



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 23, 2015

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Chamber Endorses Candidates in February 3rd School Board Election

Ten candidates are up for three available Albuquerque Public School Board seats and today the Board of Directors of the Greater Albuquerque Chamber of commerce issued endorsements in those three races. The school board election will take place on Tuesday, February 3, 2015. “The Chamber has been in discussions over endorsing APS candidates and decided to endorse in all three races,” said Jed Fanning, Vice Chair, Workforce Development and Education Committee. “We believe we should be doing everything we can to ensure the best chance of reforming education by electing candidates that are collaborative and student-centered.” The Chamber’s endorsements are as follows:

District 1—Analee Maestas (incumbent and current APS Board Member President)

Analee Maestas has been the Executive Director at La Promesa Early Learning Center Charter School for the last 7 years. She has a Ph.D. in Special Education and a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from UNM. Ms. Maestas says that she has spent her professional career looking for opportunities to improve learning for students regardless of their ethnic, economic, or special needs.

District 2—Peggy Muller-Aragon

Peggy Muller-Aragon has a bachelor’s degree in elementary education and a master’s in education administration from UNM. She’s a retired teacher from APS. Ms. Muller-Aragon says that she wants to bring a sense of civility, objectivity, and a working knowledge of the classroom to the board. She wants equal access to a quality education for all students. As a parent and retired teacher, she knows that education is a societal equalizer.

District 4—Mark J. Gillboard

Mark J. Gillboard works for Clear Channel Outdoor. He has a bachelor’s in rhetoric and Spanish and a master’s degree in communication. He and his wife are APS parents with two young daughters that attended Bandelier Elementary School. He’s a member of the PTA is a former Rio Grande High School Volleyball coach. Mr. Gillboard is the son of a retired life-long

special education teacher and wants to help shape the future policies and direction of the APS school system.

The Chamber Board voted unanimously in favor of endorsing the slate presented today. The Chamber is encouraging all of its members to vote early or by absentee ballot. Early voting ends January 30. The deadline to request an application for an absentee ballot is January 29.

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About the Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce

The Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce mission is to make our community a place where businesses can grow and prosper, where people want to raise their families and where tourists want to visit. As the voice of business since 1917, we envision New Mexicans living in safe neighborhoods, working in rewarding careers at thriving businesses, while their children attend great schools, and enjoy their leisure time in one of the most beautiful regions on Earth. More information about the Chamber is accessible online at www.abqchamber.com.

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