This complete, ORIGINAL Ballot must be SIGNED by the Superintendent or Board Clerk and returned in the enclosed envelope postmarked by the post office No Later Than MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2010. Only ONE Ballot per Board. Be sure to mark your vote “X” in the box. A PARTIAL, UNSIGNED, PHOTOCOPIED, OR LATE BALLOT WILL NOT BE VALID.

OFFICIAL 2010 DELEGATE ASSEMBLY BALLOT
SUBREGION 9-A
(San Benito, Santa Cruz Counties)

Number of vacancies: 2 (Vote for no more than 2 candidates)

*denotes incumbent

☐ Bernard Bricmont (Live Oak ESD)*

☐ Rachel Dewey Thorsett (Santa Cruz City Schools)

☐ Ted Donnelly (Soquel Union ESD)

☐ Beatrice Gonzales-Ramirez (Hollister SD)

Provision for Write-in Candidate Name

School District

Signature of Superintendent or Board Clerk

School District

TITLE

See reverse side for a current list of all Delegates in your Region.
Region 9 – Chris Ungar, Director (San Luis Coastal USD)
8 Delegates (8 elected)

Below is a list of all the current Delegates from this Region.

Subregion A
Bernard Bricmont (Live Oak ESD), term expires 2010
Allison Niday (Scotts Valley USD), term expires 2011
Vacancy, term expires 2010

Subregion B
Bettye L. Lusk (Monterey Peninsula USD), term expires 2010
Kathryn Ramirez (Salinas Union HSD), expires 2011

Subregion C
Mark Buchman (San Luis Coastal USD), term expires 2010
Tami Gunther (Atascadero USD), term expires 2011

County Delegate
Arnold Levine (Santa Cruz COE), term expires 2011

Counties
San Benito, Santa Cruz (Subregion A)
Monterey (Subregion B)
San Luis Obispo (Subregion C)
2010 Delegate Assembly Biographical Sketch Form

Due: Thursday, January 7, 2010 (U.S. Postmark or fax – 916.669.3305 or 916.371.3407)

Please complete this required, one-page, single-sided, biographical sketch form. An optional, single-sided, one-page résumé may also be submitted, both will be copied exactly as received. Please do not state “See résumé” and please do not re-type this form. Any additional page(s) exceeding this one page, single-sided biographical sketch will not be accepted.

Name: Bernard Bricmont
District or COE: Live Oak School District
Contact Number: (831) 476-0504
Region/Subregion: 9A
Years on board: 27 years
ADA: 2000
E-mail: bricmont@cruzio.com

Are you a continuing Delegate? Yes
If yes, how long have you served as a Delegate? 21 years

Please describe your activities/involvement in CSBA and explain why you are interested in serving as a CSBA Delegate.
I have been on the Delegate Assembly, Region 9A for 21 years and served as Director of Region 9 for five years. During those years, I have been actively involved with legislation, budget, and curriculum. I am currently a member of the Legislative Network, the California Teacher Credentialing Task Force and the Federal Issues Council. In addition, I have been asked to serve on a California School Library Association committee to work on rewriting requirements for library services for the K-8 environment. Previously, I participated on the Legislation and Budget Committee, Curriculum Task Force, Audit Committee, and Instructional Time Task Force.

I have contributed 27 years to education and would like to continue to do so. I believe that there is an important connection to be made between local and state school boards. I look forward to building strong bridges.

Please describe your activities/involvement or interests in your local district.
I have served on the Live Oak School Board for 21 years. I am currently the President of the Board and have served as President and Clerk in years prior. I was an active participant on the Live Oak Parcel Tax campaign which passed in November 2008, the Measure A Bond campaign, which passed in March 2004, and the Live Oak Measure B campaign, which passed in November 1992. Over the years, I have served as the Governing Board representative for many District committees including Special Teaching Resources in the Arts (SPECTRA), District English Language Advisory Council (DELAC), Healthy Kids Task Force and the County Office of Education Superintendents/Governing Boards Ad Hoc committee. I have been instrumental in working behind the scenes to form a County Wide School Boards Association. I believe there is a need for more communication amongst trustees in the county to allow us to compare notes and to educate ourselves.

Please describe any other education-related activities/involvement.
As a member of the Santa Cruz Reading Association and Friends of Santa Cruz Library Board, I can continue to be passionate about reading and libraries as I am a long time supporter of arts in education. My involvement with the Cultural Council of Santa Cruz helped bring artists into the schools. I am also President of Schools Plus Public School Foundation of Santa Cruz. The foundation awards grants to teachers and honors local leaders in business who contribute to education. I have completed my CSBA Masters in Governance training in November, 2008.

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

Signature: [signature]
Date: 12-16-09
Bernard "Barney" Bricmont
1920 Maciel Ave.
Santa Cruz, CA 95062-1902
831-476-0504
e-mail: bricmont@cruzo.com, www.bricmont.us

A.A. San Jose City College, Business Administration
Irrigation Contractor (self-employed) - 34 years

CALIFORNIA CERTIFIED ORGANIC FARMERS
  Founding Vice-president, 1973-74
  President, 1975-1985

LIVE OAK Elementary School District Board of Trustees
  1977-1998 and 2004-present

CALIFORNIA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION
  Director Region 9, 1993-1998
  Nomination Committee, 1983-84, 1984-86
  Ad Hoc Elections Process Committee, 1985-86
  Legislative Awards Committee, 1989
  Legislative Network, 1981-present
  Legislation and Budget Committee, 1993
  Chair/CSBA Reading Task Force, 1994-95 "Every Student Can Read--Every Student Will Read" report, May 1995
  Chair/Budget Committee, 1995
  Member/African-American Education Summit, 1996
  Curriculum Task Force, 1996-98
  Federal Issues Council, 1995-98 and 2003-present
  Audit Committee, 1997
  Instructional Time Task Force, 2007
  CTC Reading Task Force, 2009-2010

NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

SCHOOLS PLUS-Public Schools Foundation of Santa Cruz County
  Board of Directors, 1991-1998
  President, 1997-present

FRIENDS OF SANTA CRUZ PUBLIC LIBRARY
  Board of Directors, 2000 – present
  Vice President, 2004
  President, 2005-2006

SANTA CRUZ DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE
  District 1, 2000- present
  Vice Chair, 2005 - 2007

PEOPLE’S DEMOCRATIC CLUB of SANTA CRUZ
  Board of Directors, 2000 – present
  Member, 1980 - present

CULTURAL COUNCIL of Santa Cruz County
  Board of Directors, 1991- 1997
  Co-chair of “Hearts for the Arts” art auction, 1986-2000

Member of:
  Santa Cruz County Reading Association, 1981-present
  California Reading Association, 1981-present
  International Reading Association, 1981-present
  California School Library Association (formerly CMLEA), 1985-present
  Asilomar Regional Reading Conference--volunteer/supporter, 1985- present
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Name: Rachel Dewey Thorsett

District or COE: Santa Cruz City Schools

Contact Number: 831-426-7695

Region/Subregion: 9A

Years on board: 5 ADA: 6400

E-mail: rdt@secc.santacruz.k12.ca.us

Are you a continuing Delegate? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If yes, how long have you served as a Delegate?

Please describe your activities/involvement in CSBA and explain why you are interested in serving as a CSBA Delegate.

When I was first elected to the Santa Cruz City Schools’ Board in 2004 our district had let its CSBA membership lapse, so my first CSBA involvement was a campaign to make sure that we re-joined, which we did in 2006; since then it has been an invaluable resource both to our board members, and to our district as a whole. Understanding the importance of the CSBA’s work at the state level, this past year I’ve been active in the formation of the Santa Cruz County School Boards Association, with the aim of increasing the level of mutual support among local districts.

I believe CSBA plays a crucial role both in supporting the work of local boards, and giving them an effective voice on policy issues at the state and national level. CSBA plays an important role as a forum where districts can learn from each other about governance, educational policy, and best practices for districts and boards; however, with the budget and policy challenges facing public education, CSBA’s role in giving a cohesive voice to local boards may be even more important. Local boards, with their deep ties to community priorities, their strong focus on students needs, and their clear view of how policy decisions affect real-life schooling, can, and should, be one of the strongest and most credible voices in state- and federal-level discussions of educational reform, and I believe that CSBA’s work in this area is crucial. As well supporting CSBA’s advocacy and policy work, I am also particularly interested in strengthening CSBA’s engagement with local boards, making sure districts are able to take advantage of what CSBA has to offer as easily and inexpensively as possible.

Please describe your activities/involvement or interests in your local district.

My work as a board member has focused in three major areas: making sure that the educational needs of students are the driving force behind district decision making, supporting a transparent budget process that aligns district spending with district priorities, and supporting a high level of community involvement and engagement with the district. I’ve been a member of the district’s budget committee for five of my six years on the board, and have developed a strong understanding of both our district budget and the bigger picture of California school finance. In my first term as board president (2007) I worked to re-vitalize the district goal-setting process and committee structure, and I am pleased that both are on a solid foundation as I start my second term as president. I also have a strong interest in curricular issues, particularly the need to maintain a rich curriculum in the face of budget cuts and NCLB requirements; last year I was a member of the districts Academic Excellence Task Force which focused the need to provide students from a wide variety of backgrounds with a challenging and engaging education. As a scientist by profession, I have an especially strong commitment to ensuring that all students are encouraged to pursue math and science at an advanced level in school.

Please describe any other education-related activities/involvement.

I’ve been a PTA member since my daughter started school nine years ago; I am a member of the Leadership Council of the Santa Cruz Education Foundation and have been actively involved in four successful parcel tax campaigns. I’m also involved professionally in education, teaching astronomy and physics at the University of California Santa Cruz, and working on a number of the University’s science education outreach efforts.

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

Signature: Rachel Dewey Thorsett

Date: Jan 6, 2010
RACHEL DEWEY THORSETT
Santa Cruz City Schools Trustee
CSBA Delegate Assembly Resume

Education:
- Ph.D., Physics, Princeton University, 1984
- A.B., Physics, Harvard University, 1978

Employment:
- Associate Adjunct Professor, Astronomy and Astrophysics, UC Santa Cruz (2000-present)

School Involvement:
- Santa Cruz City Schools Trustee 2004-present
  - President 2007 and 2010
  - Vice President 2006 and 2009
  - District Budget Committee 2004-2005, 2006-2010
  - Facilities Task Force 2009-2010
  - Board Representative to Measure A&B Parcel Tax Campaign Committee
  - Board Representative to Measure P Parcel Tax Campaign Committee
- Santa Cruz Education Foundation Leadership Council 2004-present
- Westlake Elementary School PTA Secretary 2001-2004
- Westlake Elementary School Site Council 2003-2004
- Measure B Parcel Tax Citizen Oversight Committee 2003-2004

My involvement in local schools began in 2001, soon after my daughter started kindergarten: at the first PTA meeting of the year I found myself volunteering to be PTA secretary, and later that year, working on my first parcel tax campaign. In the next few years I began more deeply involved both at the school-site level and on district-wide issues.

I was elected to the Santa Cruz City School Board in 2004. My highest priorities have been focusing our district's budget process on the needs of students, strengthening the district's engagement with parents and the wider community, and maintaining a rich and challenging curriculum for all students in the face budget constraints and the policy mandates of No Child Left Behind.

Santa Cruz is a complex and diverse district. It is in fact two districts: an elementary district in the City of Santa Cruz and high school district covering much of northern Santa Cruz County. The elementary district is a Basic Aid district, but over 40% of its students are eligible for free/reduced lunch, and nearly 30% are English learners (very similar to the overall percentages for the county). In addition to our nine comprehensive schools, we charter a successful school for at-risk students (Delta Charter), oversee a number of alternative programs, and a vibrant Adult School. As a board member I have had a chance to gain a first hand understanding of many of the challenges facing California districts today.

Now, more than ever, it is crucial for California districts to work together. One of the things I have learned as a board member is that there are limits to what an individual district can do. We need to be learning from each other; though every community is unique, we share many of the same challenges. We also need to be working cohesively to make sure that the state and Federal policy makers, whose decisions shape much of our work, understand the priorities of our communities, and the day-to-day realities of education. I look forward to using the knowledge and expertise I've gained over the years to give our local boards a strong voice as an Assembly Delegate.
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Name: Ted Donnelly

District or COE: Soquel Union Elementary School District

Contact Number: 831-462-9436

Region/Subregion: 9/9A

Years on board: Six

ADA: 2000

E-mail: tdonnelly@suesd.org

Are you a continuing Delegate? No

If yes, how long have you served as a Delegate?

Please describe your activities/involvement in CSBA and explain why you are interested in serving as a CSBA Delegate.

I have completed the Master in Governance courses and attended some of the conferences. I take an interest in how CSBA has influenced our state’s education policies and would like to be a delegate to be part of this process. As we know our state budget crisis has been on our minds for a long time and the effect it will have on current and future educational decisions. Being part of the CSBA leadership team and input from my region’s board members I would advocate and provide guidance to our legislators making choices affecting our educational future.

Please describe your activities/involvement or interests in your local district.

I’m going on my sixth year as a board member, having served as president one year. I was originally appointed to the board in 2004 and have been reelected twice. I came on the board as a parent of two students and am still a parent in our district. This helps me keep a close ear to what our constituents’ concerns are.

I’m very involved with my daughters’ activities in school and outside of the class. I serve on the Home and School Clubs or the School Foundations as a volunteer for fund raising or school community functions.

Currently I’m in the chair for the Site Council at Soquel High School and appointed as a member of the Santa Cruz City Schools Bond Oversight Committee.

Please describe any other education-related activities/involvement.

Besides what was mentioned above, I have a good relationship with our local elected officials, continually communicating any suggestions or concerns that would benefit our district. I enjoy reading the agendas of the city council, county supervisors, county school district and neighboring school districts. When I read the agenda and have some insight I will attend the meeting or contact the president, mayor or chair of the group.

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

Signature: ___________________________ Date: 1/7/10
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Name: Beatrice Gonzales-Ramirez

Region/Subregion: 9 / A

District or COE: Hollister School District

Years on board: 4

Contact Number: 831-638-9858

ADA: 5,599

E-mail: Beatrice2003@msn.com

Are you a continuing Delegate? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If yes, how long have you served as a Delegate?

Please describe your activities/involvement in CSBA and explain why you are interested in serving as a CSBA Delegate.

With today’s climate of economic uncertainty with regards to the State Budget and funding to school districts, it is of the utmost importance that Board Members become as involved as possible and stay informed of the constantly evolving laws, policies and procedures and the potential impact that these changes will have on our respective Districts.

My involvement, commitment, and dedication to my district and the surrounding community have been self-evident over the years. I ran for office with the mind set and a deep desire to serve my community. As the past president of the School Board, I have served in that capacity, and will continue to serve the District to the best of my ability.

Additionally, as a native and life-long resident of San Benito County and a product of the Hollister School District and surrounding educational communities including Gavilan College; California State University, Monterey Bay; and Monterey College of Law, I have witnessed the need for active participation. I am an advocate for our students and highly visible in the community, and I have held memberships in such organizations such as League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) and San Benito County Latino Elected. I have also served as an alternate on the Hollister Gang Task Force Advisory Board, which focuses on issues of combating gang activity. Presently I serve as the elected Secretary of the Tri-County Association of Latino Elected Officials (TCALEO) which encompasses the surrounding counties of San Benito, Santa Cruz and Monterey counties. This organization focuses on uniting Latino elected officials for the betterment of our communities to discuss common issues and determine best practices amongst jurisdictions.

In all of these capacities, I bring the prospective of the Hollister School District in my board representation. I firmly believe that I can make a contribution that can assist with the facilitation of new ideas, aspects and viewpoints that can help our District operate on the educational forefront at the highest standards possible.

Please describe your activities/involvement or interests in your local district.

I am a consummate student! Even after earning my law degree, I felt compelled to return to my community to serve in a capacity in which I could make a difference. Since joining the Board for the Hollister School District, I completed my CSBA Masters in Governance in February, 2008. I have also completed the State of California certified AB1234 Ethics training for elected officials, though not legally required to do so, since I believe individuals in our capacity are required to hold ourselves to the highest of ethical standards.

Please describe any other education-related activities/involvement.

Presently, I am a member of CSBA School Health Advisory Committee (SHAC) which explores avenues of promoting healthy lifestyles within our Districts and communities. My interest in serving as a CSBA Delegate mirrors my dedication to the community as it will enable continued participation with a heightened appreciation for policy and procedure. I am an Educator, and over the course of my adult life, I have contributed almost 14 years to education. The direct, hands-on experience that this opportunity presents will provide the foreground and foundation to fulfill my passion to serve, which will ultimately have a direct impact on my role as a School Board Member.

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

Signature:  

Date: 1/4/2010