

SOMERTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #11

2024 School Board Candidates:

Juan Castillo:



My name is Juan F. Castillo and I am seeking my third term to serve as a School Board Member for the Somerton School District. I bring a wealth of knowledge and experience as I've been in the education field for 20 plus years. I am a firm believer that all decisions need to be supported by data. Within the eight years serving, I have been voted in by my peers to serve as President for the past six years. As President I ensure that all board meetings are run efficiently, respectfully and professionally. It is imperative that all board members voice their concerns in a respectful manner without the fear of reprisal. I strive to create a safe and transparent environment for all. Moreover, I am also currently serving as the Yuma County Director for the Arizona School Board Association. I am currently in my third year. In conclusion, my door is always open for positive or constructive feedback to any community stakeholder.

Cristina Clark:



It is with esteemed pleasure that I, Cristina Clark, am a candidate seeking a second term for the upcoming elections to continue to serve my community and all stakeholders as a Governing School Board Member for the Somerton School District. My experience working within a neighboring district for the past 20+ years has equipped me with essential skills in understanding the educational realm as a whole. During my appointment I have learned the

importance of having engaged and transparent decorum when making board decisions for the betterment of the staff, students, and community. I would like to ensure that the educational system in Somerton maintains its values in ensuring a positive, safe and inclusive environment for all staff and students. I seek the support of my fellow community members in this endeavor as together we can work towards a future where our students can thrive within our educational establishments and beyond!

Lorena Delgadillo:

No Response Submitted.

Elizabeth B. Merino:

There are few issues as important to the health of a society as the education of their children. The American system of public education is one of the most important factors that has enabled us to achieve the level of opportunity we are fortunate to enjoy. In order to maintain our comfortable lifestyle it is vital that we preserve our quality schools. Each of us must take an active interest in the support of our local school districts to ensure that our children have excellent teachers who have the support and materials needed to teach to the best of their ability.

I am ready and willing to take my turn serving the Somerton community as a member of the governing board of our elementary school district. As an experienced teacher with 25 years in the classroom, I am fully aware of what quality education looks like. I earned a Master's degree in Educational Leadership and hold an administrator certificate. As a result I have the knowledge of what it takes to meet the needs of the teachers so that excellence can be maintained. Not only did I teach at Somerton Middle School for 12 years but I have lived in the District for 29 years so I am aware of the unique characteristics of our population. All of these factors give me the expertise to work with the other board members to ensure that our school district functions efficiently so that our teachers can provide the education our children deserve. Since I am now retired I have ample time to devote to this position.

Please consider my qualifications when you vote for the Somerton School District Governing Board. I would be honored to win your vote.

Thank you for reading my statement.

Elizabeth B. Merino