

For Member of the Board of Education, Albany Unified School District
Charles Blanchard
Occupation: Incumbent
Age: 65

I care deeply about Albany's schools. I bring enthusiasm, experience, and a willingness to work with community and staff to provide quality public education, serve all students equitably, build new facilities, and balance the budget. As a parent of children who attended Albany schools K-12, I chaired or co-chaired three PTAs and one school site council, devoted time to community fundraising, and served on advisory committees. When devastating budget cuts occurred in the early 2000s, I ran for the Board of Education. Between 2004 and 2008, I served as Board president and vice-president for two years each. I worked to build consensus and restore the educational program. I contributed to renovation of Cougar Field and construction of the new Albany Pool. After leaving the Board, I served on the AUSD Strategic Plan Committee, the Albany Pool Sustainability Committee, and the City of Albany Sustainability Committee. I am an environmental scientist – connecting my professional experience to the needs of our schools is especially rewarding. I rejoined the Board in 2014 to ensure that new AUSD buildings would be sustainable, well-designed, and long-lasting. I seek excellent public education for all students in a safe and supportive environment.