

Meet the Board of Trustees

PRESIDENT ANNA L. PIERCY was elected in 2006. She earned an associate of arts degree from Long Beach City College and a bachelor's degree from Cal State



Long Beach in social studies and geography, with a minor in art and English. She also has a California Standard Life, secondary-teaching credential from Cal State Long Beach. Ms. Piercy

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CLERK JAN HARP DOMENE was elected to the board in November 2010. Mrs. Domene is a product of the Anaheim Union High School District, as are her



husband and their three children. Mrs. Domene attended Sycamore Junior High School, and graduated from Anaheim High School in 1969. She studied journalism at Fullerton College and Cal

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ASSISTANT CLERK BRIAN O'NEAL has been a trustee since 2002. He earned a bachelor's degree in business administration at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, and a master's degree in business administration at California State



University, Dominguez Hills. He continued his education at California State University Fullerton, taking courses in

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KATHERINE H. SMITH has served on the board since 1996. She attended Santa Rosa Junior College, the University of Nevada at Reno and California State University at Hayward,



with a major in elementary education. Mrs. Smith was an elementary teacher at Sherwood Academy; a volunteer in the presidential campaign of Sen. Barry Goldwater; volunteer in the grass-roots movement for

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JORDAN BRANDMAN was elected to the board in February 2008. A lifelong resident of Orange County, Mr. Brandman attended local public schools and earned his bachelor's degree in political science



from the University of California, Irvine. While in college, Mr. Brandman was a student classroom instructor for the Advancement Via Individual Determination

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was a part-time salesgirl, bank clerk, aviation statistician, and clerical temp before beginning her 37-year career in the AUHSD. From 1968 to 1979, she taught 7th grade geography, art and reading at Trident Junior High School; speech and drama and art at Oxford Junior High School, 1979-1980; history, English, speech, drama and art at Lexington Junior High School from 1980 to 2005, when she retired. Ms. Piercy also served on the Cypress City Council from 1996 to 2004, as mayor in 2000 and mayor pro

tem in 1999 and 2004. She was on the Orange County Sanitation Board of Directors from 1998-2004, the Orange County Library Board from 1997-1999 and 2000-2004 and the Orange County Fire Authority, as an alternate, from 1997-98. Ms. Piercy lives in Cypress and has two daughters – Kenna, a teacher in the AUHSD, who has provided her with a granddaughter, Katelyn Ann, and Cameron, a medical assistant, who has given her her grandsons, Colin and David.

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State Fullerton, leaving before earning her degree to raise her family and run the family business. Mrs. Domene began her involvement in public education in 1975 as a volunteer in her daughter's classroom. She subsequently joined the school's PTA, which changed the course of her life. She would go on to serve in numerous local PTA leadership roles before becoming California State PTA president in 2001. From there, she served the National PTA as a member of the board of directors, chair of the strategic planning committee, secretary-treasurer, and president-elect, before being elected to a two-year term as National PTA president in 2007. During her 35 years with the PTA, Mrs. Domene facilitated collaborative partnerships with many education, health, safety, and child advocacy groups to benefit children and provide valuable resources to PTA members. As president, she raised the level of parent involvement nationwide by increasing PTA membership and strengthening outreach to diverse communities. Outside of the PTA, Mrs. Domene has held volunteer positions with the Red Cross, the

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, and the Special Olympics Committee. She also has served on: the advisory boards of PBS and the Prevention of Youth Violence Task Force; the executive committee of the National Learning First Alliance; the California Education Coalition; the Anaheim High School Alumni Association; California Task Force on Child Nutrition; MADD's Advisory Committee on Teenage Drinking; and the EdSource Board of Directors. In addition, she was a member of the AUHSD Budget Committee, Instructional Materials Review Committee, and Parent Advisory Council. Her many honors include awards from then-Senator Barack Obama, President Clinton, U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer, U.S. Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez, and state Senator Lou Correa. In 2009, she was named Woman of the Year by Cypress College. Mrs. Domene and her family own an event and party planning company. In addition to their three children, Mr. and Mrs. Domene have five grandchildren.

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excellence in manufacturing management, and has completed certification courses for production and inventory control. Now retired, Mr. O'Neal was in operations and manufacturing management for over 25 years with the most recent responsibility being with a Nissan Motor Corp. affiliate in Wilmington. Mr. O'Neal is a member of the board of La Palma Intercommunity Hospital, a former La Palma city councilman and a former member of an OCTA transit committee. His community volunteer activities include being a founding director and current president of the Scholarship Foundation

of John F. Kennedy High School; participation as a Boy Scout adult leader for 25 years and still active; formerly serving on the Board of Youth 20/20; and acting as Neighborhood Watch Block captain for 24 years. In addition, Mr. O'Neal was honored with the Navy Achievement Medal for service in Vietnam and was a recipient of the Boy Scouts of America's Award of Merit. A La Palma resident, Mr. O'Neal has two sons: Scott, 34, an orthopedic surgeon, and Eric, 30, a manufacturing engineer. He also has two grandchildren.

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Gov. Ronald Reagan; docent at The Richard Nixon Presidential Library & Museum; a substitute teacher for the Magnolia School District; the owner and operator of an interior decorating business; lecturer for a master's course at USC's Delinquency Control Institute (DCI) for international police officers on innovative ideas to reduce crime; lecturer on the topic at Chapman University, Long Beach State University, and Fullerton College; a member of the Parents' Board at Servite High School; vice president of the substance and alcohol abuse committee at Servite; and real estate owner and manager for 42 years. Mrs. Smith, the founder of GRASP (Group

Resolving Anti-Social Problems), a nonprofit corporation dedicated to finding and implementing solutions to gang-related problems. GRASP has promoted the implementation of school uniforms state and nationwide. She was one of eight national recipients selected from among 1,200 nominees for the George Washington Honor Medal, bestowed by the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge in 1994. She was also the originator and co-founder of the National Coalition for Drug Policy Change, founded in 1993 at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University. continued on page 4

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Program. From 2002-2004, he served as a policy adviser in the Governor's Office for the Secretary of Education. In that position, he advised the governor and secretary on education policy issues including high school reform, education technology, career technical education, school facilities, after school programs, accountability and assessment, and child care/school readiness. From 2004-2006, he served as a legislative aide in the California State Assembly, advising on policy issues including education, local government, and transportation. Mr. Brandman then returned to Orange County to serve as director of workforce development for the Orange County Business Council. He was responsible for designing and

implementing strategies and programs to help develop a 21st century workforce to meet the county's long-term employment needs. Currently, Mr. Brandman is a director for his family's environmental planning and consulting firm, Michael Brandman Associates. Mr. Brandman also has a history of community service. Currently, he is a member of the Anaheim Public Utilities Board; a member of the boards for the Anaheim Family YMCA and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Anaheim; member of the Anaheim Chamber of Commerce; Orange County Taxpayers Association; and the Kiwanis Club of Greater Anaheim. Mr. Brandman lives in the Anaheim Colony Historic District.

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The coalition was successful in gaining the inclusion of the Hoover Resolution in the 1994 Federal Crime Bill. Among the original signers of the resolution were noted economist Dr. Milton Friedman and former U.S. Secretary of State George Schultz. Mrs. Smith turned to statewide politics in 2002, when her ballot statement pulled her through the primary to launch a campaign for California Superintendent Public Education, based on her accomplishments. In her 14 years on the school board, Mrs. Smith is proud of the many positive innovations she has championed, including: a daily Moment of Silence; classroom postings of The Golden Rule; academic attire for students and teachers; of a five-minute clean-up bell to teach respect for public and private property;

clean restrooms; to teach respect for public and private property; clean restrooms; establishment of the Character Counts program; championing career technical education (CTE); and placing cardiac defibrillators in all schools. Her greatest achievement as the creator and innovator of Oxford Academy will live on for generations of students across the district. Oxford Academy, since its founding, has ranked number one in Orange County and is in the top five nationally, according to U.S. News and World Report in 2009. A 45-year Anaheim resident, Mrs. Smith has been married since 1963 to S. Clarke Smith, M.D. They have two sons who are USC and Chapman University graduates and four grandchildren.

The five members of the Anaheim Union High School District Board are elected at large to four-year terms. Terms are staggered so there are openings every two years. Board members must live within AUHSD boundaries.

The Board of Trustees is committed to providing the leadership necessary to meet the district's mission:

- Provide each student with a high quality educational program in a safe, motivating, learning environment that promotes:
- High academic achievement based on a strong foundation of knowledge and skills
- Development of habits and attitudes for a lifetime of learning
- Exploration and preparation in a broad range of career and interest areas
- Commitment to responsible citizenship

Citizen oversight of local government is the cornerstone of democracy in the United

States. It is the foundation that has lasted through the turbulent centuries since our nation came into being. Today, nearly 100,000 citizens serve local communities as school board members, the largest single category of elected public officials in the United States. In California, more than 5,000 school board members govern the more than 1,000 school districts and county offices of education. California has the largest public school system in the nation, with the most diverse student body.

The school districts for which board members are responsible are multi-million dollar corporations. They are often the largest employer in a community, have the largest transportation and food service operations, and have the greatest number of facilities to maintain.