

Delegate Assembly Biographical Sketch Form for 2021 Election



Deadline: Thursday, January 7, 2021 | No late submissions accepted

This form is required. An optional, one-page, single-sided, résumé may also be submitted. Do not state "see résumé." Do not re-type this form. It is the candidate's responsibility to confirm that CSBA has received nomination materials prior to the deadline. Please submit completed form via e-mail to nominations@csba.org no later than 11:59 p.m. on January 7, 2021. Forms may also be submitted via mail to CSBA's Executive Office at 3251 Beacon Blvd., West Sacramento, CA 95691, with a postmark of no later than January 7, 2021.

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

Signature: George Neely Date: 12/31/2020

Name: George Neely CSBA Region & subregion #: 8A
 District or COE: Lodi Unified School District Years on board: 10
 Profession: Retired Contact Number (Cell Home Bus.): 209-329-5152
 Primary E-mail: gneely@lodiUSD.net
 Are you an incumbent Delegate? Yes No If yes, year you became Delegate: 2013

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

I have been a Board member for 10 years and a CSBA delegate for 8 years. I strongly believe in the purpose and the power of CSBA as we are largest single body of elected officials in the country. I am passionate about fixing public education in California, and I believe that if we act together, we can greatly impact the direction of public education. I have been President of the Lodi USD Board twice. I am a founding member of our Legislative Advocacy committee. I am also a member of our Lodi City Council 2 x 2 committee and the San Joaquin County School Boards Association. I am a retired military officer, and I believe that the leadership and other experiences I gained while in the military have helped me immensely as a member of the Board of Education. In the military, I learned a saying that has stayed with me; "Difficulty is a challenge, not an excuse." We can accomplish anything as an organization if we focus on our goals. I am also retired from General Electric Security. As the Regional Manager for Southern California and Hawaii, I taught business development and assisted companies in achieving their goals. Finally, I am retired teacher and administrator. These three careers have prepared me to a Board Member for Lodi Unified School District and a member of the Delegate Assembly.

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

In the 10 years that I have been a member of our Lodi City Council 2 x 2 committee, I have met with council members many times, both formally as part of the committee and informally as well. As President of the LUSD Board, I have spoken to at City Council Meetings to give the council updates on the status and progress of LUSD. I am a founding Board member of Giving Opportunities To Kids (GOT Kids), our nonprofit foundation for raising and distributing money to our schools to support student activities. I have sponsored resolutions in support of CSBA goals including a resolution for Full and Fair Funding. I presented twice at the CSBA Annual Education Conference. My first presentation was "Technology in Education," where we showcased the advancements Lodi Unified had made towards fully incorporating computing skills into our curriculum. The second time our Superintendent and I shared our policy and practice of Teacher Career Paths.

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

Public Education faces 4 major issues that must be addressed. The first is obviously the immediate and long term impacts of the COVID virus. School districts that follow public health guidelines must be indemnified against the massive potential loss of COVID lawsuits. We also need to make up for lost instructional time, particularly for low income and low performing students, and this will require additional funding. The second is Full and Fair Funding. CSBA has done a fantastic job laying the ground work to increase the funding level for California Schools. We must now take that message to the public. The third issue is Charter School Reform. Charter Schools must be forced to play on a level playing field! If we increase funding, without Charter School Reform, we will see a huge increase in the number of applications as they scramble for the money. The fourth issue we must address is that of Special Education. Districts must spend an ever-increasing amount of their limited funds on Special Ed mandates not covered by our current funding. CSBA continues to support efforts for all of these areas.

Resume of George Neely

Statement of Qualifications

I am a retired military officer, a retired manager for General Electric Security, and a retired public school teacher and administrator. I have been on the Board of Education for 10 years and a CSBA Delegate for Region 8A for the last 8 years. I have completed the Masters in Governance program from CSBA. I have also pursued additional training as a Board Member on my own, as well as taking classes at CSU Stanislaus for School administration. I have a strong technology background in government, the corporate arena, and public education as well.

Work Experience:

- 2010 – Board of Education, Lodi Unified School District
Served as Board President, Board Vice President, and Board Clerk. Served on Lodi City Council 2 x 2 Committee, Legislative Advocacy Committee, and San Joaquin School Board Association.
- 2010 – 2015 Teacher and Administrator for Academy of Business, Law, and Education
Taught Personal Finance, Communications, Computer Literacy, Web Design, and Job Skills
- 2005 – 2010 Teacher for Lodi Unified School District
Classroom teacher for Title 1 Schools
- 1992 – 2004 Territory Manager for General Electric Security
Responsible for business development in Southern California and Hawaii
- 1991 – 1992 Director of Technical Services X-Truder National
Responsible for technical operations of Atlanta based security provider
- 1971 – 1991 US Army
Infantry Soldier in Vietnam
Aviation Officer, Attack Helicopter Pilot, Scout Helicopter Pilot

Education

Lodi High School
Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, TN
Bachelor Business Administration
California State University Stanislaus
Multi Subject Teaching Credential
California School Board Association
Masters in Governance

Personal

Married with 3 children and 6 grandchildren. My hobbies include home renovation projects, hiking, traveling, and golf.