

## Jorge Pacheco Jr.

### Oak Grove School District Trustee for the California School Boards Association Delegate Assembly (Write-in Candidate)

Please describe the skills and experiences I would bring to the Delegate Assembly: I hope to earn your support as a write-in candidate for the California School Boards Association Delegate Assembly (DA) region 20 race for 2023. I was born and raised in San Jose and serve as a trustee for the same district that taught me as a student. Having barely graduated high school, higher education gave me a second chance which is why I decided to become a teacher and help students like me (Special Education and English Language Learner) reach their potential. I am proud to be a 32 year old trustee now beginning my second term, a son of Korean-Maya and Salvadoran immigrants, a Native Studies teacher, a California Teachers Association (CTA) member, a member of the LGBTQ+ community, a leader for our Asian-Pacific Islander, Indigenous, and Latino/a/x communities, and a local leader for digital equity and climate literacy.

Why am I interested in becoming a delegate and what do I see as the biggest challenge facing governing boards and how can CSBA help address it? I hope to bring my experiences serving students as a teacher, trustee, and non-profit statewide leader to the DA. The gaps holding back our students today are the same ones that held me back as a student. We need delegates with direct experience in knowing what those gaps are and how to navigate them as a student, teacher, and trustee. Given the significant regression in reading and math that the COVID-19 pandemic has caused, we need the DA to be a source of innovative policies and ideas in order to make significant change. Lastly, I would like to strengthen local governance by creating more opportunities for trustees to gain training for budgeting and fiscal oversight, which is the core responsibility of being a trustee, next to keeping our communities and students safe. Thank you for your consideration and I hope I can earn your support as a write-in candidate for the DA.

Please describe my activities and involvement on my local school board, community, and/or CSBA:

- **Local School Board activities:** elected to the Oak Grove School District in 2018 and recently won a second term; graduate of the CSBA Masters in Governance program; led the creation of the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Committee where I serve as a member, the the creation Ethnic Studies Steering Committee where we are piloting Ethnic Studies in middle school classrooms; and the expansion of the Safety Committee where we are assessing safety needs and expanding security initiatives district-wide in partnership between parents, teachers, classified employees and district leadership; served as vice president and board president during my first term, leading our district through the height of the COVID-19 pandemic from 2020-21.
- **Community/County activities:** public school Bay Area teacher for almost a decade now; co-founded the Digital Equity Coalition, which is a team of trustees and community leaders working to close the digital divide through advocacy and policy; co-founded the Santa Clara County Climate Literacy Coalition, which is a team of trustees working to expand climate literacy and environmental initiatives throughout all county districts; member of the BAYMEC board of directors, where I work to get more LGBTQ+ leaders and allies elected into public office; member of the Santa Clara County School Boards Association Legislative Action Committee.
- **State-level activities:** serving as president of the California Latino School Boards Association, where I lead a team that organizes state-level conferences and regional events that advocate for educational policies and programs that accelerate Latino/a/x, English Language Learner, and indigenous student and school board member growth.
- **National activities:** a national award-winning teacher, having earned the Grosvenor Teacher Fellowship from National Geographic and Lindblad Expeditions where I am working with National Geographic staff to expand geographic awareness and an explorer mindset by developing project-based curriculum through my expedition to the Galapagos in 2022. 50 teachers throughout the USA and Canada earn this fellowship every year.

# JORGE PACHECO JR.

President of the California Latino School Boards Association (CLSBA),  
Trustee for the Oak Grove School District, and 7th Grade Teacher at the  
Menlo Park City School District

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I hope to earn your support as a write-in candidate for the California School Boards Association Delegate Assembly region 20 race for 2023. I was born and raised in San Jose and serve as a trustee for the same district that taught me as a student. Having barely graduated high school, higher education gave me a second chance which is why I decided to become a teacher and help students like me (Special Education and English Language Learner) reach their potential. I hope to bring my experiences serving students as a teacher, trustee, and non-profit statewide leader to the delegate assembly. I am proud to be a 32 year old trustee now beginning my second term, a son of Korean-Maya and Salvadoran immigrants, a Native Studies teacher, a California Teachers Association (CTA) member, a member of the LGBTQ+ community, a leader for our Asian-Pacific Islander, Indigenous, and Latino/a/x communities, and a local leader for digital equity and climate literacy.

## Professional Experience

### **7th Grade English Teacher** Menlo Park City School District July 2022 - Present

Teaches, mentors and data-tracks five 7th grade English classes of 16-21 students and one study hall 7th grade class; Plans rigorous, engaging English language arts instruction that is aligned to the district and school site instructional model based on Common Core Standards; Incorporates a variety of strategies and resources to respond to students' diverse needs and interests.

### **Native Studies Consultant** Community Responsive Education (CRE) July 2021 - Present

Develop and facilitate professional development and programs for Jefferson Elementary School District (JESD) educators on Ethnic Studies curricula, resources and materials in order to advance curricular access and inclusion of Black, Indigenous, Asian/Pacific Islander and youth of color histories.

### **2021 Grosvenor Teacher Fellow** National Geographic & Lindblad Expeditions February 2021 - Present

Selected for the competitive 2021 Grosvenor Teacher Fellowship with the National Geographic Society and Lindblad Expeditions as 1 of 50 educators from across the U.S. and Canada, this fellowship has allowed me to bring geographic awareness to my students, colleagues and communities by embarking on a life-changing voyage to the Galapagos Islands in September 2022 on a Lindblad fleet alongside marine biologists, geologists, historians, scientists, undersea specialists, and National Geographic photographers.

### **President/Former Director** California Latino School Boards Association (CLSBA) October 2019 - Present

On October 2019, I was elected to the CLSBA Board of Directors to ensure Latino/a/x students have the best educational opportunities and resources available to succeed. We are committed to meeting the educational needs for all Latino/a/x students by working with educational organizations and public agencies to empower current and future Latino/a/x school board members. Together, we will positively change and improve the educational outcomes for Latino/a/x students in California. As of October 2020, I was elected President of CLSBA where I now chair the CLSBA Board of Directors and serve as its Chief Executive Officer to set the vision and strategic direction of the organization as well as oversee our budget, human resources, fundraising activities, legislative advocacy, programming, internal operations, and organizational development. Under my leadership, we have organized three statewide conferences, reaching hundreds of trustees across CA.

### **Trustee and Past-President** Oak Grove School District (OGSD) Board of Education December 2018 - Present

- Served as Vice President from 2019-2020, and as President for the 2020-2021 school year, leading our district through the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Created the Oak Grove School District Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) Committee in December 2019, dedicated to creating DEIB/anti-racist initiatives, policies and practices for our district, drafting our districts first Equity Board Policy for our school board to adopt, drafting a set of DEIB policy/initiative annual priorities, and informing our strategic planning and LCAP to focus more on equity.
- Created the Oak Grove School District Ethnic Studies Adoption Committee in December 2019, the first K-8 Ethnic Studies program in California. Directed the district to begin the curriculum development process to create Ethnic Studies in our district, with the goal of including Ethnic Studies in our 2020-2023 LCAP. Since then, Alum Rock School District, Mt. Pleasant School District and Franklin-McKinley School District created their own Ethnic Studies Adoption Committees, modeled after our resolution.
- Implemented a permanent Land Acknowledgement as part of our regular public board meetings created with the Muwekma Ohlone tribal members.
- Assembled a coalition of teacher leaders and school board members to create a Resolution Supporting the Rights, Freedoms, and Equality of those who are LGBTQ+: this resolution expands and normalizes the use of pronouns, celebrates Pride Month in perpetuity, flies the pride flag at every district school and district office in perpetuity, multiplies the availability of gender-neutral bathrooms at all of our campuses, requires LGBTQ sensitivity training for all staff on a yearly basis, and expands the presence of Out for Safe Schools posters to as many classrooms in our district as possible.
- Co-founded the Digital Equity Coalition by organizing school board members across Santa Clara County, San Jose City Council members and Santa Clara County Supervisors, leading to the city and county to allocate over 11 million dollars to our most high needs local school districts to supply hotspots and devices in response to the digital divide exacerbated by COVID-19. Currently serve as Director of Strategic Partnerships.
- Co-founded the Santa Clara County Climate Literacy Coalition where we are working to expand climate literacy, environmental policy, and climate justice throughout all school districts in Santa Clara County. Currently serve as co-president.

### **Digital Equity Research & Advocacy Specialist** Community Health Partnership (CHP) July 2021 - June 2022

During the height of the pandemic, I worked to close the digital divide for our most high-needs county residents. I advocated for public broadband at state-level public meetings, such as the Middle Mile Advisory Committee, California Broadband Council, and various legislative committees in both chambers; Successfully mobilized over 50 trustees in Santa Clara County to submit letters and provide public comments in support of creating public broadband for the county, leading to a unanimous vote in support of public broadband by the Board of Supervisors.

### **4th Grade Bilingual Teacher** Mountain View-Whisman School District (MWSD) July 2019 - June 2021

Taught, mentored and data-tracked two cohorts of 4th graders (roughly around 120 students in total) during 2019-20 and 2020-21, teaching multiple subjects in Spanish.

### **Member, Teacher Advisory Council** Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation June 2016 - October 2017

Selected from a pool of over 400 educators nationwide to advise and inform the foundation's strategy and future investments in students' career and college-readiness on their 50-member council; Collaborated with teachers and the foundation on the Advocacy & Equity Committee that led to institutional developments for their K-12 Strategy using diversity, equity and inclusion frameworks with a focus of class and race.

### **2nd, 7th, 8th Grade Bilingual/Native Studies Teacher** Voices College-Bound Language Academies (Flagship School) February 2014 - July 2019

Taught, mentored, and data-tracked three 7th/8th grade classes of 21-25 students for three school years; Taught, mentored and data-tracked three 2nd grade classes of 27-29 students for three school years.

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## Education

**Master of Arts in Urban Education: Educational Policy and Administration** Loyola Marymount University at Los Angeles, CA June 2014 - August 2016

**Credential:** Cleared Multiple Subjects Teaching Credential with Bilingual Authorization (BCLAD).

**Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and Legal Studies** University of California, Berkeley at Berkeley, CA June 2010 - August 2013

**Activities:** Studied in United Kingdom (University of Cambridge, 2011), Korea (Yonsei University, 2012), Spain (UC Center Madrid, 2013); Anthropology Undergraduate Association (Chair); Associated Students of the University of California (Senator).

**Program in Art History** De Anza College at Cupertino, CA June 2008 - June 2010