

I welcome the opportunity to speak to the most important people in education -- the teachers. I should first state my views on an <sup>two</sup> ~~recuring~~ <sup>issue that has again crept into</sup> <sup>an</sup> trustee circles that is not an <sup>in fact</sup> issue as far as I am concerned. -- The amount of time a teacher works. I cannot imagine a more demanding work than preparing for and carrying out the job of challenging a room full of teenagers 5 periods a day, 5 days a week, nearly 10 months a year ---- nor <sup>the second is standard for teacher</sup> ~~at the moment, this is an unworkable idea.~~ a more worthwhile work. <sup>I might add</sup> ~~Doctors, lawyers are not paid on the basis of ability - popularity~~

First I will tell you a little about me and then a few of the ideas I have about current issues in this school district.

My husband is Daniel Tolmach, <sup>a</sup> pediatrician here in Oxnard. We have 5 children—James and Richard at Oxnard High, Eve Alice at Fremont Jr. High and Adam and Jonathan at Brittell. I was born in Havre, Montana and raised in Ventura. I attended public and private schools in Ventura. I received my Bachelors degree from UCLA in 1943 and my Masters' degree from Smith College in Northampton, Mass. in 1945. I worked as a social worker for the American Red Cross at Corona Naval Hospital from 1945 till 1946. I have been a member of the Camarillo State Hospital Board of Trustees since 1959. I was a member of the 1958 Ventura County Grand Jury and chairman of its Tax Committee. I was

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a member of the Oxnard City Planning Commission for five years and the vice-chairman. I, also, have been involved in numerous civic and political organizations and activities.

I am seeking election to the Oxnard Union High School District Board of Trustees because of my strong belief in public schools. The goal of education should be to help every person achieve as much as he is able, thereby preparing him to participate in a productive, meaningful life in a free society. I entirely agree with the goals of education as set forth in the adopted philosophy of the district Board.

Our high schools are good now but we cannot coast. It will take time and effort to keep ahead of the problems in this fastest growing area

I have the time and the interest to devote to meeting the needs of our continually improving and growing school system.

Many issues such as teachers' salaries are so complex and so basic to the entire school program they cannot be solved with routine formulas. They require extensive study with year-round Board participation and direction. The 3 goals set forth by the salary committee headed by Mr. Manzer are essential to achieve. The attracting and retaining of highly qualified

teachers is the most important problem our rapidly growing district faces. How successful we are in this effort will determine the reputation and quality of our schools for years to come.

Each of the current important issues that the Board must face will require much time and study. Oxnard Union High School Board should be offering leadership in unification studies because it is the only group that represents the entire district being considered. The Board has a responsibility to see that the best plan is presented to the voters. I favor unification theoretically but I am well aware of the hazards unification can present to the high schools. I cannot tell you at this time what plan I would favor because I have only been cramming on this issue one month. Even during this month I have accumulated a long list of pros and cons on each of the <sup>3</sup>/proposals being considered. I still need the answers to many more questions.

Oversimplification and use of labels is unwise and again study is vital in viewing programs involving federal aid. I think we should accept ~~federal~~ aid for some of our programs instead of insisting that local property owners pay for <sup>all</sup> ~~or~~ of them. There is no reason why one segment of our population should pay

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~~cost of~~ the bill for education when all segments benefit. 30 years ago the State Sales Tax was levied to share the cost of education on a 50-50 basis with the ~~legal~~ property owner. Gradually the local property owner has increased his share <sup>XO</sup> 75% -- no wonder there has been a howl from the property owner. Federal aid does have the advantage of relieving the local property owner and sharing the cost with those who have other types of financial holdings.

Expansion of our vocational programs within each existing school is preferable to a separate vocational school and, is more readily adjustable to changing job opportunities.