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SCHOOL DISTRICT

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John A. Bowes, Ed.D.
Superintendent

526 B Street ♦ Davis, CA 95616 ♦ (530) 757-5300 ♦ FAX: (530) 757-5323 ♦ www.djUSD.net

BOARD OF TRUSTEES Candidate Application Form

Please complete and return by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 10, 2018, to the Superintendent's Office of the Davis Joint Unified School District, 526 B Street. Application forms received after the above time and date will render the applicant ineligible for consideration of the position of Board member. Per Education Code 35107, applicants must be at least 18 years of age, reside within the boundaries of the Davis Joint Unified School District and be a registered voter.

Killmer	Donald	E.	August 10, 2018
Last Name	First Name	Initial	Date

Address (Street, City, State, Zip)

Email Address

Phone Number

Please answer the following questions using a maximum of 250 words per question. Submit a brief resume with your application.

1. In what school or community committee or activities have you been active? Describe your contributions.
2. Why do you want to be a Board member? What about this district motivates you to apply for the position?
3. There are three goals* expressed in our LCAP focused on Conditions of Learning, Pupil Outcomes, and Engagement. Please review the goals (on the reverse) and describe how would you support each of our LCAP goals and why are they important to our schools and students?
4. One issue that Davis faces is a structural deficit - what suggestions do you have to solve it and how would you go about gaining support for those ideas?
5. What attributes do you feel are important for a Board member? Describe your own skills and interests in relation to these attributes.
6. What in your professional experiences or volunteer activities with schools have you used a team approach to solving problems?
7. A violation of ethics occurs when a Board member does not clearly separate personal and district interests and govern on behalf of the district. How would you respond when confronted with this conflict yourself?

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Candidate Application Question

Donald E. Killmer

1. At Davis Senior High School, I have been an active member of the Board of Directors for the Davis Madrigals, Inc. and the Davis Cheer Backers. For the Davis Madrigals I am the Treasurer. For the Cheer Backers I was a Member At-Large and organized the drivers for away games and the annual trip to our competition in Southern California.

In our community I have been a member leader of the Yolo Masonic Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons and a member leader of the Ben Ali Shriners supporting the Shriners Hospital of Northern California and our many other activities supported by the Shriners. In addition, I have walked precincts for various candidates and attended planning meetings.

I am an operatic Bass singer and other activities I participate in include singing with the Sacramento Opera Chorus and performing throughout Northern California as a guest soloist.

2. I did not think I would pursue an opportunity to be a Trustee until I retired, however this limited term position affords me an opportunity to provide additional public service to an area of government that I am most interested in.

My wife and I lived in Sacramento for many years prior to moving to Davis when our oldest daughter was transitioning to middle school and our youngest was beginning 5th grade. We chose Davis because of the inclusive environment for our daughters particularly that of students with disabilities (our oldest daughter had her learning disability identified in first grade.)

Davis Joint Unified School District (DJUSD) hires some of the most talented and committed teachers in the area. Their dedication and that of the administration and support staff offer an educational environment that is not seen in other local districts – opportunities afforded to our students are the signature of DJUSD. Our Davis community continually supports our schools and I just want to do my part by ensuring effective governance in support of our mission.

3. Upgrading our schools with more technology and instructional aids, tools, and supports will afford them with the proper entry into college or career pathways in the 21st century. Technology changes daily and how students and teachers engage with each other and the technology, within instruction and experimentation, will support future success for the students, whether in college or a career.

I will support the DJUSD educators closing the achievement gap by ensuring that students are provided with the best educators, best instructional materials and supports available, and best training opportunities and resources for our educators to afford them success in the classroom and the greatest potential outcomes for our students. This must include

providing our teachers with a prevailing wage when compared to districts of like size and type. Our future relies on our students receiving the highest level of instruction and resources now – our future cannot afford not to invest in education today, tomorrow, and in the years to come.

Schools need to be a safe place. Schools need to be inclusive; well modeled environments where exploration and individuality are encouraged. Where all students can forget about the outside world for a period and just BE. Ensuring this relies on the governing board to take direct action when there are violations of policies and law. I encourage the use of climate surveys and committees (made up of teachers, students, and community members) to engage on issues of climate and inclusiveness.

4. Fiscal deficits are the challenge of every board I have been a member of. I think all solutions should be put on the table – nothing left behind. Whether it is closing a school, increasing class sizes, or reducing the number of classes available nothing should be held back. Stripping the budget down to \$0.00 and then rebuilding back up may be the only way to reach a solution. Making the tough choices are not always popular but if the decisions are made through a transparent process, with significant public input, goals can be reached and harmony can be constructed. Structural deficits required outside the box thinking – that is why I support the parcel tax and any other proposal that ensures the health and solvency of our district.
5. Those attributes that provide calm and reason are important in a good Board member. Listening, asking questions, reasoning, analyzing, and following the law are governing qualities. I enjoy being a member of boards; all the attributes above afford me the solace to govern effectively. I will need to do my research before the meetings, asking enough questions of staff to ensure a reasonable understanding of the issue, and then using reason and effective analysis to render a decision. Though without my passion for our students, our educators, and our community I would not take on this challenge.
6. At work, I am a member of multiple teams to effectively complete projects; some of the teams I manage, but others I am just assigned to. Using a team to solve problem affords the opportunity to not “leave anything on the table” and vet all viable solutions from multiple angles; affording the team perspective and effective analysis of the problem and the projected solution.

In my outside activities, teams afford a solution to stagnate projects – “We have always done it that way.” I challenge members to work beyond complacency and reinvent activities that will be more fiscal and socially profitable.

7. I will not say that I deal with this daily at work, but it happens from time-to-time. The interests of the Department or the State must take priority over my opinion. I have learned over time to divest myself from the job and opinion. In the beginning I believed that it was chipping away at my character, but now I truly believe that my experience and training has afforded me better insight into “why” and better protects the assets of the Department and the State.

Donald Edward Killmer

Objective: Board Trustee

Highlights:

- Effective interaction with administration, staff, and the public
- Sharp and creative in solving problems
- Extensive education program, fiscal, legislative, and regulatory experience

Professional Qualifications:

Program / Research

- Progressive implementation of Title I, III, V, and VI (within the provisions of ESEA, ESSA, IDEA, and ADA)
- Direct effective response to the U.S. Department of Education
- Fortright implementation, administration, and representation of State/Federal programs
- Comprehensive response to Federal auditing and monitoring
- Aggressive review, investigation, and representation on behalf of the CDE

Fiscal Policy

- Aggressive development of strategies for policy implementation
- Innovative solutions to fiscal procedures for funded/underfunded/unfunded programs
- Methodical analysis of State/Federal regulations and legislation for fiscal impact and fiscal risk

Budgeting, Legislation, and Contracting

- Progressive analysis of Department (including Division) State Operations and Local Assistance needs
- Efficient monitoring and negotiation of Department/Division expenses and agreements
- Secure maintenance of sensitive/confidential documents and comprehensive checks for accuracy
- Ethical performance of statutory authority and comprehensive analysis of State/Federal legislation
- Effective development toward the justification of reasonableness of cost

Related Experience:

Education Administrator (January 2015 – Present)

California Department of Education
Assessment Development and Administration Division

Board of Directors, Treasurer (September 2016 – Present)

Davis Madrigals, Inc.

Board of Directors, Member At-Large (May 2013 – June 2017)

Davis High Cheer Backers

District Labor Council, President (July 2011 – January 2015)

Service Employees International Union, Local 1000

Bargaining Unit #21, Vice Chair (February 2007 – July 2011)

Service Employees International Union, Local 1000

Board of Directors, President (February 2003 – June 2006)

East End Child Care Center, Inc.

Family Life:

- Married to Lynn Harter-Killmer for 22 years this October
- Father of two amazing daughters: Allison (DHS class of 2017) and Kathryn (DHS class of 2019)
- Licensed owner of four dogs (one basset hound and three rescued English bull dogs)
- Moved back to Davis in 2012 (Lynn moved here in 1963 and lived in Davis until 1981)
- Member (for 29 years) and Treasurer of Yolo Masonic Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons in Davis
- Member and officer of Ben Ali Shriners and Membership Co-Chair

Education:

National University, Sacramento

1997–1998

Master of Science in Instructional Leadership, Curriculum, and Instruction

University of California, Irvine

1988–1991

Bachelor of Arts:

- Political Science (Emphasis in Constitutional Law & Presidential Politics)
- Sociology (Emphasis in Family Studies & Women "Gender" Studies)