

School board races packed

Incumbents face challenges in 10 High Desert districts

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The deadline for incumbents and challengers to file in November's general election has passed, and among contested political positions are seats within 10 local community college and school boards.

With the Nov. 8 election quickly approaching, the candidate lineup of Victor Valley and Barstow community college districts and eight High Desert K-12 school districts are a mix of familiar and fresh faces.

For the VVC Board of Trustees, incumbents Joseph W. Brady and John Pinkerton will vie for two available seats against four challengers: Thomas J. Kerman, a teacher; Davis "Wes" Gregg, an information systems technician; Bob Conaway and Margaret H. Kagy, a retired college employee.

Brady, who is president of The Bradco Companies, a commercial brokerage firm serving the High Desert region, has said running for his second term on VVC's board will also be his "last political run."

Pinkerton, who earlier this year ran in the primary for the 8th Congressional District, is also seeking his second term at VVC after most recently serving as the board president. He also works in Victorville as a counselor at Silverado High School.

Within BCC's board race are also two incumbents, Ted P. Baca and Fernando "Fred" Baca. They are joined in the race by finance manager Patricia Rosenberg, operations supervisor Elbert W. Muncy III and John D. Coffey.

Additional to the eight K-12 school districts with challenged seats are three districts with seats which incumbents will automatically fill, unchallenged. Apple Valley Unified School District has incumbents filling two seats while Oro Grande School District and Silver Valley Unified School District each have one.

Here is the candidate lineup of High Desert K-12 school districts:

Adelanto Elementary School District

Holly Eckes — incumbent

Mary E. Anderson — retired county employee

Christine Turner — parent

Barstow Unified School District

Julie Clemmer — incumbent; businesswoman

Barbara Mae Rose — incumbent

Pat Aleman — retired

Kris Okamuro — businessman; gym owner

Randy Ehresman — retired

Helendale School District

Jennifer Lynn Funt — incumbent

Maria S. Ferrin — incumbent

Michael A. Esposito — educator

Heather Allgood — parent

Hesperia Unified School District

Ella M. “Lee” Rogers — incumbent; retired educator

Cody C. Gregg — incumbent

Bill Jensen — real estate broker

Maria Teresa Gomez — educational liaison

Rusty Caldwell — project engineer

Lucerne Valley Unified School District

Tommy Edward Courtney Sr. — incumbent

Mavrick Von Haug — incumbent

Jean Morgan — retired

Ruben David Medina — parent

Snowline Joint Unified School District

David L. Nilsen — incumbent

Linda G. Mc Inerny — retired educator

Lorri Greer — instructional associate

Richard C. Upshaw — school principal

Paul A. Friend — occupation unavailable

Victor Elementary School District

Joyce Cross Chamberlain — incumbent

Gabriel Luis Stine — incumbent

Patty Plaxton — retired district employee

Victor Valley Union High School District

Rosalio “Rosie” Hinojos — incumbent

Barbara James Dew — incumbent

Jose “Joe” Berrios — retired teacher

Ken Larson — school administrator/contractor

The Daily Press is planning to host forums with all of the candidates running for the school districts listed, as well as for both community colleges. Dates will be announced soon.

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