

2016 Delegate Assembly Candidate Biographical Sketch Form

DUE: Thursday, January 7, 2016

Mail to: CSBA | Attn: Leadership Services | 3251 Beacon Blvd., West Sacramento, CA 95691 | fax: (916) 371-3407 |
or email: nominations@csba.org.

Please complete, sign and date this required one-page candidate biographical sketch form. An optional, one-page, single-sided, résumé may also be submitted; both will be copied exactly as received. Please do not state "see résumé" and please do not re-type this form. Any additional page(s) exceeding this one-page candidate form will **not** be accepted. It is the candidate's responsibility to confirm that all nomination materials have been received by the CSBA Leadership Services department. Late submissions will not be accepted. If you have any questions, please contact Leadership Services department at (800) 266-3382.

Name: <u>Barbara Angeli Owens</u>		CSBA Region-subregion #: <u>3D</u>
District or COE Name: <u>Tamalpais Union High School District (TUHSD)</u>		Years on board: <u>approx. 4 weeks</u>
Profession: <u>Secondary Teacher, retired</u>	Contact Number: <u>415-342-7081</u>	E-mail: <u>barbara.owens1@gmail.com</u>

Are you a continuing Delegate? ☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, how long have you served as a Delegate? _____

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

Participating in the San Diego sessions convinced me to want to work more closely with CSBA. At a table talk discussing the Vergara decision and teacher tenure, I sat next to Michael McKibbin and Janet Cory Sommer who brought the most cogent contributions to the discussion; I listened to words of encouragement by Bob Ferguson, my former superintendent; and was re-inspired by listening to Pedro Noguera whom I first heard 40 years ago and whose insights are even more "spot on." With only 4 years to fulfill what over 13,000 voters want for this educational community, I need to work closely with the best support available. I do that by listening first, communicating with respect and empathy, facilitating critical thinking and honoring a sense of humor. Over 36 years as a teacher in the TUHSD inform those skills based on collaborative experiences from teaching special education, ELL, journalism, Advanced Placement Language and Composition, to curriculum and authentic assessment development, BTSA training and Bena Kallick and Art Costa's Habits of Mind training, among others. Those skills assert themselves in my capacity as representative from California Federation of Teachers, (CFT) to the California School Attendance Review Board (SARB) for the past 12 years. Expanding my professional experience as a delegate will establish a deeper connection to CSBA best practice to guide the district board.

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

While the learning curve was steep for running for public office, the opportunity of getting to know the residents and families of such a large district gave me an appreciation for the practical skills required to run and the responsibility that winning now demands. Representing teachers and counselors as a Tamalpais Federation of Teachers executive board member for many years and representing CFT at the School Attendance Review board (SARB) gave me opportunities that few have experienced. Our state SARB grew exponentially from 10 members statewide to at least 30 who attend via video conferencing representing every student support agency and profession up and down the state including the Attorney General's office. We write recommendations to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, revise language for proposed relevant legislation, and implement the Model SARB Recognition Program to disseminate best practice- all efforts designed to reduce habitual truancy, chronic absence and the drop-out rate. As a lifelong active member of the CFT and locally, the Tamalpais Federation of Teachers (TFT), I have served on many executive boards and negotiating teams to act a steward of California's first collective bargaining agreement, now in its 40th year. I have lived all levels of the performance rubric for "excellence in teaching and learning" in a community/district that historically created the descriptors for that.

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

Boards face complex personnel issues in view of equity issues, a diminishing pool of qualified teacher candidates, and an excess of inexperienced administrators with little classroom experience. And not least, boards face increasing competing priorities for resource dollars. Compensation spending represents the largest portion of the budget. Thus, maximum value for dollars spent, requires the recruitment, hiring, professional development and accountability of the most qualified teachers and administrators. Improved evaluation protocols based on contract agreements for teachers and even more significantly, for administrators, must be negotiated using a collaborative leadership model. The teachers' perspective needs to be represented at the CSBA trainings and at the annual conference. Aside from opportunities at parent conferences, trustees have little opportunities to hear from the classroom perspective in a substantive way. CSBA can lead by providing more opportunities for board members to work more closely with teachers and to promote best collaborative practices and initiatives to problem solve.

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

Signature: Barbara A Owens

Date: January 4, 2016