

For Immediate Release

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Dave Pine Announces Candidacy for SMUHSD Board of Trustees

BURLINGAME, CA. (June 27, 2007) - Burlingame School Board President Dave Pine announced his candidacy today for a seat on the San Mateo Union High School District's Board of Trustees.

"With a new Superintendent soon to be hired and possibly two new members joining the school board, the next few years presents a unique opportunity to strengthen the District for the benefit of our students and the entire community," Pine said. "As an education leader, a business attorney and an active participant in the community, I believe I have the skills and experience to make a difference as part of a new leadership team."

In making his announcement, Pine said, "My first priority would be to improve the fiscal health of the District and to make sure the District's construction projects are managed responsibly and within budget. In particular, it is imperative that the District use a portion of its Measure M bond funds to hire or retain its own construction experts to carefully manage the District's facilities improvements." Pine also emphasized that maintaining a strong standing citizens budget advisory committee and construction oversight committee were critical for achieving these goals.

Other areas that Pine said he would focus on as a Board member include:

- Involving teachers, staff and the community in a dialogue about the District's priorities and future direction.
- Providing a rigorous, standards-based curriculum for all students whether they are planning to enter college or the workforce.
- Expanding vocational education, including developing joint training programs with local trade unions.
- Closing the achievement gap.
- Establishing a vibrant District-wide foundation to raise additional funds for educational programs.
- Improving collaboration with the District's feeder schools to make sure 8th grade students are prepared for high school work.
- Helping students make successful transitions to work or college.
- Increasing foreign language opportunities, particularly in Mandarin.

- Serving the needs of special education students.
- Developing a more extensive housing assistance program for teachers and staff, including possibly constructing housing as has been done by the SMC Community College District.
- Exploring the feasibility of amending the Measure M facilities bond to use a portion of the funds to pay some or all of the District's existing construction debt.
- Establishing a charter high school in Foster City with an emphasis on mathematics and science as well as project-based learning.

Pine would bring to the SMUHSD Board a long record of educational leadership. In addition to his service on the Burlingame school board, he co-chaired three successful parcel tax/facilities bond campaigns, was the President of the San Mateo County School Boards Association, and served as a senior policy advisor on education issues for Steve Westly's 2006 gubernatorial campaign. A summary of Pine's education activities and other qualifications is included with this press release.

Pine also has considerable expertise in special education advocacy where he has been active at the local, county and state level. "With the demand for special education services rapidly increasing in the District, we must find ways to offer high quality and cost effective educational programs for our special needs students," Pine said.