

Palominas Elementary School District #49

3 Vacancies: 5 Candidates

Giuffrida, Jean

Raised in Bergen County, NJ, Jean Giuffrida and her family relocated to Sierra Vista, AZ, in 1995 for a business opportunity. Nearly 27 years later, Jean still considers it one of the best decisions her and her husband, Tom, ever made.

With a bachelors of arts in elementary education, Jean has volunteered and substitute taught in many of the schools in Sierra Vista, as well as taught pre-school at Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church. Her love for learning and teaching eventually led her to become a licensed realtor in 1998, ultimately working her way up to become the branch manager of Long Realty Sierra Vista where she used her teaching experience to educate agents and help clients find their dream homes.

During those years, Jean was elected to and volunteered on many boards, including Sierra Vista Chamber of Commerce, SAMLS, WESERV, ARMLS, Cochise College Foundation Board, and the Miss Sierra Vista Scholarship Foundation.

Jean's passion for excellence in education, and belief that our children are truly the future, has prompted her to run for Palominas School Board. As a member of this board, Jean will be focused on keeping an emphasis on classical education — reading, writing, arithmetic, history and science — while also ensuring the safety of our children in school.

Jean believes the community should be kept in mind with every decision that's made, and looks forward to bringing her experience and enthusiasm to the governing board while working with the terrific teachers, administration and families of the Palominas district.



Herrera, Shanna

I've lived in Cochise County most of my life. I attended Palominas School grades 5-8. I now have a 7-year-old in Coronado School. Our families live in this County. Our connection to this community is strong.

Naturally I have a vested interest in seeing PESD thrive. We must take care of our teachers and staff. Making sure they have the curriculum and tools to teach our students effectively is my goal. Knowledge and content supersede emotion and diversity studies. Parents must be empowered to make decisions in the school system. A safe school provides a calm learning environment, and our Board should address student safety on campuses, buses and our streets.

I will encourage innovation in raising academic excellence. It is apparent the education environment is changing. We are facing tough challenges and I will vote for student achievement and improvement every time.

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Mauzy, Michelle

My name is Michelle Mauzy. I have lived in Cochise County for many years. I am pleased with the wonderful school experience and education the Palominas School District provided for my children and now my grandchildren. I want to be a part of the school board in their effort to continue to help ensure an enthusiastic learning environment for the children's education, well being, and life time achievements.



Puff, Diane "Dee"

The first question any candidate for school board should be asked is: "Why do you want to serve on the school board?"

For me, it is all about the students and it always was about the students throughout my long career as a teacher and school administrator.

In 2014, I was elected to serve on our Palominas Board, and I am seeking reelection in order to continue working with a collaborative Board that is dedicated to providing our Pre-K-8 students with a quality education that allows them to grow and thrive. Palominas District has an outstanding reputation for its values, deep history in the area and its dedicated, caring staff. I firmly support their work and the district's mission that identifies the need to partner with the community so our students can achieve and be encouraged to ". . . go further than they thought possible." That is a lofty goal but one that puts students first in our plans and decisions.

Visiting our classrooms and seeing our students at work is one way I have supported our staff in their efforts to meet the needs of our students. I will continue this practice of seeing firsthand what resources we are providing and what, if any, additional materials need to be considered in order to assist our students and staff. I want to be sure we are providing the tools and materials each child needs to succeed.

As a Board member, I know that we are experiencing societal changes that challenge our students and their families. If I am reelected, I look forward to hearing from members of the community on issues that are important to them. We solicit feedback and suggestions from anyone in our community through surveys and through our website. I know that many families are especially concerned about safety at this time in our nation. We have already heard from a number of citizens with useful suggestions and offers of help. In August, our Board and Superintendent formed a committee of stakeholders to review our current safety plan with an eye to ensuring our physical plant provides a safe, efficient, and effective learning environment for students, staff, and visitors. We are always open to ideas and suggestions; do not hesitate to reach out via email puffd@psd49.net or phone 520-366-6204.

A school board is a unique American institution with the ability to reflect the community's interests and hopes for its students through the Board's discussions, decisions, and policies. Local control allows us on the Palominas Board to be responsive and sensitive to the culture and beliefs of our rural area which are often different from those of a large city. Our students need our commitment to, and understanding of, the community in order to make the very best decisions on their behalf.

As a resident of the Palominas District for 25 years, I ask for your vote on November 8th so I can continue to contribute my ideas, knowledge, and support in service to our children.

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Pickett, Vicky

No Statement Submitted

Saint David Unified School District #21

2 Vacancies: 3 Candidates

Daly, Nelson

No Statement Submitted



Merrill, Andrea

As a former student in the St. David Unified School District, having attended from kindergarten to graduation, and with children currently attending school in the same district, I would be honored to serve a community that has been an integral part of my life.

I am the mother of five children. Two have graduated from St. David High School, one is currently in high school, one in middle school and one in elementary. I have a vested interest in the school district and its success.

I have been a working mother for over 20 years and understand the demands of juggling a career, home, and family through all stages. With the support from my family, I recently received my Bachelors' degree in Accounting. I believe all of these have given me experiences, insights and concerns that will add to a school board that is currently lacking a voice like mine; a voice like many mothers of our community who send their kids to St. David Schools every day.

Communication and transparency are important attributes in a working relationship. I have a desire to help create a transparent relationship with administrators, staff members, parents, and the community. I will encourage communication at all levels, and community involvement to help shape the direction of the school. I believe that all voices should be heard, respected, and considered.

With a desire to be an involved parent and community member, I have taken the opportunity to help in the classrooms. I will continue to do so as this allows me to see firsthand those on the frontline, the teachers. They are the backbone of the school district, and their input should be our priority.

I will continue to serve the community of St. David in any way that I can and feel that as a member of the school board, my service will make a difference.

Saint David Unified School District #21

2 Vacancies: 3 Candidates

Miller, Katie

No Statement Submitted

Sierra Vista Unified School District #68

3 Vacancies: 6 Candidates



Chadbourn, Lee

Main Areas that I want to correct, and complete when elected. Serving "You the people", basically the parents of school children K-12

1. Parents should have total control over what educational curriculum their children are being subjected to through textbooks, magazines, video podcasts, films, posted displays in the classroom & etc.
2. Parents should have total say over what vaccines might be administered to their children on school property.
3. Parents should have the say over whether their children wear a mask
4. The Critical Race Theory and the Woke Ideology must be abandoned in every classroom and in every school building.
5. There must not be any evidence in any classroom of a teacher promoting the grooming of young children for LGBT sexual entities. Children should be taught that biological sex is determined at birth, that there are Men, Males, and Women, Females.
6. No sex education should ever be taught until the fourth grade.
7. All federal funding normally going to the school district, should all be given to the parents direct, for them to determine if their child should go to a public, private, or stay at home schooling.
8. There should never be any pornographic literature, magazines, or books on any shelf of any classroom, or library within the school.
9. History books must only contain previous factual history of our country dating back before its founding, with the United States Constitution, and American true factual History being taught by the fourth grade.
10. Last but not least, any bullying whether it be within the same sex or opposite sex, must be immediately curtailed when reported to a Teacher, or Principal, by either the child or the parent of the child.

Lee Chadbourn is married, has raised four children to adulthood, two of which spent K-12 in Sierra Vista Public Schools, plus both obtaining Bachelor Degrees from University of Arizona South, and Cochise College. He is a Vietnam War Veteran from 1961- 1967, and has seen adversity in action. He does desire the support of every parent to always know he is on the right track. He has two Master Degrees, plus his Bachelor of Science Degree, has twelve years teaching experience in every grade from K-12 plus college in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Arizona. During 16 years when Lee established a corporation called Lee's Electric, Heating, & Air Conditioning, Inc., as President and Owner in Minnesota, he still substituted, college, and 7-12 grades. Most of all, Lee loves children, likes to see them receive good education, and help them in anyway he can.

Sierra Vista Unified School District #68

3 Vacancies: 6 Candidates

Kiyabu, Kale

No Statement Submitted



Lee, Donald

I have lived a total of 21 years in Arizona, with the last four years being here in Sierra Vista. I am proud to be a product of the public education system. I met my wife in high school and we have been married 30 years. My wife and I have one child who currently attends Buena High School. I have an Associates Degree in Automotive Repair and I worked in various positions in automotive for 19 years. In 2008 I joined the United States Border Patrol. It is my pleasure to serve and protect the United States of America going on 14 years now.

I am running for a seat on the Sierra Vista Unified School District (SVUSD) Governing Board because I want assurance that SVUSD can provide a highly competitive education for our children. I feel that even before COVID our students were falling behind in the four main core subjects. Now after COVID there is still little or no urgency to get students back on track. This must change if we want to prepare our students to be successful in the world economy.

My goals as a board member:

- Base every vote & decision on what is best for our students.
- Endorse innovative recruiting programs to hire & retain high-level employees.
- Respect parent's rights in district mandated decisions of their children.
- Ensure that our tax dollars funding education are spent sensibly and transparently.
- Advocate for ways to keep all SVUSD schools safe for students, parents, faculty, staff and administration.
- Keep theories and ideologies that do not contribute to the student's education out of SVUSD.
- Build coalitions with business partners in Sierra Vista, and surrounding communities to develop cutting edge internships for high school students.

As you can see from my introduction, my background is not in education. I believe this makes me an independent voice representing the community, parents, and taxpayers. You can rest assured I will always make my decisions as a board member, based on what is best for our children. I respectfully ask for your support and your vote.

Sierra Vista Unified School District #68

3 Vacancies: 6 Candidates



Rochford, Pat

I am Pat Rochford and I am honored to be a candidate for the SVUSD#68 Governing Board. I have been a resident of this great community for over 40 years; proud mother of 2 Buena High graduates, and one serviceman—all who have gone on to be successful in their careers; and more recently a grandmother of 5 awesome grandchildren as well as two great granddaughters.

I received my formal public school education via New York State schools and graduated from college with a BSN in Nursing before meeting my former Army officer husband and soon-to-be contractor, David. We were happily married for 46 years before I was widowed.

I had pursued my nurse calling in the Sierra Vista Public Schools for nearly 20 years, 1 year subbing district wide; 13 years full time at Town and Country Elementary and then 6 years at Buena High before retiring in 2014. I was briefly Nurse Coordinator for the district, advisor to the Upside Down Club at Buena for approximately 4 years, and facilitator for several health fairs at Town and Country which involved numerous community professionals who willingly gave of their expertise and time teaching our students.

During my public service I have gained valuable insight into the needs of our schools for more teacher support, recognition and appreciation; more active parent participation in the educational process and more community involvement with the schools. We are ALL needed for our children to reach their highest potential both academically and socially and in so doing for staff and parents to work effectively with the 'TEAM' concept. Health and safety issues are also on my list of top priorities as well as the special needs students.

I would appreciate your vote on November 8, 2022 and thank you in advance for your support!



Sheriff, Hollie

My name is Hollie Sheriff and I am running for Governing Board of the Sierra Vista Unified School District. I am the proud product of public schools, including a bachelor's degree with honors from the University of Washington. I am the proud parent of two children who have been students in the district since elementary school and currently attend Buena High School.

Sierra Vista Unified School District #68

3 Vacancies: 6 Candidates

Sheriff, Hollie contd...

For almost fifteen years, I have supported public schools through action, advocacy, and volunteer service. My long-standing and passionate support for public education includes service as a parent classroom volunteer, on the boards of Parent Teacher Organizations, as President, Secretary and Treasurer of a district educational enrichment foundation, and as an officer of several political action committees in support of school district ballot measures, including the successful \$28.87 million dollar bond for SVUSD in 2016.

I believe that the success of our public schools affects everyone, whether or not you have children attending public schools. School quality is one of the most important factors considered when people make decisions about which job to take, which house to buy, how far they will commute, or whether to relocate to a new community. Families put the needs of their children first and will make great sacrifices to invest in their children's well-being and future success. Strong public schools support a strong economy and a quality of life that attracts residents, businesses, and sought-after employees.

I understand Arizona's complicated public education funding system and I have worked to help others understand how schools are funded, who controls what, and why everyone should care. I have worked with parents, teachers, administrators, community members, and business leaders from across the political spectrum to leverage critical resources and collaborate in creating the shared vision of our public schools.

First and foremost, our schools need to be adequately and efficiently resourced in this challenging funding environment. Attracting and retaining high quality educators requires competitive salaries and a commitment to providing them with tools and resources they need to do their jobs. Creating a strong, stable, and supportive educational environment for students and staff is the most foundational thing we can do to improve our district and educational outcomes for students. Education is always changing—our students change, our community changes, our economy changes; what we teach and how we teach continually evolves. Through all the educational trends and controversies, we need a strong financial foundation and consistent, thoughtful, and respectful collaboration with everyone in the community to navigate these changes.

I am running for governing board because I care about the quality of our schools, not only for my children but for all children in our community. Strong public schools are the cornerstone of great communities, a strong economy, and preparing our students to be productive and successful citizens of Sierra Vista and our great nation. I am committed to listening, learning, and building consensus with all stakeholders to make the best decisions possible for our students, staff, and the entire community.

Walston, Jenny

My name is Jenny Walston. I am a lifelong resident of Sierra Vista, born on Ft. Huachuca. I was a New Year's baby, but I won't share the year. My family to include my mom, myself, my husband and my children are all past students of our Sierra Vista School District. I'm the Gigi to three beautiful grandbabies and hope to see them come up in the halls I did and those before and after me. I am familiar with many of the teachers and staff and have been involved with the schools in our district in several different capacities from attending baseball games, working in the schools, and being part of the PTO just to name a few.

Running for school board my platform is simple, I want to ask questions and share my thoughts and opinions honestly and respectfully. I also plan to be strong and adhere to the values and ideas that genuinely reflect the majority's concerns and hopes.

I am concerned about the direction our public schools are heading. I am concerned about curriculums being selected and taught. I am concerned with the numerous staffing vacancies within our district and believe that without a strong school district, teachers, and students our community is greatly affected. I believe public schools should be a favorable choice to every parent. I hope to help improve the classroom for all and hence our community. My pledge to parents and students is I will actively listen and do my best to understand and effectively respond and resolve issues that affect our well being of a solid community.