

# Paramount Unified School District

**TO:** Board of Education  
**FROM:** Ruth Pérez, Superintendent  
**DATE:** March 13, 2019  
**SUBJECT:** Selection of Representatives, California School Boards Association  
Delegate Assembly-Region 24

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Delegate Assembly members of the California School Boards Association (CSBA) are elected for two-year terms. Six (6) vacancies exist for Region 24, and the Board members may now vote for six (6) candidates from the list below. The Board's selections will be marked on the official ballot and submitted to CSBA by March 15, 2019. An Election Committee will count the ballots within 10 days of the closing of the election.

A biographical sketch for each of the candidates is included for your review.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Daryl R. Adams (Norwalk-La Mirada USD)\*
- \_\_\_\_\_ Jan Baird (South Whittier ESD)\*
- \_\_\_\_\_ Margie Garrett (Compton USD)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Harunobu Ernie Nishii (ABC USD)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Dora Sandoval (Little Lake City ESD)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Christine Chacon Sullivan (East Whittier City SD)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Jorge A. Tirado (Norwalk-La Mirada USD)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Satra Zurita (Compton USD)\*

\*Denotes Incumbent

## **POLICY/ISSUE:**

Education Code Section 35172 - Promotional Activities  
Bylaw 9340 - Memberships in Associations

## **FISCAL IMPACT:**

None

## **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Select up to six (6) candidates to serve as representatives to the California School Boards Association Delegate Assembly-Region 24.

## **PREPARED BY:**

Ruth Pérez, Superintendent

## **STRATEGIC PLAN FOCUS AREAS AND GOALS:**

Focus Area 3: Positive School Climate and Environments Conducive to Learning

**ACTION ITEM: 1.1-A**

- Goal 2: Create positive, supportive, and caring relationships between all students, teachers, site leadership, and district leadership.

Focus Area 4: Parent and Community Partnerships

- Goal 2: Expand community outreach efforts and increase opportunities for involvement

**2019 Delegate Assembly Candidate Biographical Sketch Form**  
**DUE: Monday, January 7, 2019 – no late submissions accepted**

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

**Signature:** Darryl R. Adams **Date:** January 7, 2019

Name: Darryl R. Adams CSBA Region & subregion #: 24  
 District or COE: Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District Years on board: 25  
 Profession: High School Teacher Contact Number (please v  Cell  Home  Bus.): 562-305-7321  
 \*Primary E-mail: educ8us@aol.com  
 (\*Communications from CSBA will be sent to primary email)  
 Are you an incumbent Delegate?  Yes  No | If yes, year you became Delegate: 2017

**Why are you interested in becoming a Delegate? Please describe the skills and experiences you would bring to the Delegate Assembly.** (Character count limit: 700)

As a Board Member, I once scoffed at the relevance of the delegation, but long ago modified my position because I chose to get involved. This is a most critical time in public education and we need advocates who can articulate, assist and craft a message that can resonate with the diversity of the State.

**Please describe your activities and involvement on your local board, community, and/or CSBA.** (Character count limit: 700)

Norwalk-La Mirada Board of Education, 25 years; served as President three (3) times  
 ROP Board President, 2 years  
 Conducted three (3) Table Talks for AEC  
 Served on the AEC Committee, 2012  
 Vice President, Coalition of Black School Board Members, 1995-1999  
 Delegate Assembly Member, 2010-2013  
 Director-at-Large African American, 2013-2015  
 Member of Delta Phi Epsilon, 2010-2012

**What do you see as the biggest challenge facing governing boards and how can CSBA help address it?** (Character count limit: 700)

Addressing the teacher shortage/financial responsibilities.  
 Providing a cohesive voice on educational issues.  
 Transitional leadership - many boards are gaining new members and will need our support/leadership

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Signature: Jan Baird Date: 12/19/2018

Name: Jan Baird CSBA Region & subregion #: 24  
 District or COE: South Whittier Elementary School District Years on board: 16  
 Profession: Board Member Contact Number (please v  Cell  Home  Bus.): (562) 400-9606  
 \*Primary E-mail: jsbaird@aol.com  
 (\*Communications from CSBA will be sent to primary email)  
 Are you an incumbent Delegate?  Yes  No | If yes, year you became Delegate: 2014

**Why are you interested in becoming a Delegate? Please describe the skills and experiences you would bring to the Delegate Assembly.** (Character count limit: 700)

Our District has a long tradition of depending upon the resources and expertise of the California School Board Association to further the interests of our elementary school children. The role played by CSBA's training and acclimating our new and on-going board members has always been an essential resource for our district and for myself as well. I want to give back to CSBA to the extent that my talents and still abundant energy will allow. My skills include working with others in respect to projects and goals of mutual concern as well as respect for the importance and values of our administrative team.

**Please describe your activities and involvement on your local board, community, and/or CSBA.** (Character count limit: 700)

I make myself readily accessible in the community to both listen to constituents and advocate for our children. In the past, I have been co-chairman of two school bonds that passed over-whelmingly and most recently I worked very hard on a school bond in our community that passed with an extremely high percentage of the vote.

**What do you see as the biggest challenge facing governing boards and how can CSBA help address it?** (Character count limit: 700)

Statewide dependable funding that doesn't vary from year-to-year. We need continuous lobbying from CSBA with the objective of assuring that the state has consistent sources of funding over the years to meet the ongoing needs of school districts and their students.

E-mail: [nominations@csba.org](mailto:nominations@csba.org), or fax to (916) 371-3407, or US Mail to: CSBA | Attn: Executive Office | 3251 Beacon Blvd., West Sacramento, CA 95691. Please only submit biosketch form via one of these modes only; do not send multiple times. If you have any questions, please contact the Executive Office at (800) 266-3382.

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Signature: Margie N. Garrett Date: December 17, 2018

Name: Margie Garrett CSBA Region & subregion #: 24  
 District or COE: Compton Unified School Dist. Years on board: 10  
 Profession: Board Member Contact Number (please check  Cell  Home  Bus.): 424-370-8007  
 \*Primary E-mail: margehhg@aol.com  
(\*Communications from CSBA will be sent to primary email)  
 Are you an incumbent Delegate?  Yes  No | If yes, year you became Delegate: \_\_\_\_\_

**Why are you interested in becoming a Delegate? Please describe the skills and experiences you would bring to the Delegate Assembly.** (Character count limit: 700)

I previously served on the Delegate Assembly for four years, which gave me an incredible opportunity to become better engaged with CSBA leadership and other Trustees across California. In fact, one of the most rewarding takeaways from this experience was the privilege of participating in a number of in-depth trainings that helped build teamwork while fostering a collaborative atmosphere for exchanging best practices and innovative learning strategies. This atmosphere turned our individual delegates into a team of advocates, united around helping children achieve their potential.

**Please describe your activities and involvement on your local board, community, and/or CSBA.** (Character count limit: 700)

I have had the pleasure of serving in a number of leadership roles in my local teacher's union, including as President, Vice President, and Political Action Chairperson. I have served on the Compton School Board in every executive capacity over my tenure, including: President, Vice-President, Clerk, Legislative Representative/Liaison, and Los Angeles County School Trustees Association (LACSTA) Representative. Along with my career with both CTA, CUSD, and CSBA, I have participated in numerous lobbying and advocacy campaigns in Sacramento and D.C. to produce real and impactful changes in education policy. I will continue building on these experiences and believe serving another term in the Delegate Assembly would enhance my capacity to affect positive change for children and their families.

**What do you see as the biggest challenge facing governing boards and how can CSBA help address it?** (Character count limit: 700)

One of the biggest challenges facing Governing Boards today is meeting our obligations under the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) and Local Control Accountability Plans (LCAPs). The LCFF and LCAPs have undergone a number of changes over the course of their implementation and it can be difficult communicating the various changes to parents and families. CSBA could improve the Community Liaison and Regional trainings by providing assistance to local Board Members. The greatest challenge facing governing boards include LCF, parental involvement and full and fair funding resources.

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Signature:  Date: 12/15/2018

Name: Harunobu Ernie Nishii CSBA Region & subregion #: 24  
 District or COE: ABC Unified School District Years on board: 1  
 Profession: Attorney Contact Number (please v  Cell  Home  Bus.): 714 553-3663  
 \*Primary E-mail: ernie.nishii@abcusd.us  
 (\*Communications from CSBA will be sent to primary email)  
 Are you an incumbent Delegate?  Yes  No | If yes, year you became Delegate: \_\_\_\_\_

**Why are you interested in becoming a Delegate? Please describe the skills and experiences you would bring to the Delegate Assembly. (Character count limit: 700)**

I believe in strong local control; securing fair funding; improving student conditions; & achievement for all & I know I can be effective in implementing these priorities. My history as an active parent, bond chair, & Lawyer provide unique qualifications to achieve. As a parent President of the Leal Elementary Arts Program & Whitney High Summer Academy I engaged all parents & created programs fostering excellence for all. As Bond Chair, I listened to all parts of our community to change minds from 45% voting yes to a \$198 million bond - to 58% voting yes to a \$258 million bond today. As a lawyer, I bring disparate people together & achieve fairness to Low SES kids in our district. ++

**Please describe your activities and involvement on your local board, community, and/or CSBA. (Character count limit: 700)**

I am on the Board of Southeast Japanese School & Community Center, Historic Wintersburg, SERTOMA, & President of the ABC school board. In the past I was in the ABC Legislative Review, Ad hoc Facilities, Measure M Oversight Chair for 2 years, represented public agency and public unions in various capacities, and Bond Chair for Measure BB. As BB Chair I listened and moderated our widely diverging committee and community. Parents, elderly, empty-nesters, businesses, Low SES, various ethnicities (Hispanic, Chinese, African-American, Korean) & opposition were informed using mail, social media, & many dedicated volunteers. I listen deeply & think before bringing consensus. ++

**What do you see as the biggest challenge facing governing boards and how can CSBA help address it? (Character count limit: 700)**

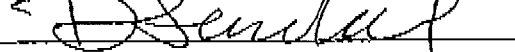
Two of the biggest challenges facing governing boards is the expectations of success despite the absence of fair funding & balkanization created by trustee areas. Many beleaguered voters believe that bonds, lottery money, and propositions have resolved the whole school funding crisis. CSBA can moderate expectations & lobby through community groups for fair funding, marketing education as the way to economically address other social issues (housing even). Balkanization as a result of trustee areas can be addressed thru CSBA member education - how to represent the whole and the benefits of such and modifying legislation to address actual legislative intent. ++

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Signature:  Date: 01/07/2019

Name: Dora Sandoval CSBA Region & subregion #: 24  
 District or COE: Little Lake City School District Years on board: 3  
 Profession: Self-Employed Contact Number (please v  Cell  Home  Bus.): (562)843-3055  
 \*Primary E-mail: dsandoval@llcsd.net  
 (\*Communications from CSBA will be sent to primary email)  
 Are you an incumbent Delegate?  Yes  No | If yes, year you became Delegate: \_\_\_\_\_

**Why are you interested in becoming a Delegate? Please describe the skills and experiences you would bring to the Delegate Assembly.** (Character count limit: 700)

I am interested in serving as a delegate for CSBA, so that I can advocate for our students needs, especially our students with Special Needs. As an active community member, I feel that it is our duty to ensure that all our students get a quality education. As a delegate, working with our neighboring districts and building relationships would ensure that our communities will continue to receive quality education. I work hard to build those relationships by attending Chamber of Commerce events to get to know our community partners, attend city council meetings to strengthen our relationship with council of our two cities we represent and being involved in local non-profit organizations.

**Please describe your activities and involvement on your local board, community, and/or CSBA.** (Character count limit: 700)

I've been on the Board for 3 years serving as Clerk, Vice President and currently Board President. I also belong to the Norwalk Lions, I am Immediate Past President and currently on the board of the club. I am also a on the Social Services Commission for City of Norwalk. I was also a member for the Santa Fe Springs Soroptimist and served as Treasure. I am currently on the Board of Directors for the California Latino School Board Association since 2017 for a two year term.

**What do you see as the biggest challenge facing governing boards and how can CSBA help address it?** (Character count limit: 700)

Our current challenge would be funding for our Special Education students and Mental Health issues. I think it is important that we address these issues and bring them to the forefront to help our students with Special Needs get the services required to be able to succeed in our society.



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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 1.3.19

Name: Christine Chacon Sullivan

CSBA Region & subregion #: 24

District or COE: East Whittier City School District

Years on board: Fifteen

Profession: Retired medical billing manager Contact Number (please v  Cell  Home  Bus.): 562-587-3104

\*Primary E-mail: cchaconsullivan@roadrunner.com

(\*Communications from CSBA will be sent to primary email)

Are you an incumbent Delegate?  Yes  No | If yes, year you became Delegate: \_\_\_\_\_

**Why are you interested in becoming a Delegate? Please describe the skills and experiences you would bring to the Delegate Assembly. (Character count limit: 700)**

As a board member for fifteen years my primary concern is to do what is best for all students of the EWCS D. During my time on the board we have implemented a variety of programs, including but not limited to the successful passage of Measures R ad Z, bonds for upgrading our facilities and implementing safety measures, and the 1:1 Chromebook program. If selected to the Delegate Assembly I will work closely with the community, our district, and our state officials to improve and provide the best quality education programs for our students.

**Please describe your activities and involvement on your local board, community, and/or CSBA. (Character count limit: 700)**

As an active member of my community my involvement is my primary focus, especially on issues of inequality or injustice. I feel strongly that we must be the voice for our children and advocate for our children. I am actively involved in my community, always concerned with community issues and concerns. As a board member I listen closely to all concerns. I believe we should build relationships with the business community, our city and county officials, and be partners in the success of our children. This is something that is always in the works but I feel strongly that it takes so much from all sides to succeed.

**What do you see as the biggest challenge facing governing boards and how can CSBA help address it? (Character count limit: 700)**

The biggest challenge is for districts to stay fiscally healthy. We need the assistance and guidance of CSBA to work with our districts and our legislature to pass bills that will benefit education and the children of this state, to ease the burden on our districts. We need to be able to attract and keep quality educators and for that we need to make sure that tax payer dollars are funneled correctly. We must work together with CSBA to get the proper and much needed funding, especially from the federal government. I will work diligently and do all that I can to make sure the students of California get the best.

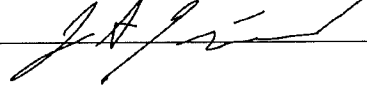
E-mail: [nominations@csba.org](mailto:nominations@csba.org), or fax to (916) 371-3407, or US Mail to: CSBA | Attn: Executive Office | 3251 Beacon Blvd., West Sacramento, CA 95691. Please only submit biosketch form via one of these modes only; do not send multiple times. If you have any questions, please contact the Executive Office at (800) 266-3382.



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**Signature:**  **Date:** 1/4/19

Name: Jorge A. Tirado CSBA Region & subregion #: 24  
 District or COE: Norwalk La Mirada Unified School District Years on board: <1  
 Profession: Electrical Engineer Contact Number (please  Cell  Home  Bus.): 562-652-9536  
 \*Primary E-mail: jtirado@nlmusd.org  
 (\*Communications from CSBA will be sent to primary email)  
 Are you an incumbent Delegate?  Yes  No | If yes, year you became Delegate: \_\_\_\_\_

**Why are you interested in becoming a Delegate? Please describe the skills and experiences you would bring to the Delegate Assembly.** (Character count limit: 700)

As board members we are obligated to make the necessary relationships with government officials to better communicate the needs of our districts. By becoming a Delegate, I will better serve my district and surrounding districts, by working along side colleagues with similar challenges.

I bring an across the board perspective as a parent, new board member, Marine Veteran and Engineer. I am a parent with a child in High, Middle and Elementary School. My experiences as a parent of a child with special needs brings in in site as to direct effects legislation has on families. As an Engineer I bring a perspective being able to visualize systems and the way they effect each other.

**Please describe your activities and involvement on your local board, community, and/or CSBA.** (Character count limit: 700)

I am an active member of my community. In all my organizations, I strive to be a leader. My leader ship skills were developed in the Marine Corps. I have been active in PTA leadership for 15 years. I am a member of the Kiwanis Club a community service group. I have been involved in different district committees and a member of the superintendent’s cabinet.

I am a newly elected board member. I have joined the CSBA Latino Caucus. I plan to be active in outreach to elected officials. I will attend the March 12, legislative action by CSBA. I will complete the MIG before my first 6 months. I want to maximize the opportunities that being a board member allows to better help all students.

**What do you see as the biggest challenge facing governing boards and how can CSBA help address it?** (Character count limit: 700)

The greatest challenge to education will continue to be a lack of adequate funding. The lack of adequate funding continues to plague our districts in all levels of instruction and support. A lack of investment continues to hold back performance compared to other states. With increased funding we can better invest in the education of our future leaders, engineers, artists and critical thinkers. Increasing per student funding must be a primary focus for CSBA. We need to lead the efforts to make increased funding a priority at the state level. We must not only ask for increased funding, we must also lead by giving solutions as to how to solve the problem. At CSBA we must lead.

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Signature: *Satra Zurita* Date: 12/18/18

Name: Satra Zurita CSBA Region & subregion #: 24

District or COE: Compton Unified School Dist. Years on board: 13 yes

Profession: Board Member Contact Number (please check  Cell  Home  Bus.): 310-420-1104

\*Primary E-mail: ZURITAMGMT@yahoo.com

(\*Communications from CSBA will be sent to primary email)

Are you an incumbent Delegate?  Yes  No | If yes, year you became Delegate: 2016

**Why are you interested in becoming a Delegate? Please describe the skills and experiences you would bring to the Delegate Assembly.** (Character count limit: 700)

I would like to continue serving as a member of the Delegate Assembly to benefit the needs of all communities in public education. My 13 years of experience on the Governing Board of Trustees coupled with my two years as Delegate Assembly Member provides me with a unique perspective on policy and issues facing public education. I have both the experience and skills necessary to effectively lobby at the state level to effectuate change. My lobbying efforts resulted in all undocumented students receiving in state tuition costs for concurrent enrollment in Junior College while a student in public education. Additional experience includes testifying before the Legislative Assembly Committee.

**Please describe your activities and involvement on your local board, community, and/or CSBA.** (Character count limit: 700)

Civic engagement and community involvement has provided me a wealth of experiences. I co-founded the Annual Compton Walk for a Cure breast cancer awareness walk to both heighten awareness and address the benefits of early detection. I co-hosted a Diabetes Awareness Luncheon for students, families, and community members. My efforts on the CUSD Governing Board resulted in an Early College that is now in its fourth year with academic performance surpassing the state average. I am a staunch advocate for the foster and homeless children and have worked diligently to make sure they have everything needed to excel in education.

**What do you see as the biggest challenge facing governing boards and how can CSBA help address it?** (Character count limit: 700)

California faces a number of challenges, but the root of many, if not most, share the common thread of inadequate school funding. The inadequate funding manifests itself in achievement gaps and disproportionate numbers of children of color being placed in special education. By allocating more resources in early education we can significantly reduce the achievement gap experienced by students of low socio-economic backgrounds. We all know that resources invested early in the primary years change the academic outcomes of all students. It's fairly simple we can invest early in early education by providing all families with an opportunity to benefit from early childhood education.

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## HONORABLE SATRA D. ZURITA

### Biography

**Satra D. Zurita, Vice President**, is serving her fourth term on the CUSD Board of Trustees where she was overwhelmingly re-elected on November 8, 2017. She has served four terms in the position of Board President, two terms as Clerk, one term as Legislative Representative and is currently serving her fourth term as Vice President of the Board. She has completed her undergraduate studies at the University of California at Irvine; Loyola Marymount University, California State University, Long Beach; and California State University, Dominguez Hills.

Zurita is a native of Compton who was educated in Compton schools. **SHE IS A PRODUCT OF THE COMPTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT.** As a 3rd generation resident of Compton, Zurita hails from a family that is distinguished by their service to the Compton community. She is the oldest daughter of retired public administrator Clarence Zurita and retired two term City Councilwoman Delores Zurita. She has one sister, Compton City Councilwoman Janna Zurita (the other half of "Compton's Sister Act"), and is the proud mother of a daughter, Armani Delores, and an aunt to one niece, Chanel Grace.

Zurita led the effort to open Compton Early College High School, where students can graduate from high school with a diploma, while concurrently receiving an Associate's Degree from the local community college. This prestigious school has become an incentive for students to attend high school in the Compton Unified School District. She also championed AB 288 (concurrent enrollment) rights for all students and was instrumental in legislation granting the rights of undocumented students to receive in state tuition for Junior College while enrolled in any public high school in California.

She was instrumental in creating the vision that enabled Compton Unified to produce several Title I Achieving Schools, Distinguished Schools and two National Blue Ribbon Schools. Under her leadership as Board President and Vice President, CUSD has received Golden Bell Awards, District of Distinction Awards and has become a trend setting district in the area of STEAM. Her visionary leadership has closed the opportunity gap for students in Compton and expanded access of all students to technology resulting in five Apple Connect Ed Schools, and four Verizon Innovative Learning schools. Project Lead the Way, MESA, Coding, Robotics, Computer Science and Performing Arts are prospering in CUSD providing all students with an opportunity to expand their horizon in the area of STEAM.

In 2017, while planning the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Compton Walk for a Cure, an event she co-founded, Zurita was diagnosed and conquered breast cancer in 2017. It was then that her own life experience began to intersect with her heart for the most vulnerable for CUSD's students and the people of Compton, as an outspoken advocate and life coach for breast cancer fighters and survivors. As such, she has begun work on behalf of critically ill children and their families in the district, by leading the charge to ensure that they are provided resources, assistance with navigating home health education services, and are assured that they are valued as a member of the CUSD community. Her goal is to dismantle barriers and erect supports that enable students dealing with a cancer diagnosis or other critical illnesses to feel part of a school community and are able to reach their educational achievement goals. She is currently working with her local Assembly representative to develop legislation to help families with critically ill children.

Zurita's career began in private enterprise and later transitioned into an expanding career within her own community. Zurita currently serves as a Senior Administrative Analyst with the City of Compton's Water Department. She has held several key positions in both the public and private sector, including General Manager of the Compton Ramada Hotel & Convention Center, the Compton Convention & Visitors Bureau, and the Federal Aviation Administration.