

HANDY YARDSTICK FOR BOARD CANDIDATES

1. Has the candidate an unselfish interest in the public schools, the community and in every child?
2. Has the candidate arrived at a position of recognized leadership in the community?
3. Is the candidate seeking the position for personal prestige or political gain?
4. Is the candidate a leader in his own occupation or community group?
5. Is the candidate a known quantity in the community?
6. Is the candidate able to think independently and objectively about a problem?
7. Will the candidate accede cheerfully to the decisions of the majority?
8. Has the candidate a record of the kind of leadership that will represent the district as a whole rather than a record identifying him with a particular group, cause, or geographical area?
9. Will the candidate give the necessary time to this important position?
10. Will the candidate work to develop unity among the members of the board, contributing to harmonious development of the program?
- 11. Is the candidate capable of recognizing and distinguishing the jurisdictional power and functions of the board and administration?
12. Does the candidate know the political boundary and physical geography of the school district?
- 13. Does the candidate have the courage and ability to explain and enforce a rule which might not be popular but is proper?
14. Does the candidate understand that leadership often involves the turning of public opinion from an erroneous attitude to the acceptance of a feasible rule?
- 15. Is the candidate aware of the cross currents of thinking pertaining to the basic concepts of public education and will he remain loyal to his trust under stress?
- 16. Does the candidate have a layman's relationship to public education?
- 17. Does the candidate make a habit of withholding judgment on critical issues until the facts are available?
18. Is the candidate able to carry on cheerfully when public appreciation of his acts seems lacking?
19. Does the candidate have personal interests that would invalidate his service to the board?
20. Does the candidate have a sense of humor?
21. Does the candidate show evidence of moral and spiritual values?

The ideal candidate (if there is any such animal) would be scored "yes" on all items except 3 and 19. In view of the recent history of the Ventura High School Board, we'd guess that items 11, 13, 15, 16 and 17 should require more than ordinary emphasis in sizing up the five candidates.

Application of the yardstick given above, plus close attention to the candidates' answers to questions about school matters in the immediate locality, ought to shed some light.

California League of Women Voters

1. Is the candidate seeking the position for personal profit or political gain?
2. Has the candidate arrived at a position of recognized leadership in the community in every child?
3. Is the candidate a leader in his own occupation or community group?
4. Is the candidate a known quantity in the community?
5. Is the candidate able to think independently and objectively about a problem?
6. Will the candidate concede cheerfully to the decisions of the majority?
7. Has the candidate demonstrated leadership that will represent the district as a whole rather than a record identifying him with a particular group, cause, or geographical area?
8. Will the candidate give the necessary time to this important position?
9. Will the candidate work to develop unity among the members of the board, contributing to harmonious development of the program?
10. Is the candidate capable of recognizing and distinguishing the jurisdictional power and functions of the board and administration?
11. Does the candidate know the political boundary and physical geography of the school district?
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