



PRESS RELEASE

May 4, 2010

San Leandro Education Foundation announces appointment of new board members for the 2010-11 school year; invites others interested to apply

[San Leandro, CA May 3, 2010] The San Leandro Education Foundation (SLED) announced today the appointment of Jessica Baiocchi, Louis Heystek and Dawn Valadez to the Board of Directors for the 2010-2011 school year. Baiocchi and Valadez each have a son attending a San Leandro Unified School District (SLUSD) school and Heystek is a former SLUSD Board of Education Trustee. All three are San Leandro residents.

“We are excited about these additions to our Board,” said Board President Deborah Cox. “All three of them bring a great deal of experience, talent and passion to the Board. Each is passionate about public education and dedicated to improving opportunities and access to quality educational experiences for San Leandro children.”

Jessica Baiocchi is the admissions director and program coordinator for Raskob Learning Institute and Day School in Oakland and collaborates with Holy Names University on grant writing and fundraising events to develop school-wide programs bridging enrichment and academics. She sits on the Raskob Advisory Board and serves as administrative liaison to the Raskob Parent Association. The proud parent of a second grade son at Washington Elementary School, Jessica is an active volunteer in the classroom and on campus.

At age 19, **Louis Heystek** was elected to the San Leandro Board of Education in 1998, making him the youngest person ever elected to public office in San Leandro. During his eight years on the School Board, Louis is most proud to have helped implement Measure A and later pass Measure B, the two school facilities bonds which have invested \$163.8 million (plus millions more in matching funds) in

revamping every campus in San Leandro. Louis has worked as a staffer on several regional political campaigns and is now a licensed Realtor with Prudential California Realty. While earning a B.A. in Political Science, with a Minor in Dutch Studies from the University of California at Berkeley, he also earned an A.A. in Radio & Television Broadcasting from Chabot College. He and his wife live in San Leandro's Broadmoor neighborhood.

As development Director for Davis Street Family Resource Center, **Dawn Valadez** leads the effort to secure individual donations, corporate funds, and private/ public grants that provide a critical safety net for the individuals and families living in San Leandro and beyond. The services Davis Street provides to working poor families in Central Alameda County range from basic needs assistance and childcare to health care and housing to over 19,000 individuals annually. She is currently leading the Center's \$3.5 million capital campaign. Ms. Valadez is the parent of a teenage son who attends Bancroft Middle School, and is also the producer of the award winning documentary about pre-teen girls, *Going on 13*. She is committed to social justice and improving the lives of others.

The San Leandro Education Foundation is a non-profit dedicated to raising resources and improving the lives and education of children in the San Leandro Unified School District (SLUSD). According to Jill Raimondi, Treasurer, SLED is also encouraging those with marketing experience to volunteer or consider applying to the Board for the 2010-11 school year. To learn more about SLED, please visit the website at www.sledfund.org, send an email to info@sledfund.org, or call 510.618.4483.

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