

**OJAI UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
APPLICATION TO FILL BOARD OF EDUCATION VACANCIES
TRUSTEE AREA #4**

DEADLINE: 4 p.m., April 25, 2023

(Please Print Name & Address)

Name: Azzam Claire M
(Last) (First) (Initial)

Business Address: _____

City: _____ State: CA Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Home Address: _____

City: Ojai State: CA Zip: 93023 Phone: _____

Email: _____

Any Former Names Used: _____

Occupation & Employer: Optometrist Self employed

Number of Years Residing in the District: 7 yrs

Do you have children in the District's school? Yes No What grades are they in? K, 1st, 6th Ages: 6, 7, 11

Have any family members attended District Schools? Yes No Which schools? _____

Dates of attendance? _____

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: (Voluntary. Not Required.)

High School College/University	State	Degree/Units	Year Issued	Major/Minor
<u>Simi High</u>	<u>CA</u>	<u>HS diploma</u>	<u>1999</u>	
<u>UCLA</u>	<u>CA</u>	<u>BS</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>Psych/bio</u>
<u>SUNY Optometry</u>	<u>NY</u>	<u>OD</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>Dr of optometry</u>

LANGUAGE COMPETENCIES:

List language competencies, other than English: _____

(Please Use Additional Paper, If Needed)

1. Why do you want to be a school Board Member?

2. Please discuss your interest in and commitment to the Ojai Unified School District.

3. Identify the most significant issues in public education generally and in the Ojai Unified School District specifically. State the ways you believe the District should respond to these issues.

4. What do you see as the major responsibilities of a Board Member?

5. How does the Board's role differ from that of the Superintendent?

6. What should be the relationship between Board members and District administration in the handling of school concerns?

7. Please identify and discuss the areas of knowledge or expertise that you would bring to the Board.

8. Have you worked on any school committees or participated in any school activities recently? If so, please list them.

9. List any other community or business activities in which you have participated. Describe your role, and whether your work was as a volunteer or employee.

1. Over the past six months, I have played an active role in all public meetings related to our districts fiscal crisis. I took the position that our superintendent was ultimately responsible for the position we found ourselves in. However, the role of superintendent reports to the school board and the board itself must also shoulder some of the responsibility. I was also critical of the candidate the board voted to approve as interim superintendent. Ultimately, my role along with many others in our community led to the resignation of our superintendent and two board members. My interest on serving on the board is to help in rebuilding what has been dismantled. Part of that process will be restoring trust with the community. A critical piece of that trust and re-building process will be the vetting and hiring of the next superintendent.

2. My commitment and interests are rooted in the children of our community, including my own who attend schools in Ojai Unified. I believe a thriving community must have a thriving public school system that not only prepares our youth to take the next step in their academic career, but also provides multiple avenues to explore outside the classroom through community involvement, clubs, athletics, and the arts. The district should constantly be working to provide and support these opportunities.

3. Funding and fiscal responsibility, along with providing and meeting the needs of every child to prepare them in their next stage in life are the most important issues that public-school face. Our district clearly ran into some problems relating to fiscal responsibility. Balancing our budget and prioritizing our funding where it matters most are the key to meeting these challenges.

If we want to prepare students we need to prioritize hiring and retaining the best teachers. This should be one of the most important factors as it relates to budgeting. Developing holistic programming outside the classroom also needs to be factored related to budgeting. When we have shortfalls as it relates to enrichment programs, we should work creatively to raise the necessary funds to meet these needs and steward those funds responsibly. A large portion of our funding is based on enrollment. The stronger the academics and enrichment programs are, the more likely folks will choose to enroll their kids in our public schools. We also need to make sure we are doing everything we can to tackle the attendance issues in our schools.

4. Hiring and holding our administration accountable for the success of the district is a major responsibility. As a board member you are also responsible to stay informed as it relates to all decisions the board is required to vote on. It is also important to involve our community in major decisions and build trust with all our stakeholders through transparency and professionalism.

5. In general, boards are elected by the community to set priorities, establish policies and evaluate the outcomes of district operation. Superintendents identify needs and policies, develop regulations, provide leadership, and manage the day-to-day operation of the district.

6. Like all relationships, it should be based on trust and transparency. The success of our school district is the goal and is in the best interest of both the board and the administration. The approach should be to solve problems together.

7. I have three current students in the district at both the elementary level and the middle school/high school level. I think this adds great value as to what is important to all the parents of this community. I also run my own optometry practice. Running a small business requires you to solve problems, learn to manage relationships, manage resources, along with developing many other operational and leadership skills.

8. I will admit I have not been as involved as I would have loved to be in the past 7 years. I took over my practice five years ago and have had to invest a lot of energy in that pursuit as well as being a mother and wife. I am fortunate at this time that my practice has not only survived the Thomas Fire as well as COVID but that I am in a situation that I am able to pull myself away from it more now than I was able to previously.

The most recent volunteering I have done is in the classroom of my two younger children. I helped in their art class and also a Meadow Walk. I have attended all but one board meeting since I started going several months ago.

9. I am affiliated with the Lions Club and offer heavily discounted exams and eyewear to the organization for any child they deem is in need of such services. I have donated sunglasses and services to Meiners Oaks Elementary for auctions as well as Beat the Streets, a non-profit my husband works for. I have also volunteered at many Beat the Streets events handing out gear for the athletes the non-profit serves.

10. The only experience I have in this area is running my own small business.

10. Please describe any expertise or experience you may have in the areas of finance, school finance, fiscal matters, education, or service on public boards.

11. Please fill out the attached Form 700 and submit with your application.

12. Please review the copy of Board Bylaw 9220. After reading Board Bylaw 9220, do you certify that you will abide by the requirements of Board Bylaw 9220? Yes No

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Have you ever been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor?

Yes

No

If yes, please describe the offense(s):

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION: If you answer no to any of the following questions, you are not eligible to serve as a Board member.

Yes

No

I am 18 years of age or older.

I am a resident of the Ojai Unified School District, Trustee Area #4.

I am a registered voter.

I am not disqualified to hold this office because of a conviction of any of the crimes listed on page 5 nor am I otherwise disqualified under the California Constitution or statutes from holding public office.

CERTIFICATION OF QUALIFICATIONS AND WORK COMMITMENT

I understand that upon appointment I would be required to file a Conflict of Interest Statement and take an Oath of Office.

I certify I am 18 years of age or older, a registered voter and that I reside within the Trustee Area #4 of the Ojai Unified School District.

I certify I am not disqualified to hold this office because of a conviction of any of the crimes listed on page 4 and further certify I am not otherwise disqualified under the California Constitution or statutes from holding public office.

I understand a Board Member's responsibility requires attendance at: (1) one or two regular Board meetings each month; (2) special meetings or study sessions when called; and (3) numerous school events. I understand that I will be required to read my Board packet and be prepared to make decisions on complex educational issues.

I understand that this application may be made available to the public in accordance with the Public Records Act.

I understand that my failure to complete this application and return it by **4 pm on April 25, 2023** will result in my ineligibility to be a candidate for provisional appointment to the Board.

I certify that the foregoing information is true and correct under penalty of perjury.


Signature

4/24/2023
Date



STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS
COVER PAGE
A PUBLIC DOCUMENT

Date Initial Filing Required:
(For 2022, 1/1/2022 - 12/31/2022)

Please type or print in ink

NAME OF FILER (LAST) (FIRST) (MIDDLE)
Azzam Claiborne M

1. Office, Agency, or Court

Agency Name (Do not use acronyms)

Division, Board, Department, District, if applicable

Your Position

If filing for multiple positions, list below or on an attachment. (Do not use acronyms)

Agency:

Position:

2. Jurisdiction of Office (Check at least one box)

State

Judge, Retired Judge, Pro Tem Judge, or Court Commissioner (Statewide Jurisdiction)

Multi-County

County of

City of

Ojai

Other

3. Type of Statement (Check at least one box)

Annual: The period covered is January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022.

Leaving Office: Date Left (Check one circle.)

-or-

The period covered is through December 31, 2022.

The period covered is January 1, 2022, through the date of leaving office.

Assuming Office: Date assumed

The period covered is through the date of leaving office.

Candidate: Date of Election and office sought, if different than Part 1:

4. Schedule Summary (required)

Total number of pages including this cover page: 3

Schedules attached

Schedule A-1 - Investments - schedule attached

Schedule C - Income, Loans, & Business Positions - schedule attached

Schedule A-2 - Investments - schedule attached

Schedule D - Income - Gifts - schedule attached

Schedule B - Real Property - schedule attached

Schedule E - Income - Gifts - Travel Payments - schedule attached

-or- None - No reportable interests on any schedule

5. Verification

MAILING ADDRESS

STREET

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

(Business or Advisor Address)

HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER

EMAIL ADDRESS

CA

I have used all reasonable diligence in preparing this statement. I have reviewed this statement and to the best of my knowledge the information contained herein and in any attached schedules is true and complete. I acknowledge this is a public document.

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

4/25/2023

Date Signed

Signature

(File the originally signed paper statement with your filing official.)

SCHEDULE A-2
Investments, Income, and Assets
of Business Entities/Trusts
(Ownership Interest is 10% or Greater)

CALIFORNIA FORM 700
FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

Name
Claire Azzam

BUSINESS ENTITY OR TRUST

Name
Bridged Temple Optometry
828 E Main St. Ventura CA 93001
(Business Address Acceptable)

Check one
 Trust, go to 2 Business Entity, complete the box, then go to 2

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THIS BUSINESS
Optometry Practice

FAIR MARKET VALUE IF APPLICABLE, LIST DATE:

<input type="checkbox"/> \$0 - \$1,999		<u>1/22</u>	<u>1/22</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> \$2,000 - \$10,000		ACQUIRED	DISPOSED
<input type="checkbox"/> \$10,001 - \$100,000			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$100,001 - \$1,000,000			
<input type="checkbox"/> Over \$1,000,000			

NATURE OF INVESTMENT
 Partnership Sole Proprietorship S Corp

YOUR BUSINESS POSITION owner/oo

1. BUSINESS ENTITY OR TRUST

Name

Address (Business Address Acceptable)

Check one
 Trust, go to 2 Business Entity, complete the box, then go to 2

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THIS BUSINESS

FAIR MARKET VALUE IF APPLICABLE, LIST DATE:

<input type="checkbox"/> \$0 - \$1,999		<u>1/22</u>	<u>1/22</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> \$2,000 - \$10,000		ACQUIRED	DISPOSED
<input type="checkbox"/> \$10,001 - \$100,000			
<input type="checkbox"/> \$100,001 - \$1,000,000			
<input type="checkbox"/> Over \$1,000,000			

NATURE OF INVESTMENT
 Partnership Sole Proprietorship

YOUR BUSINESS POSITION

2. IDENTIFY THE GROSS INCOME RECEIVED (INCLUDE YOUR PRO RATA SHARE OF THE GROSS INCOME TO THE ENTITY/TRUST)

<input type="checkbox"/> \$0 - \$499	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10,001 - \$100,000
<input type="checkbox"/> \$500 - \$1,000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OVER \$100,000
<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,001 - \$10,000	

2. IDENTIFY THE GROSS INCOME RECEIVED (INCLUDE YOUR PRO RATA SHARE OF THE GROSS INCOME TO THE ENTITY/TRUST)

<input type="checkbox"/> \$0 - \$499	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10,001 - \$100,000
<input type="checkbox"/> \$500 - \$1,000	<input type="checkbox"/> OVER \$100,000
<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,001 - \$10,000	

3. LIST THE NAME OF EACH REPORTABLE SINGLE SOURCE OF INCOME OF \$10,000 OR MORE (Attach a separate sheet if necessary)

None Names listed below

3. LIST THE NAME OF EACH REPORTABLE SINGLE SOURCE OF INCOME OF \$10,000 OR MORE (Attach a separate sheet if necessary)

None Names listed below

4. INVESTMENTS AND INTERESTS IN REAL PROPERTY HELD OR LEASED BY THE BUSINESS ENTITY OR TRUST

Check one box:
 INVESTMENT REAL PROPERTY

Name of Business Entity, if Investment, or Assessor's Parcel Number or Street Address of Real Property
828 E Main St. Ventura CA 93001

Description of Business Activity or City or Other Precise Location of Real Property

FAIR MARKET VALUE IF APPLICABLE, LIST DATE:

<input type="checkbox"/> \$2,000 - \$10,000		<u>1/22</u>	<u>1/22</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> \$10,001 - \$100,000		ACQUIRED	DISPOSED
<input type="checkbox"/> \$100,001 - \$1,000,000			
<input type="checkbox"/> Over \$1,000,000			

NATURE OF INTEREST
 Property Ownership/Deed of Trust Stock Partnership
 Leasehold 5 Other _____
(% remaining)

Check box if additional schedules reporting investments or real property are attached

4. INVESTMENTS AND INTERESTS IN REAL PROPERTY HELD OR LEASED BY THE BUSINESS ENTITY OR TRUST

Check one box:
 INVESTMENT REAL PROPERTY

Name of Business Entity, if Investment, or Assessor's Parcel Number or Street Address of Real Property

Description of Business Activity or City or Other Precise Location of Real Property

FAIR MARKET VALUE IF APPLICABLE, LIST DATE:

<input type="checkbox"/> \$2,000 - \$10,000		<u>1/22</u>	<u>1/22</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> \$10,001 - \$100,000		ACQUIRED	DISPOSED
<input type="checkbox"/> \$100,001 - \$1,000,000			
<input type="checkbox"/> Over \$1,000,000			

NATURE OF INTEREST
 Property Ownership/Deed of Trust Stock Partnership
 Leasehold Yes, remaining Other _____

Check box if additional schedules reporting investments or real property are attached

Comments: _____

SCHEDULE C
Income, Loans, & Business
Positions
 (Other than Gifts and Travel Payments)

CALIFORNIA FORM 700
 FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

Name
Claire Arzam

I. INCOME RECEIVED

NAME OF SOURCE OF INCOME
Beat the Streets LA

ADDRESS (Business Address Acceptable)
515 S. Figueroa St. Floor 16

BUSINESS ACTIVITY, IF ANY, OF SOURCE
Los Angeles, CA 90071

YOUR BUSINESS POSITION
Director of Development

GROSS INCOME RECEIVED No Income - Business Position Only

\$500 - \$1,000 \$1,001 - \$10,000

\$10,001 - \$100,000 OVER \$100,000

CONSIDERATION FOR WHICH INCOME WAS RECEIVED

Salary Spouse's or registered domestic partner's income
 (For self-employed use Schedule A-2.)

Partnership (Less than 10% ownership. For 10% or greater use Schedule A-2.)

Sale of _____
 (Real property, art, boat, etc.)

Loan repayment

Commission or Rental Income, list each source of \$10,000 or more

 (Describe)

Other _____
 (Describe)

I. INCOME RECEIVED

NAME OF SOURCE OF INCOME

ADDRESS (Business Address Acceptable)

BUSINESS ACTIVITY, IF ANY, OF SOURCE

YOUR BUSINESS POSITION

GROSS INCOME RECEIVED No Income - Business Position Only

\$500 - \$1,000 \$1,001 - \$10,000

\$10,001 - \$100,000 OVER \$100,000

CONSIDERATION FOR WHICH INCOME WAS RECEIVED

Salary Spouse's or registered domestic partner's income
 (For self-employed use Schedule A-2.)

Partnership (Less than 10% ownership. For 10% or greater use Schedule A-2.)

Sale of _____
 (Real property, art, boat, etc.)

Loan repayment

Commission or Rental Income, list each source of \$10,000 or more

 (Describe)

Other _____
 (Describe)

II. LOANS RECEIVED OR OUTSTANDING DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

You are not required to report loans from a commercial lending institution, or any indebtedness created as part of a retail installment or credit card transaction, made in the lender's regular course of business on terms available to members of the public without regard to your official status. Personal loans and loans received not in a lender's regular course of business must be disclosed as follows:

NAME OF LENDER

ADDRESS (Business Address Acceptable)

BUSINESS ACTIVITY, IF ANY, OF LENDER

HIGHEST BALANCE DURING REPORTING PERIOD

Up to \$1,000

\$1,001 - \$10,000

\$10,001 - \$100,000

OVER \$100,000

INTEREST RATE TERM (Months/Years)

_____ % None

SECURITY FOR LOAN

None Personal residence

Real Property _____
 Street address _____
 City _____

Guarantor _____

Other _____
 (Describe)

Comments: _____