

Candidate Statement, Alameda Unified School District Board of Education

Name: Heather Little

Occupation: Education Non-profit Director, Community Activist, Parent

As an early childhood advocate with the First 5 Association and a former special education teacher, I understand how important it is that children of all backgrounds and abilities are supported to thrive--especially during challenging times. I bring collaborative problem-solving skills to the table through serving on Alameda's Open Government Commission and Girls Inc. of the Island City board, and a deep understanding of children's social-emotional needs through 16 years at Seneca Family of Agencies. As the parent of two teenagers in Alameda schools, I am devoted to public education, and passionate about continuing to build a district of equity, inclusion, excellence, and innovation. I know families can be frustrated by systems that are meant to support them, and have learned to ask of every proposal: which children will benefit, which will be left out, and which will be harmed if this proposal passes? I am prepared for the challenging discussion and decisions ahead, and will listen to stakeholders every step of the way.