting applications to fill this position. Applicants must be residents of Trustee Area 2. An interactive map of the District's Trustee Areas may be found [here](#). An Application Form and Applicant Qualification Form are both enclosed with this letter available on the District website: <https://www.sanbenitohsd.gov/about/board-of-trustees> and in the District office.

The timeline to submit applications for consideration begins today and ends at noon on Friday, October 16, 2026. Completed Application and Applicant Qualification Forms must be submitted and will be accepted from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the District Office or can be emailed to ezendejas@sbhsd.k12.ca.us. **To be considered as an applicant, completed forms must be received by the District by no later than 12:00 noon on October 16, 2026.** Please note: if submitting an application by email, it is the applicant's responsibility to confirm the District has received it. Any application received after noon on October 16, 2026, will not be accepted.

On October 29, 2026, the Board anticipates meeting in an open session public meeting at 5:30 p.m. to review all applications and to interview the applicants. Applicants should make themselves available for this meeting. Following interviews and discussion of applicants, the Board may appoint one of the applicants to fill this position by majority vote. The appointee will begin service at the Board meeting on December 15, 2026. The appointed Board member will hold office until the next regular scheduled election for District Board members in November 2028.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Superintendent Dr. Shawn Tennenbaum at stennenbaum@sbhsd.k12.ca.us or by phone at (831) 637-5831 ext. 1132 or Board Clerk, Trustee Patty Nehme at pnehme@sbhsd.k12.ca.us.

Sincerely,

Shawn Tennenbaum, Ed.D.
Superintendent - San Benito High School District

Enclosures: Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Board Member Appointment
Applicant Qualification Form
Application for Provisional Appointment
Board Bylaw 9223
Trustee Area Map

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING BOARD MEMBER APPOINTMENT

Thank you for your interest in seeking appointment to the San Benito High School District Board of Trustees. As you consider whether you would like to apply for an appointment to the Board, the following information may be of assistance.

1.) What are the qualifications for serving on the Board?

A person must be a citizen of the United States, a resident of the San Benito High School District, and a resident of a specific Trustee Area, at least 18 years old, and a registered voter. An interactive map of the District's Trustee Areas may be found [here](#).

2.) What do I need to apply for the position?

The Governing Board has determined that it will accept application materials which include a complete Qualification Form and Application. These materials are available on the District website at <https://www.sanbenitohsd.gov/about/board-of-trustees> or may be picked up at the District Office located at 1220 Monterey Street, Room 130, Hollister, CA 95023 or by calling (831) 637-5831 ext. 1132. **Complete application materials must be received by the District Office, no later than 12:00 noon on October 16, 2026.** Please note: if submitting an application by email, it is the applicant's responsibility to confirm the District has received it. Applicants must be available for interviews with the Board at an open meeting on October 29, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

3.) If I am selected by the Board, when do I take office and when do I run for reelection?

The Board anticipates making a selection on October 29, 2026. The new member will take their seat at the December 15, 2026 Board meeting.

After appointment becomes final, the Board member will serve until November 2028 (at which time s/he may run for reelection if s/he chooses).

4.) What other information should I consider?

Serving on the school board can be a valuable and satisfying way to make a significant contribution to the community. The Board, staff, parent and student community have enjoyed a collegial relationship. As public officials, Board members do have to comply with certain restrictions not encountered in their private lives. Election campaigns are completely separate from district activities and the candidate must fund the campaign with private contributions in accordance with the rules of the Fair Political Practices Commission.

Upon assuming office, a Board member must file a Statement of Economic Interest which is a public document that discloses the Board member's financial holdings and other economic interests within the boundaries of the District (excluding a personal residence). Board members must refrain from activities which constitute a conflict of interest or which are incompatible with their role as Board member.

5.) May I get additional information on the role and responsibility of a Board Member?

Yes, the California School Boards Association offers several publications on *School Board Leadership*, *New Member Orientation* and *Governance Briefs*. Please feel free to contact



the Board President to discuss your interest in applying for appointment to the Governing Board of the San Benito High School District.

The District and the entire community greatly appreciate your interest in serving the community and our students.



APPLICANT QUALIFICATION FORM

Full Name: _____

Physical Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Length of Residence in District: _____

Children in District (Y/N): _____

If Yes, Schools Attended or Attending and Dates: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Occupation: _____

Employer: _____

Work Address: _____

Work Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

I _____ hereby certify I am a qualified voter of the San Benito High School District in the County of San Benito, in the state of California, a resident of Trustee Area 2, and wish to be considered for appointment to fill a vacancy on the District Board of Trustees. The term of the appointment expires in December 2028. The appointed candidate may seek re-election at that time.

I hereby certify that I meet all legal requirements to be a member of the San Benito High School District Board of Trustees.

I hereby certify that the information I have presented in the submitted application packet is complete, accurate and true to the best of my knowledge, and hereby authorize the Governing Board to verify this information as may be required. I understand that all application materials I have submitted are subject to the laws governing public information.

I understand that the District will review my status in the "Megan's Law" database. I further agree that if I am appointed to fill the Board vacancy, I will obtain fingerprint clearance through the Department of Justice and Federal Bureau of Investigation within one month of appointment and prior to visiting any District school sites when students are present.

Applicant's Signature

Date

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT

San Benito High School District Board Member Appointment Application

Application of _____

1. Have you served on any community commission, committee or other type of board?
If so, which of these and dates served?

2. Have you participated in any school activities or committees recently? Please list and explain.

3. Describe any present or past civic affiliations or activities including volunteer activities.

4. Briefly explain your reason or interest in becoming a school board member.

5. What do you see as the basic purpose of the public schools?

6. What is the role of the school board in the fulfillment of that purpose?

7. What issue related to the District/public education do you feel strongest about?

8. What should be the relationship between the board members and the administration in the handling of school concerns?

9. What is the single most critical issue facing the San Benito High School District in the immediate future and how would your background and experiences help the District to meet this challenge?

10. What do you see as the strengths of San Benito High School District?

11. What do you see as the area(s) most needing improvement in San Benito High School District?

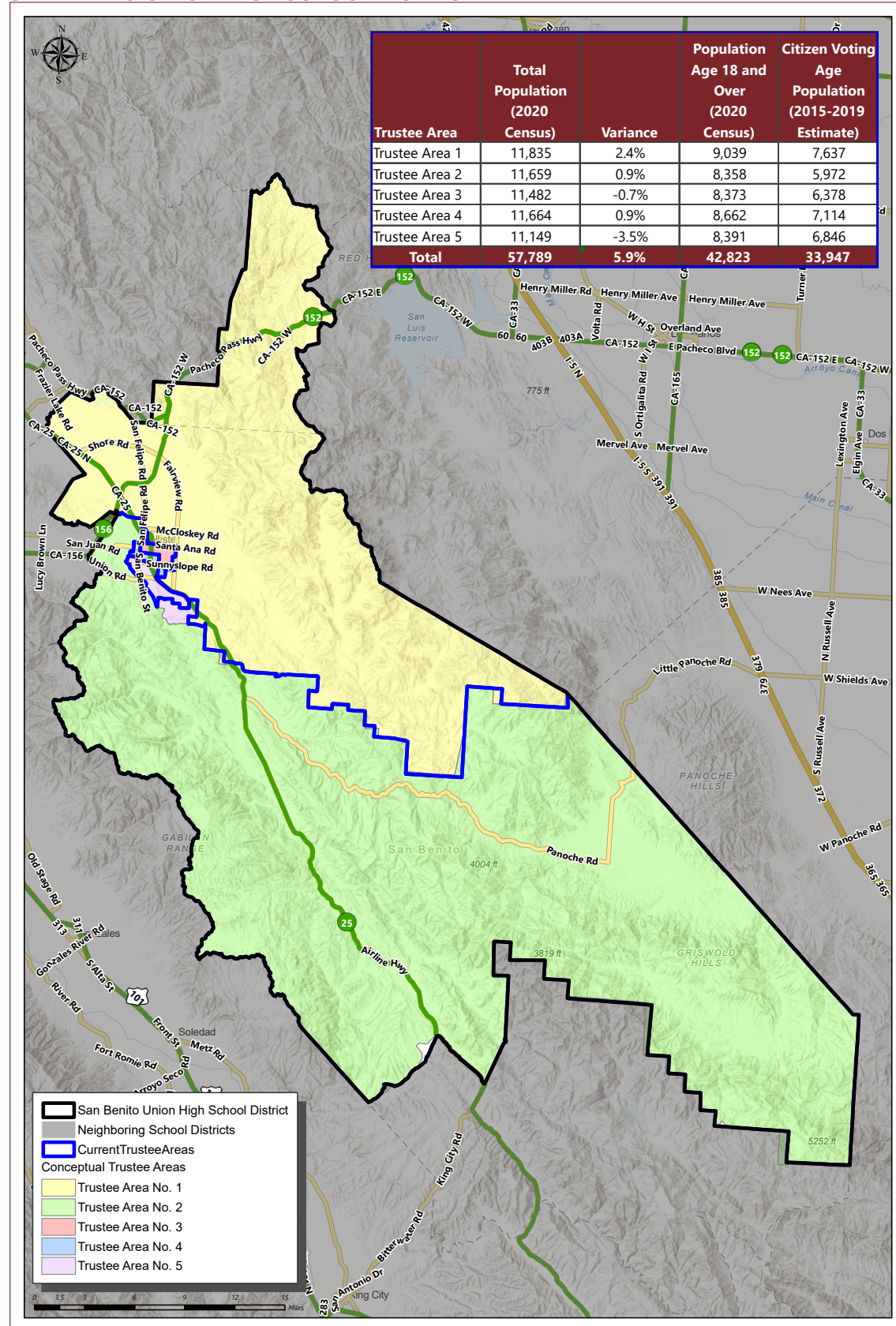
12. Can you commit to attending the following meetings?

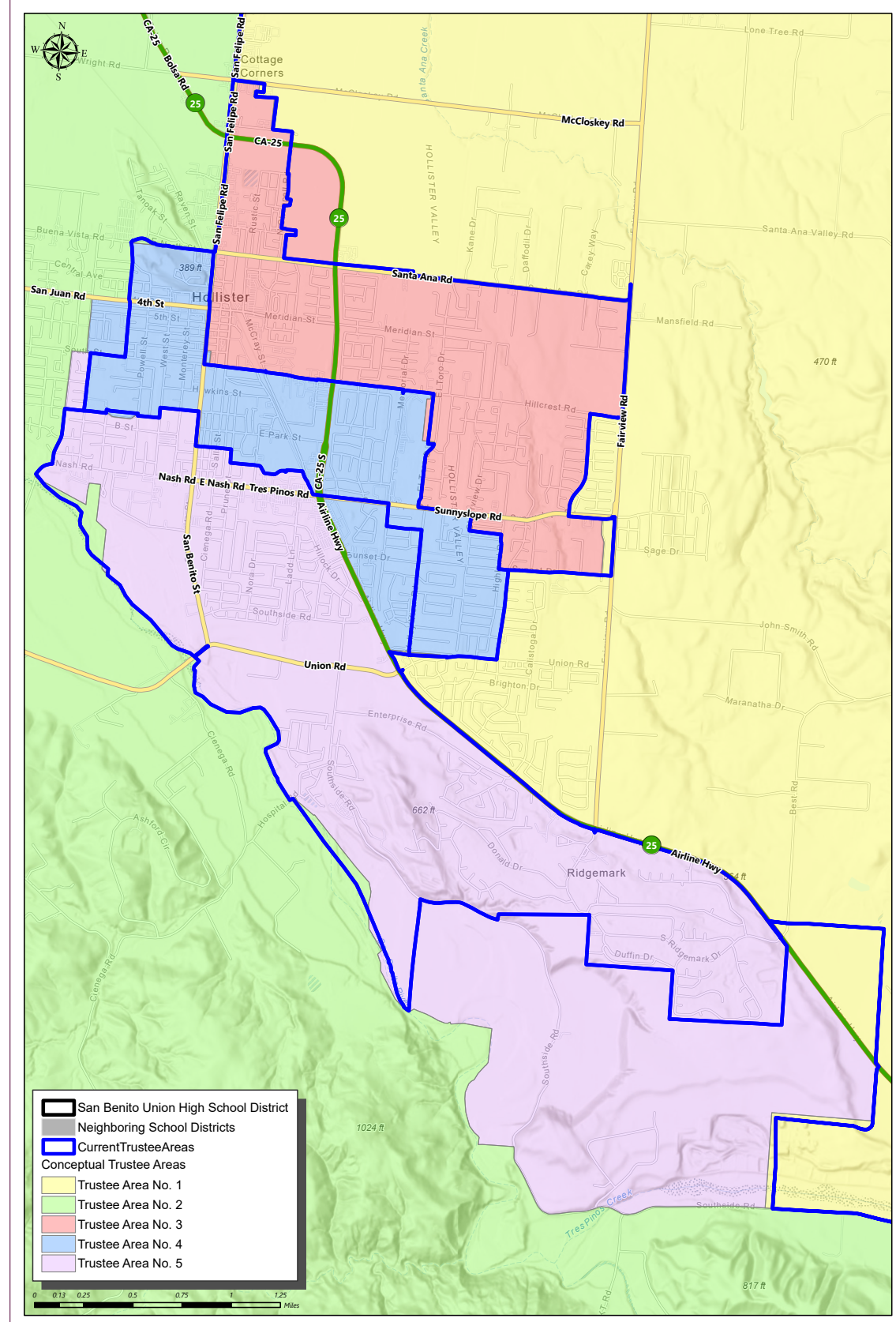
1. October 29, 2026 Yes ☐ No ☐

2. December 15, 2026 Yes ☐ No ☐

** Please see attached Board Meeting schedule for future meeting dates.*

13. Additional information or remarks you believe are relevant to this appointment:





Board of Trustees Meeting Dates		
2026-2027 BOARD MEETING DATES		
MEETING DATE	TYPE OF MEETING	AGENDA ITEMS DUE DATE
July	No Regular Meetings are Scheduled for July	n/a
August 11, 2026	Regular Meeting	August 6, 2026
August 25, 2026	Regular Meeting	August 20, 2026
September 8, 2026	Regular Meeting	September 3, 2026
TBD	Special Joint Board Meeting with HESD @ Hollister School District Board Room 3:00-4:00 p.m.	TBD
September 22, 2026	Regular Meeting	September 17, 2026
October 13, 2026	Regular Meeting	October 8, 2026
October 27, 2026	Regular Meeting	October 22, 2026
November 10, 2026	Regular Meeting	November 5, 2026
December 8, 2026	Regular Meeting	December 3, 2026
December 15, 2026	Annual Re-Organization / Regular Meeting **Election year and board meeting must be held between 12/12-12/26/2026 and with winter break beginning on 12/21/2026 a meeting will be held on the third Tuesday of the month rather than the 4th Tuesday.	December 10, 2026
January 12, 2027	Regular Meeting	January 7, 2027
January 26, 2027	Regular Meeting	January 21, 2027
February 9, 2027	Regular Meeting	February 4, 2027
February 23, 2027	Regular Meeting	February 18, 2027*
March 9, 2027	Regular Meeting	March 4, 2027
April 13, 2027	Regular Meeting	April 8, 2027
April 27, 2027	Regular Meeting	April 22, 2027
May 11, 2027	Regular Meeting	May 6, 2027
May 25, 2027	Regular Meeting	May 20, 2027
June 8, 2027	Regular Meeting	June 3, 2027
June 22, 2027	Regular Meeting	June 17, 2027

Only one regular meeting will be scheduled in the months of November and March as a second board meeting date falls within a school recess date.

Board Approved: 8/25/2026

