

# VOTER'S PAMPHLET

## LOCAL NONPARTISAN CANDIDATES' STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS

The following pages may not contain a complete list of candidates. A complete list of candidates appears on the Sample Ballot. Each statement is volunteered by, and (unless otherwise determined by the governing body) is printed at the expense of, the candidate.

Statement of **JAMES D. BRESNAHAN**, Candidate for  
Governing Board Member  
Live Oak School District

I am a grandfather and community volunteer who is running for office to improve the way our school district does business.

Recently, the Governor declared Live Oak Elementary School to be in "emergency condition". The report stated that students were "seriously harmed" by attending our school. I have been involved in our school district for many years and have worked with many administrators, teachers, and school board members. This current situation is unacceptable to me, and it should be unacceptable to every parent and taxpayer in our district.

In 2007, I had the privilege of serving on the Live Oak School District Bond Oversight Committee. We were instrumental in overseeing the construction of the new gymnasium at Live Oak Elementary and making much needed repairs at Shoreline Middle School. This experience allowed me the opportunity to work with parents and teachers throughout our district. If elected, I will work to produce a balanced budget for Live Oak, retain and attract high quality teachers to our district, and demand accountability so that our students are prepared for a 21st century world and our school district no longer is stuck with the "emergency" label.

I would be honored to have your vote.

Statement of **PAUL FRANKLIN**, Candidate for  
Governing Board Member  
Live Oak School District

**Occupation:** Computer Consultant / Incumbent

**Age:** 49

We face many challenges in the twenty-first century. Children in particular are living in a world of rapidly accelerating change. Career and financial success requires that they learn much more than just the basics of language, mathematics, science / technology and social systems.

We must show them how to adapt to our evolving global economy, increasingly multicultural society and uncertain political circumstances that threaten basic social services. They must learn self-reliance, critical analysis skills, diligence, dedication to task and the self-discipline that are hallmarks of successful, happy people leading balanced lives.

As a board trustee I promise to work for schools that prioritize student learning, safety, health and rights. I will work to insure that public funds are spent wisely and effectively. I will collaborate with fellow board members and the superintendent to create a mutually supportive work environment for all teachers and staff.

I have served in this role for the past eight years. I am grateful for the opportunity to have given my time and energy to the local community and to have learned so much about effective boardsmanship. I believe that I still have more to offer. I appreciate your consideration and your vote.

[VotePaulFranklin.org](http://VotePaulFranklin.org)

Statement of **MICHAEL J. PISENTI**, Candidate for  
Governing Board Member  
Live Oak School District

**Occupation:** Businessman

An experienced leader:

As a youth: Past Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader, Junior Assistance Scout Master, Live Oak Boy Scout Troop 75 (later 675), earned rank of Star.

As an adult:

Past Lieutenant District Governor, California Jaycees.

Past Committee Chairman, Live Oak Cub Scout Pack 675.

Past President, Live Oak PTA.

Elected Board Member, Live Oak School District, served as Clerk of the Board, 1975 to 1979, 2006 to present, voted twice not to increase taxes.

Past President, Santa Cruz Gideons.

Past President, Neighbors After Good Government (NAGG).

Past President, Christen Aviation Fellowship.

Past President, Santa Cruz Life Care.

Education: Live Oak Elementary, K to 6, Branciforte Jr. Hi., Santa Cruz Hi., Monterey Peninsula Collage, Navy Avionics School, Memphis, Tenn.

Military Service: 6 years, Naval Reserve, 3½ years active duty, honorable discharged.

50 years business experience.

Lived most of life in Live Oak District.

In the past, California rated next to the top in education but now it is next to the bottom and will do my best to restore our rating back to the top.

I will use my many years experience in business to get the most out of money that the district is given.

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Statement of **KAREN PALMER**, Candidate for  
Governing Board Member  
Live Oak School District

Declaración de **KAREN PALMER**, candidata para  
Miembro del Consejo de Gobierno  
Distrito Escolar de Live Oak

**Occupation:** Incumbent / Administrative Assistant

As a parent and former teacher, I believe that participation in the decision making process of public education is essential. My husband and I have been Live Oak homeowners since 1972, and the entire K-8 education for our children has been in Live Oak schools.

California schools are facing serious challenges of inadequate funding and declining enrollment while seeking the highest standards of academic excellence. Because of my experience on this Board, I am able to deal more effectively with the many aspects of managing the District's multi-million dollar budget, recruiting and hiring the best administrators and teachers, and meeting the unique needs of each child who attends our schools. My goals include:

- Maintaining a balanced budget
- Increasing compensation for teachers and all school staff
- Enhancing our exemplary school programs
- Renovating and maintaining our existing facilities

As a Board Member I want to assist parents with the difficult responsibility of rearing children in a changing world. We must help children develop all of their abilities in order to become productive, contributing members of our community by providing the highest quality education – including personnel and facilities – for the funds available. The only thing more costly than education is ignorance.

**Ocupación:** En el cargo / Asistente administrativa

Como madre y anterior maestra, creo que es esencial participar en el proceso de tomar decisiones sobre la educación pública. Mi esposo y yo hemos tenido nuestra propia casa en Live Oak desde 1972 y toda la educación de nuestros hijos, desde el jardín de infancia hasta octavo grado, ha sido en las escuelas de Live Oak.

Las escuelas de California se enfrentan con serios desafíos de financiamiento inadecuado y de reducciones en la matrícula de alumnos, en tanto que tratan de obtener las normas más altas de excelencia académica. Debido a mi experiencia en este consejo, puedo ocuparme más eficazmente de los numerosos aspectos de administrar el presupuesto multimillonario del Distrito, reclutar y contratar a los mejores administradores y maestros, y satisfacer las necesidades únicas de cada uno de los niños que asisten a nuestras escuelas. Mis metas incluyen:

- Mantener un presupuesto reconciliado
- Aumentar la compensación pagada a los maestros y a todos los empleados escolares
- Mejorar nuestros ejemplares programas escolares
- Renovar y mantener nuestra instalaciones actuales

Como miembro del consejo, deseo ayudar a los padres con la responsabilidad difícil de criar a sus niños en un mundo cambiante. Tenemos que ayudar a los niños a desarrollar todas sus capacidades para que puedan llegar a producir y aportar a nuestra comunidad, mediante una educación de la más alta calidad – incluyendo personal e instalaciones – usando los fondos disponibles. Lo único que cuesta más que la educación es la ignorancia.