



Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains

Election Information Guide

November 2022

UUCM – November 2022 Election Information Guide

State of California Candidate information sources:

- Voters Edge (easy to use) at <https://votersedge.org/ca>
- BallotPedia (some additional clicking required but good information) at <https://ballotpedia.org>

We hope the following information will help inform your voting decisions. Every election is important, especially now. Please review the enclosed candidate information.

The most important step you can take is to

VOTE.

California 3 rd Congressional District.....	3
Dr. Kermit Jones.....	3
Kevin Kiley	3
California Superintendent of Public Instruction.....	4
Lance Christensen.....	4
Tony Thurmond (Incumbent – CA Superintendent of Public Instruction)	4
Nevada County Supervisor District 3.....	5
District 3 – Patti Ingram Spencer.....	5
District 3 – Lisa Swarthout	5
Nevada Joint Union High School District (NJUHSD) Trustees	6
Nevada Joint Union High School District (NJUHSD) Trustee – Area 1	8
Olivia Pritchett, Medical Office Manager, 4 year term	8
Jenny Scicluna, Parent/Hospitality Director, 4 year term	10
Nevada Joint Union High School District (NJUHSD) Trustees – Area 2	12
Stephanie Leishman, Appointed Incumbent, 4 year term	12
Wendy Willoughby, Nonprofit Managing Director, 4 year term	14
Nevada Joint Union High School District (NJUHSD) Trustee – Area 5	16
Jay Adamson, Business Owner, 4 year term	16
Ken Johnson, Classroom Teacher, 4 year term	17

UUCM – November 2022 Election Information Guide

California 3rd Congressional District

Note: in the June 2022 Primary Election for CA District 3, Kevin Kiley received 39.7% of the vote with remaining votes split as follows: 38.7% for Kermit Jones (DEM), 16.2% for Scott Jones (REP) and 5.4% for David Peterson.

Roles and Duties of a Member of Congress at:

<https://www.everycrsreport.com/reports/RL33686.html>

Dr. Kermit Jones

Experience (source <https://www.kermitjonesforcongress.com/home#meetdrkermit>): MD and US Navy Flight Surgeon, deployed to Iraq. On return, served under President Obama as White House Fellow working with Secretary of Health & Human Services to improve quality of care for veterans.

Endorsements: CA Democratic Party, Fiona Ma, CA Treasurer, Tammy Duckworth US Senator, Congresswomen Barbara Lee, Madeleine Dean, Jackie Speir, Sara Jacobs, Congressman Ami Bera, John Garamendi, Ted Lieu, Eric Swalwell, GV Councilmembers Hilary Hodge and Thomas Ivy, Heidi Hall, Nevada County Supervisor, and others. See detailed list at <https://www.kermitjonesforcongress.com/endorsements>

Party affiliation: Democrat

Additional information: 1) <https://www.kermitjonesforcongress.com/home#meetdrkermit> and 2) quote from Kermit Jones website: “I’m running for Congress because too many people are struggling with the skyrocketing cost of care and prescription drugs...For me , it’s never been about partisan politics. I’ve treated close to 20,000 patients and I never ask if they are a Democrat or a Republican.”

Kevin Kiley

Experience (source <https://electkevinkiley.com/about/>): Bachelors from Harvard, Law Degree from Yale and Masters in secondary education from Loyola Marymount. Also served as adjunct professor at McGeorge School of Law. 5 years in CA State Assembly. Candidate to replace California Governor Gavin Newsom in a voter-initiated special recall election held in September 2021.

Endorsements: Donald J Trump, CA Republican Party, Governor Pete Wilson (ret.), Congressmen John Doolittle (ret.) and Doug Ose (ret.), Nevada County Supervisors Sue Hoek and Fran Freedle (ret.), Nevada County Assessor Sue Horne, Nevada County Treasurer Tina Vernon, and others. See detailed list at <https://electkevinkiley.com/endorsements/>

Party affiliation: Republican

Additional information: 1) <https://electkevinkiley.com/> , 2) quote from Kevin Kiley website: “Our constitutional and limited government and our personal freedoms are under attack from self-described progressives pushing massive tax hikes and radical policies. I am fighting to turn back the tide and restore our freedoms.”

UUCM – November 2022 Election Information Guide

California Superintendent of Public Instruction

Superintendent of Public Instruction is a non-partisan position, responsibilities include:

The CA Superintendent of Public Instruction is responsible for enforcing education law and regulations; and for continuing to reform and improve public elementary school programs, secondary school programs, adult education, some preschool programs, and childcare programs. See more detail at:

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/eo/mn/rr/index.asp>

Lance Christensen

Experience (source: <https://lancechristensen.com/aboutlance/>): Active in education system for last two decades. English degree from BYU. Taught 4th Grade as Educational Assistant. Oversaw budget of newly formed Department of Juvenile Justice and helped develop Proposition 98 education funding for schools in the various juvenile correctional facilities. Assistant Chair of school district finance committee. VP of Education Policy and Government Relations at California Policy Center (see

<https://californiapolicycenter.org>).

Endorsements: Tom McClintock, Kevin Kiley (CA District 3 republican candidate), Alliance of Los Angeles Parents, Alliance to Protect Children and others.

(see details at <https://lancechristensen.com/endorsements/>)

Additional information: 1) see <https://lancechristensen.com> and 2) from LA Times article at <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2022-09-20/california-superintendent-of-public-instruction-race-thurmond-vs-christensen> “Christensen, an education and government affairs director for the conservative California Policy Center, has railed against Newsom, teachers unions, comprehensive sex education, critical race theory and masks in schools during COVID-19. ...he opposes a November ballot measure to secure abortion access in the California constitution.”

Tony Thurmond (Incumbent – CA Superintendent of Public Instruction)

Experience (source: <https://www.tonythurmond.com/>): 12 years working at schools in Alameda County. Councilmember, City of Richmond 2005-2008. West Contra Costa School Board member 2008-2012. State Assemblymember 2014-2018. CA Superintendent of Public Instruction 2018-Current.

Endorsements: CA Democratic Party, Senator Alex Padilla, Congresswomen Nancy Pelosi, Karen Bass, Maxine Waters and Barbara Lee. Congressmen Eric Swalwell, Jimmy Gomez, Ted Lieu, Adam Schiff and others. (see details at <https://www.tonythurmond.com/endorsements>).

Additional information: 1) see <https://www.tonythurmond.com/> and 2) from LA Times article at <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2022-09-20/california-superintendent-of-public-instruction-race-thurmond-vs-christensen> “As superintendent, Thurmond, who was elected in 2018 after a term in the California Assembly, has been in lockstep with Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom. He has promoted LGBTQ-inclusive books in school libraries amid fights against them in some Republican-led states; issued a statement supporting abortion rights after the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe vs. Wade and launched discussions about institutional racism.”

UUCM – November 2022 Election Information Guide

Nevada County Supervisor District 3

County Supervisor responsibilities at:

<https://www.mynevadacounty.com/1038/About-the-Board-of-Supervisors>

District 3 – Patti Ingram Spencer

Experience (source <https://www.patti4supervisor.com>): Strong local public service experience, including GV City Council (8 Years), GV Mayor (2 terms), Nevada County Planning Commission, business career at title/escrow company (42 years, retired).

Endorsements: Includes out-going District 3 Supervisor Dan Miller, retired Supervisors, Doug LaMalfa, and others.

Note: Patti Ingram Spencer received 31.1% of the June 2022 Primary vote.

Party affiliation: Republican

Additional information: <https://www.patti4supervisor.com>

Quote from League of Women Voters District 3 Candidate Forum, 9/19/2022, re: question about Climate Change regulatory changes: “I’m not in favor of any kind of reduction of gas-powered machinery. Granted, we have temperature changes. I’m not a climate denier, but I’m also very skeptical about some of the information. I know that we’re always being told to believe in the science, but...which scientists you’re going to listen to...So I guess my answer would be, no, it would not be regulatory.”

District 3 – Lisa Swarthout

Experience (source <https://www.swarthoutforsupervisor.com>) : Strong local public service experience, including GV City Council (16 years), GV Mayor (2 terms), GV Planning Commission (9 years), Economic Resource Council, GV Downtown Association, founding Board Member of the Friendship Club, member of Local Agency Formation Commission (10 years), small business owner (30 years, retired). Non-profit boards including Friendship Club (founding Board Member), Silver Springs Foundation, Sammies Friends and Soroptimist International of GV, Center for the Arts, SNMH Foundation. Volunteer at Sammies Friends thrift and Nevada County Sheriff’s Office.

Endorsements: Include Nevada County Democrats, Howard Levine, Dr. Terry McAteer, Sheriff Shannan Moon and others.

Note: Lisa Swarthout received 48.4% of the June 2022 Primary vote.

Party affiliation: Democrat

Additional information: <https://www.swarthoutforsupervisor.com>

Quote from League of Women Voters District 3 Candidate Forum, 9/19/2022, re: question about Climate Change regulatory changes: “...the County should be taking measures to reduce carbon emissions. I think we need to be following state law and making sure that we’re implementing the what the state regulatory process is...We need to be looking at climate change and how land use patterns affect the climate? It’s a serious issue. I think we’ve seen it with the extreme weather that we’re having, and we’ve had this last summer, not just here in California, but across the country, I believe it’s real. I do believe in the science of climate change...I think that we need to take climate change very seriously. And I think as a community we need do our fair share of reducing Emissions in California.”

UUCM – November 2022 Election Information Guide

Nevada Joint Union High School District (NJUHSD) Trustees

There are 6 candidates, 2 each for Area 1, Area 2 and Area 5. (see NJUHSD Area Map below.)

Area 1	Olivia Pritchett	Medical Office Manager	4 year term
Area 1	Jenny Scicluna	Parent/Hospitality Director	4 year term
Area 2	Stephanie Leishman	Appointed Incumbent	2 year term
Area 2	Wendy Willoughby	Nonprofit Managing Director	2 year term
Area 5	Jay Adamson	Business Owner	4 year term
Area 5	Ken Johnson	Classroom Teacher	4 year term

Detailed candidate information is included below by candidate name.

Each candidate was asked to answer the following questions. See detailed candidate information for individual responses.

- Briefly, please describe:
 - your educational philosophy.
 - the responsibilities of a School Board member.
 - your professional experience that prepares you to carry out the responsibilities of a School Board member.
- What endorsements have you received?
- Do you believe the School Board should be involved in selecting specific classroom curricula and/or books for School Libraries?
- Are there any parts of American History that should be excluded from your School Districts curriculum?
- Do you believe the School Board should be involved in staffing decisions?

What is a School Board?

Definition of Effective School Boards (source: California School Boards Association (CSBA)

<https://www.csba.org/en/About/AboutCSBA/MissionAndVision?p=1>

CSBA recognizes that educational excellence requires a commitment to equity. California students bring a wide range of assets, abilities, backgrounds, and needs to their educational experience. Schools have an obligation to provide all students with the access and opportunities necessary for college, career, and life success. This requires school leaders to address practices, policies, and barriers that perpetuate inequities which lead to opportunity and achievement gaps.

Effective school boards are equity-driven, making intentional governance decisions that combat institutional discrimination and bias (both explicit and implicit) and eliminate disparities in educational outcomes based on socioeconomic status, gender, gender identity, gender expression, race, religion, national origin, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, or family background.

Board Member Roles & Responsibilities (source: California School Boards Association

<https://www.csba.org/en/GovernanceAndPolicyResources/EffectiveGovernance/RoleandResponsibilitiesofSBMs>

UUCM – November 2022 Election Information Guide

Citizen oversight of local government is the cornerstone of democracy in the United States. School board members are locally elected public officials entrusted with governing a community’s public schools. The role of the school board is to ensure that school districts are responsive to the values, beliefs and priorities of their communities. Boards fulfill this role by performing five major responsibilities:

- Setting direction
- Establishing an effective and efficient structure
- Providing support for Superintendent and Staff
- Ensuring accountability
- Providing community leadership as advocates for children, the school district and public schools

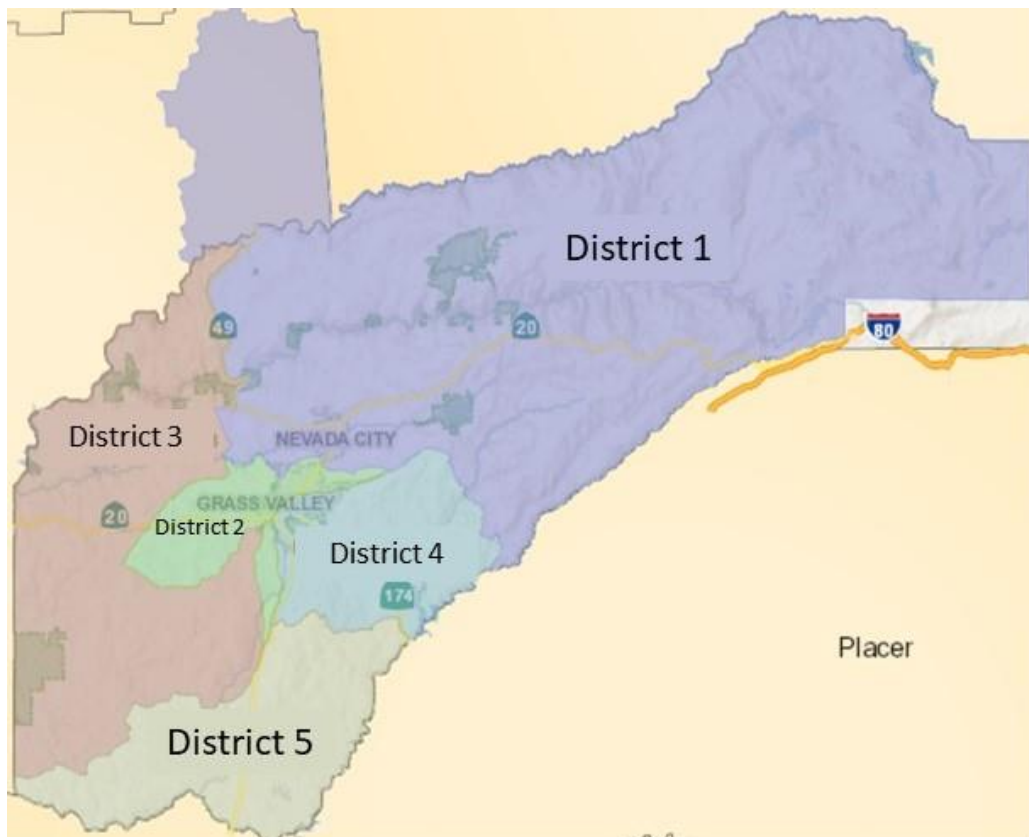
Authority is granted to the board as a whole, not each member individually. Therefore, board members fulfill these responsibilities by working together as a governance team with the superintendent to make decisions that will best serve all the students in the community.

In California, there are approximately 1,000 school districts and county offices of education that are governed by more than 5,000 school board members. California’s is the largest public school system in the nation, serving more than 6 million students — a collective student body larger than the total population of many other states.

NJUHSD Board of Trustees responsibilities: See links for: Vision, Philosophy, Goals, Nondiscrimination and Equity <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/Policy/PolicyListing.aspx?S=36030345&ptid=amIgTZiB9plushNjl6WXhfIQ=>

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See map below for Area definitions (Note: the word “District” on the map is the same as “Area”.)



UUCM – November 2022 Election Information Guide

Nevada Joint Union High School District (NJUHSD) Trustee – Area 1

Olivia Pritchett, Medical Office Manager, 4 year term

Experience: University of Illinois, majors in Psychology and Spanish. Worked in healthcare and social services. Local performer and non-profit board member. 13 year Nevada County resident. Employee and Instructional aide 2nd/3rd grade and parent at Grass Valley Charter School. Current Vice-president Nevada Union Parent Club and President NUFootball Boosters. See candidate questions below.

Endorsements: Terry McAteer, retired County Superintendent, Nevada Joint Union High School District Teachers' Association, Extensive list of former administrators, teachers and superintendents (35), Brett McFadden, former NJUHSD Superintendent, and others (see below and www.Olivia4nuboard.com)

Additional Information: www.olivia4nuboard.com

<https://www.facebook.com/Olivia-Pritchett-for-High-School-Board-103547119168574>

<https://www.instagram.com/olivia4nuboard/>

Response to UUCM Questions:

Briefly describe:

- **your educational philosophy.**
 - I believe that all children are capable of greatness. I feel that it is our job to assist all students in reaching their full potential. I recognize that all students have different paths and goals, it is important to recognize this and help support them so as to achieve these goals: higher education, career technical education or simply self-growth and discovery.
 - I believe that inspiring students, engaging students and fostering a lifelong curiosity of things are traits that can help students achieve success in anything they choose to pursue.
- **the responsibilities of a School Board member**
 - Govern the public school
 - Advocate for public education
 - Commit to student achievement
 - Establish budget priorities
 - Ensure accountability to the public
 - Model Community Leadership
- **your professional experience that prepares you to carry out the responsibilities of a School Board member.**
 - Gained understanding and perspective of diverse populations through years of professional experience in healthcare and social services. Some examples include: Social services in acute rehabilitation hospital; Coordinated and led interdisciplinary meetings with patients who suffered from traumatic brain injuries, spinal cord injuries, severe trauma with their medical team and families; Medical Office Manager/Administrator; Human Resource duties such as monitoring and evaluating employee performance; Running and interpreting financial reports of private practice; Fostering and maintaining relationships with patient population;
 - Handling conflict between employees or concerns with patients; Education: As an instructional aide for 2nd/3rd Grade participated in numerous professional development trainings geared towards practices such as conflict resolution, active listening, leadership and communication

UUCM – November 2022 Election Information Guide

- **What endorsements have you received?**
 - Terry McAteer, retired County Superintendent
 - Nevada Joint Union High School District Teachers' Association,
 - Extensive list of former administrators, teachers and superintendents (35)
 - Brett McFadden, former NJUHSD Superintendent
 - Louise Johnson, retired NJUHSD Superintendent
 - Trish Dellis, retired Nevada City Superintendent
 - Holly Hermansen, retired County Superintendent
 - Richard Baker, former School Board Trustee
 - Jamie Hogenson, Attorney
 - Jason Fouyer, former Mayor of Grass Valley
 - Janice Bronson community member
 - Additional endorsements can be found at www.Olivia4nuboard.com under “Support” tab

- **Do you believe the School Board should be involved in selecting specific classroom curricula and/or books for School Libraries?**
 - No, the School Board should not be involved in selecting specific classroom curricula and/or books for School Libraries.
 - In California, the State Board of Education decides and adopts the standards.
 - Certified Librarians are trained to curate their selection of books based on the needs and interests of the students. It should be left to them

- **Are there any parts of American History that should be excluded from your School Districts curriculum?**
 - No, studying history and understanding the past help us better understand how past events shaped where we are today. We can learn lessons from the past so we can avoid the mistakes in the future; we can continue to strive for better tomorrow for ourselves and society as a whole.

- **Do you believe the School Board should be involved in staffing decisions?**
 - No, while there are many responsibilities of a School Board Member such as evaluating the superintendent, monitoring and adjusting finances, it is expected that, ultimately, a candidate who is presented to the board has already met the qualifications established by law and has met the approval of the interview committee.

UUCM – November 2022 Election Information Guide

Nevada Joint Union High School District (NJUHSD) Trustee – Area 1

Jenny Scicluna, Parent/Hospitality Director, 4 year term

Experience: Parent, Hospitality Director, prior business owner. See response below to UUCM questions.

Endorsements: Mike Bratton (parent, grandparent and local business owner), James & Nicole Arbaugh (parents & NU Alumni), Lore Reynolds-Hamilton (parent, NU Alum), Debbie DeJesus, Vicky Greever (DeMartini, parent and NU alum) and others. See response below to UUCM questions.

Additional Information: No websites noted.

Response to UUCM Questions:

Briefly describe:

- **your educational philosophy.**
 - I believe every child has the right to go to school, feel safe and be provided a quality education. A place where curiosity is encouraged, skills and talents are fostered and as students they are challenged, held to standards and expected so achieve their full potential.
- **Responsibilities of a School Board member:**
 - The School Boards responsibility is to make sure there is a cohesive relationship between the school administration, teachers and parents with the ultimate goal of making sure the children and students are the number one priority. It is each School Board member's responsibility to remember this, to listen and to make the best decisions possible for everyone.
- **My professional experience to help me carry out these responsibilities:**
 - My professional experience and history includes excellent customer service, attention to every detail, marketing, appealing to various groups, being flexible, running and operating a very successful business I started on my own for seven years and being fiscally conservative and responsible. All of these traits and skills I have will help me when dealing with budget issues and decisions, interacting with every personality imaginable, being creative when problem solving and understanding that great things can happen when you listen and work as a team for the greater good and striving for the same goal, which in this case are the students.
- **Endorsements:**
 - Mike Bratton (parent, grandparent and local business owner), James & Nicole Arbaugh (parents & NU Alumni), Lore Reynolds-Hamilton (parent, NU Alum), Debbie DeJesus, Vicky Greever (DeMartini, parent and NU alum), Susan Keeny (teacher), Sandra Barrington (NCSD School Board member & Parent, Candace Wilson (parent), Erica Gammelgard (parent & NU Alum), Jennifer Maier (Bratton, parent and NU Alum), Vanessa Lackey (parent and teacher), Erin & Daniel Swartzendruber (parents, Erin is NU alum and local business owners), Michelle Bacon (wife of NU alum, parent & teacher), Celine Rice (parent, teacher & preschool owner), Christine Pinney (parent), Ingrid Peterson (local business owner), Matt Sowell (parent, NU alum and local business owner).
- **Do you believe the School Board should be involved in selecting specific classroom curricula and/or books for School Libraries?**
 - I believe the board should be aware of what is being selected and discussed. The board is made up of five people so there is ideally a check and balance. There should also be a select group of school administrators

UUCM – November 2022 Election Information Guide

along with the board to select what they feel is appropriate. Given the school board is legally responsible for the resources in school libraries, the school board should absolutely be involved on some level.

- **Are there any parts of American History that should be excluded from your School Districts curriculum?**
 - No

- **Do you believe the School Board should be involved in staffing decisions?**
 - When necessary, yes. The School Board is responsible for hiring the best Superintendent possible. It is the Superintendent's job to hire the most qualified individuals and educators. In the hopefully rare cases where there could be staff members posing problems that the Superintendent and Principal are unable to resolve, yes, the School Board should be used as a resource.

UUCM – November 2022 Election Information Guide

Nevada Joint Union High School District (NJUHSD) Trustees – Area 2

Stephanie Leishman, Appointed Incumbent, 4 year term

Experience: Harvard graduate. Worked at MIT for 7 years. Two graduate degrees: MBA and MSIS. Teacher, administrator, and board member. Taught/mentored student, including high school students from Spanish-speaking homes. See response below to UUCM questions for more detail.

Endorsements: Parents, community members, other Trustees. See <https://www.voteleishman.com/endorsements> for details.

Additional Information: <https://www.voteleishman.com>

Response to UUCM Questions:

Briefly describe:

- **your educational philosophy.**
 - As a board trustee, students are the priority. My guiding principles are that these students deserve:
 - an excellent education that prepares them for adulthood,
 - a safe environment in which to learn,
 - and financial accountability (how the district is using its resources to benefit its students).
 - Another one of my principles is being an active listener. I have been holding “Office Hours with Trustee Stephanie Leishman,” and any student, parent, or teacher/staff can sign up to meet with me. I have been doing many hours of these appointments and I opened more times on my calendar because I was booked solid and because people were thanking me for making time for them. I have enjoyed meeting so many people who are telling me about their experiences with the schools in the Nevada Joint Union High School District.
- **the responsibilities of a School Board member.**
 - The school board as fiduciary, which is why financial accountability is so important. Also, the board hires the superintendent, who then is responsible for the operations of the district. The board sets strategy and vision for the district.
- **your professional experience that prepares you to carry out the responsibilities of a School Board member.**
 - I am a Harvard graduate. I worked at MIT for 7 years. Also, I earned two graduate degrees: MBA and MSIS. I have been a student, teacher, administrator, and board member. I have taught and mentored students for many years, including high school students from Spanish-speaking homes. I was able to communicate with parents who did not speak English well.
 - I also have experience with school safety. I served on MIT’s emergency response committee when the university experienced a shooting, chemical spill, blizzard, fire, and suicides. I was instrumental in advising on emergency response in this digital era. I have FEMA certification in emergency response, and I have used this knowledge extensively here in California through many wildfires. I currently lead a committee that oversees emergency response for several church congregations throughout Nevada and Placer counties, covering thousands of households. I have been through several emergencies (including wildfires) in this role and have honed our approach over the past few years.
 - I have been meeting regularly with the school district’s chief business officer. I ask questions. I look for trends in spending and where the district might be overspending. I also seek to understand who the vendors are and how the district takes care of its facilities. I have done many school campus tours with the district

UUCM – November 2022 Election Information Guide

facilities director. I have a Master of Business Administration, I am a business owner, and I have been a non-profit treasurer. I have negotiated corporate leases in such a way that the non-profit paid less than their maximum willingness to pay.

- **What endorsements have you received?**
 - Parents, community members, other Trustees. See <https://www.voteishman.com/endorsements> for details.
- **Do you believe the School Board should be involved in selecting specific classroom curricula and/or books for School Libraries?**
 - NJUHSD's curriculum committee (made up of teachers, principals, and other staff) discusses and selects curricula. Curriculum choices must meet state requirements. These choices are then brought to board meetings and included on the agenda.
- **Are there any parts of American History that should be excluded from your School Districts curriculum?**
 - I believe students should learn our country's history.
- **Do you believe the School Board should be involved in staffing decisions?**
 - The one hire the board makes is the superintendent. The superintendent then makes staffing decisions when it comes to principals, teachers, and classified staff. However, personnel changes do come to the board for review. Much of the hiring and firing process is procedural and the district must follow the California education code as set forth in California law. So, when the board makes a vote, you will find that often it is because there is a law in place requiring that oversight.

UUCM – November 2022 Election Information Guide

Nevada Joint Union High School District (NJUHSD) Trustee – Area 2

Wendy Willoughby, Nonprofit Managing Director, 4 year term

Experience: 15 years, Managing Director, Center for Nonprofit Leadership. Nevada County Fair Community Involvement Coordinator.

Endorsements: Terry McAteer, retired County Superintendent, Community Leaders including: Howard Levine, Ed and Carol Scofield, Julie Baker, Julie Hardin, Susie Bavo, Jason Fouyer, Tom Cross, Bob Branstrom and Daryl Grigsby. Nevada Joint Union Highschool Teachers Association. Also see <https://www.wendy4nuboard.com/endorsements>

Additional Information: <https://www.wendy4nuboard.com>

Response to UUCM Questions:

Briefly describe:

- **your educational philosophy.**
 - I believe that accessible education is one of the many things that sets our country (and others) at a significant advantage in the world. Education goes hand in hand with democracy - you must have an educated public for that public to be a part of all that happens in that place. From my many experiences within education, I do think that education has the potential to be the great equalizer and as a democracy, we should embrace that. All children deserve a safe place to find themselves through the exploration of and learning about our world - its many ideas, activities and cultures. Our children deserve teachers/educators who embrace each student as they are and bring them along the journey of each topic they encounter with inspiration and encouragement, while offering lessons of equal importance in character and social behavior. This should be accomplished all with the overarching goal of producing contributing members of society that can think critically and act with compassion and thoughtfulness.

- **the responsibilities of a School Board member.**
 - A School Board Trustee, as laid out by the CA School Boards Association has 5 core duties:
 - Setting direction
 - Establishing an effective and efficient structure
 - Providing support
 - Ensuring accountability
 - Providing community leadership as advocates for children, the school district and public schools

I agree whole heartedly with this description.

- **your professional experience that prepares you to carry out the responsibilities of a School Board member.**
 - I have spent the last almost 15 years at the Center for Nonprofit Leadership. Although many of my responsibilities are administrative in nature, I have been lucky enough to partake of the many

UUCM – November 2022 Election Information Guide

professional development opportunities CNL has offered over the years - most focused on leadership. To add to that, I have been surrounded by community members whose aggregate knowledge and experience in leading companies, people, and nonprofits is unparalleled. Being a quick study, I have garnered extensive information around leadership and guiding entities and people. Alongside my time at CNL, I have also been employed at the Nevada County Fair. My role there as the Community Involvement Coordinator has given me opportunity after opportunity to engage with and in many ways, understand, the myriad types of community members we have here who are dedicated to Nevada County. Interfacing with these disparate folks, I feel ever confident in my ability to connect with all types of people. I believe these past years, although unbeknownst to me along the way, have been preparing me for this very moment.

- **What endorsements have you received?**
 - I am proudly endorsed by many community leaders. Howard Levine, Ed and Carol Scofield, Julie Baker, Julie Hardin, Susie Bavo, Jason Fouyer, Tom Cross, Bob Branstrom and Daryl Grigsby. I am also excited to report full endorsement by the Nevada Joint Union Highschool Teachers Association and a lengthy list of former/retired educators in the county. I can provide their letter of support if requested. Please let your members know they can learn about the growing list of endorsements at my website: <https://www.wendy4nuboard.com/endorsements>
- **Do you believe the School Board should be involved in selecting specific classroom curricula and/or books for School Libraries?**
 - I do not. This does not fall under the responsibilities of Trustees. It is not our job, nor, in most cases, would it be our area of expertise.
- **Are there any parts of American History that should be excluded from your School Districts curriculum?**
 - Our children (and some adults) should learn all of American History through unbiased and factual books/resources. We all deserve to learn about our country and how we arrived where we are now, the good AND the not-so-good.
- **Do you believe the School Board should be involved in staffing decisions?**
 - The only staffing decision that falls under the purview of the Board is hiring of the Superintendent.

UUCM – November 2022 Election Information Guide

Nevada Joint Union High School District (NJUHSD) Trustee – Area 5

Jay Adamson, Business Owner, 4 year term

Experience: 40 year Nevada County resident. Business owner. Completed 6 year term as Trustee for Pleasant Ridge Union School District. CA State Parks volunteer.

Endorsements: Pat Seeley - President NJUHSD School Board, Brian Fish - Local Police Officer, Skyler Mousley - Program Coordinator Bear River Recreation & Park District, Ethan Green - Coach Northern Sierra Swimming. No others listed.

Additional Information: <https://jayadamson.com/>

Response to UUCM Questions:

Jay Adamson responded with a reference to his website. No response provided to detailed questions.

UUCM – November 2022 Election Information Guide

Nevada Joint Union High School District (NJUHSD) Trustee – Area 5

Ken Johnson, Classroom Teacher, 4 year term

Experience: Retired high school teacher, 38 years of experience. 6 years, CA State Commission on Education representing California's 325,000 teachers.

Endorsements: Terry McAteer, retired County Superintendent, Nevada Joint Union High School District Teachers' Association, Extensive list of former administrators, teachers and superintendents (35), Brett McFadden, former NJUHSD Superintendent, and others.

Additional Information: <https://sites.google.com/view/voteforken/home>

Response to UUCM Questions:

Briefly describe:

- **your educational philosophy.**
 - All students have different types of skills, talents, and needs, so we need to have a robust college readiness program along with a vocational ed program that is just as robust. All parents know that each of their children have different strengths. This allows us to tailor our schools to help each student based on where they are. As well, students need to feel physically and emotionally safe while they're at school. No learning will take place if a student is worried about their safety.
- **the responsibilities of a School Board member.**
 - A trustee's responsibilities include passing policies that are consistent with California Ed Code to operate public schools and making sure those policies are carried out. Also, informally, in my opinion, they are to attend school events in a leadership capacity to promote goodwill and support for public schools. It shouldn't be about attending a meeting once a month.
- **your professional experience that prepares you to carry out the responsibilities of a School Board member.**
 - I am a retired high school teacher with 38 years of experience. I was also trained to analyze school district budgets so we can make sure every tax dollar is spent on effective instruction for the students. Also, I was appointed to a state commission on education and served six years. I was the only teacher on the committee, so my responsibility was to serve as the teacher voice for California's 325,000 teachers.

I worked with my local school board to raise teacher salaries so the district could be competitive and hire the best and the brightest to work with our students. As a result, veteran teachers transferred to our district.

- **What endorsements have you received?**
 - I am proud to have received the endorsement of the local classroom teachers. As well, I have received the endorsement of a large group of retired local school administrators which will be announced next week. I have also received the endorsement of Ed Scofield, Area 2 County Supervisor.
- **Do you believe the School Board should be involved in selecting specific classroom curricula and/or books for School Libraries?**

UUCM – November 2022 Election Information Guide

- No. Classroom curriculum should be selected from the curriculum approved by the state board of education. A committee of grade level educators, the ones who would be using the curriculum, should be formed and led by a school administrator. Libraries should consist of books approved by the state board of education and selected by the school librarian.
- **Are there any parts of American History that should be excluded from your School Districts curriculum.**
 - No. Again, books should be selected from the California list of approved history books by the State Board of Education. It is a rigorous process composed of a committee of veteran classroom educators. I do want to also comment from a personal perspective, I taught American History for 38 years at the junior high and high school level. I never heard of CRT until the last two years. 99% of history teachers do not force their opinion on the students. They present the facts as stated in the books and let the students form their own opinions. The most exciting part of teaching history for me was to see each student examine, analyze, and evaluate history and form their own options.
- **Do you believe the School Board should be involved in staffing decisions?**
 - Not directly except when it comes to hiring a superintendent. Usually, the Human Resources person will form a committee to interview and hire staff whether it be certificated, classified, or administrative. The Board would then formally approve hires at meetings, but the trustees should trust the hiring committee and follow their recommendations. This helps to avoid charges of nepotism and allows the best and brightest to be hired. Our students deserve that.