



## 10 OCT '20 - FROM THE EDITORIAL PAGE

---

Good Evening!

A number of readers have called or emailed with questions about the candidates running for seats on the Templeton Unified School District (TUSD) Board of Trustees (school board) and the Templeton Community Services District (TCSD) Board of Directors (town council).

The town of Templeton and Templeton's school district have been very fortunate to have so many interested residents step forward to fill open seats on the two boards. But with little or no information on the candidates, it is very difficult to sort through the choices and make an informed vote.

Due to COVID-19 and its impact on staffing, active members, monetary resources, and significant restrictions on in-person meetings, none of Templeton's local organizations have been available to sponsor and/or organize candidates forums.

In answer to the many reader inquiries, Soaring Eagle Press has been offering the following thoughts for consideration by local voters. I hope you find this of value.

Due to the exceptionally challenging times we are living and working in, and the distinct possibility that California will remain in a state of great uncertainty coupled with a looming budgetary crisis, it is absolutely necessary that incumbents be considered first by the voter.

In my experience, it usually takes at least one term for members of either board to learn the ropes as the issues that they deal with are complex. No matter how much a new board member may think they know – or what personal skills and life/work experiences they may bring to the table – almost every new board member I've ever spoken to comes to the realization that there is a significant learning curve over the first term of office to become a knowledgeable, capable Director or Trustee.

This is not the time for new board members who will almost certainly have a steep learning curve during a time in which many difficult decisions will have to be made. For that reason, I believe it would be in the best interests of our town and school

district to return all incumbents to their respective boards.

If every incumbent running is chosen, that would fill the three seats up for election on Templeton's town council (TCSD Board of Directors) and fill two of the three seats up for election on the school board (TUSD Board of Trustees).

That would leave one open seat on the school board. It is critical that whoever is chosen for that seat has a strong work ethic, and has been already working to get up to speed as quickly as possible by attending board meetings, meeting with District Administrators, and learning everything they can.

Barring a miracle, it is highly likely that drastic cuts will need to be made to the District budget – the process will be extremely stressful and difficult for everyone involved from District employees, students, and families to the Trustees making the decisions. The ramifications of these decisions will be far ranging and debilitating.

The new Trustee filling the last empty seat on the school board will need to have deep roots within the community along with a very supportive family and center of influence coupled with a great deal of courage in addition to a strong work ethic in order to function well.

In my opinion, there is only one new candidate on the ballot who has these necessary attributes – Swan.

Hope there's something of value here for your consideration.

Thank you.

Wishing you and yours health and well-being,

Nanette Fisher, Editor/Publisher Soaring Eagle Press

©2020 Soaring Eagle Press | PO Box 132, Templeton, California 93465

[Web Version](#)

[Subscribe](#)

[Forward](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)

Powered by  
**GoDaddy Email Marketing**®