

**CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES NIGHT**  
**OCTOBER 9TH - 7PM**  
**LAFAYETTE LIBRARY · DON TATZIN HALL**  
**COME, LISTEN, QUESTION & DECIDE**  
**PRESENTED BY LAFAYETTEHOMEOWNERSCOUNCIL.ORG**

## Meet soon-to-be appointed LAFSD Governing Board candidates

By Elaine Borden Chandler



Jon Deane



Alida Smit

Photos provided

For this year's Nov. 5 election, the Lafayette School District (LAFSD) Governing Board had two open seats for new board members. However, as there were only two candidates for these two seats — Jon Deane and Alida Smit — this year both candidates will be appointed rather than elected.

School boards are elected public officials from the local community who act as citizen oversight to see that schools match the community's priorities. The board provides direction, structure, leadership, accountability, and student advocacy for the schools within their district.

Jon Deane grew up in Lafayette and attended Burton Valley, Stanley, and Campolindo. He moved back to Lafayette in 2020 and currently has a seventh-grader attending Stanley and a ninth-grader attending Acalanes. Deane is the CEO of an education-focused non-profit. He worked for over 20 years in K-12 education and also worked as a Certified Public Accountant.

Deane says, "Excellent schools aren't easy to develop and maintain. They require commitment from everyone to work together, to use resources well, and to stay focused on what matters. I'm really excited for this opportunity!"

He has been im-

pressed with what the LAFSD Board has recently done, and intends to learn from them and contribute where he can, especially in keeping balanced finances. He also wants to ensure the District keeps students' mental health central to their goals and that students have smooth academic transitions as they move from school to school.

Alida Smit has lived in Lafayette since 1997. She has two children who went through the Lafayette School District and are currently in the Acalanes High School District. She works as a College and Career Counselor with low-income, first-generation, rural teens and has previously worked with students from five to high school age in general education and special education.

She feels that the LAFSD School Board has put its students' needs first, and now wants to personally be involved and give back. She values all aspects of education and thinks that parental involvement is key to creating healthy and successful school environments.

Smit thinks it is important to value diversity and teach it to children, saying, "Being a first-generation adult from immigrant parents, I believe all students have a place in this community. Each student brings talent and gifts to the commu-

nal table that we can all learn and appreciate."

The previous 2022 school elections in Lafayette and Lamorinda included a variety of opinions, some of which were more extreme. Covering some of these debated ideas, neither Deane nor Smit believe that books should be banned in schools or that religion should be taught, though both say religion can be taught about in context to history, religion, and art.

Both support diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging (DEIB) and that students' mental health should be supported by schools. They agree that teachers should be fairly compensated but that the Board has fiscal limits and responsibilities.

Regarding the anti-trans protestors who were outside of Lafayette Elementary, Deane said he thought the LAFSD worked hard to see all viewpoints shared and Smit said it is an individual's Constitutional right to express their opinions. Neither has any stated opinions or plans for what should be done if these protestors or others like them return this school year.

Deane and Smit will be appointed by the Governing Board to their positions in December at the LAFSD Board meeting on Dec.18.



**KEITH KATZMAN**  
 WE'RE SELLING LAMORINDA!

Moraga resident since 1966. Successfully selling real estate for over 38 years.

925.376.7777  
 keith.katzman@compass.com  
 DRE 00875484



### WELCOME DIANA & PETER TO COMPASS!

It is with great pride that I announce my kids, Diana and Peter, are officially joining me at Compass! Together, we're building a dynamic new real estate team, and I couldn't be happier to start this next chapter alongside them.

With a deep-rooted passion for real estate and a shared commitment to excellence, Diana and Peter are proud to carry on the legacy that Keith has built. Their fresh perspectives, combined with Keith's decades of experience, make this a truly remarkable team ready to meet all of your real estate needs.



Trust the Katzman team to guide you home with care, expertise, and dedication.

**As always, we are here to help ... we listen and we care.**

Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. License Number 01866071. All material presented herein is intended for informational purposes only and is compiled from sources deemed reliable but has not been verified. Changes in price, condition, sale or withdrawal may be made without notice. No statement is made as to accuracy of any description. All measurements and square footage are approximate.

COMPASS

**BRYDON & IVES**  
 REAL ESTATE TEAM

**Magnificent. Modern. Beauty**  
 3 MUTH DRIVE, ORINDA



5 Bed | 4.5 Bath | 2,973 Sq Ft + Pool House | .64 Acre  
 \$2,649,000 | 3MuthDrive.com

**Captivating. Cheerful. Charmer**  
 1102 STUDEBAKER ROAD, LAFAYETTE



4 Bed | 3 Bath | 2,431 Sq Ft | .28 Acre  
 \$2,095,000 | 1102StudeBakerRoad.com



Work with us!

Lisa Brydon | Kristi Ives | Lexi Kisner  
 925.788.8345  
 brydonivesteam.com  
 DRE 01408025 | DRE 01367466 | DRE 02208613  
 Follow us @brydonives

COMPASS



### Emergency Water Drums ORDER NOW!

The San Francisco Bay Area has more ground movement along tectonic plates than any other urban area in the United States.

"EBMUD's seismic work will restore partial water service within 30 days following a large earthquake... Some customers may be without water service at their residence for weeks or months."

To be prepared, you need at least 1 gallon of potable water and 1 gallon of sanitation water per person per day. That's 14 gallons per person per week.

The Lamorinda Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) will be making a large purchase of emergency household water supply drums and fire extinguishers and Bay Area residents are invited to participate in the bulk order.

When water is stored properly in these blue FDA approved drums, it can last indefinitely and be a life-saving resource in case of earthquake or other disaster. This could be the best investment in your family's safety you will ever make!

If interested in taking advantage of this great opportunity to purchase packages of 5, 15, or 55 gallon drums for water storage along with drum wrenches and pumps, area residents can place an order through Lamorinda CERT Foundation. Details, prices, and pickup information can be found on this site.

<http://supplies.lamorindacert.org/>



Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. License Number 01866071. All material presented herein is intended for informational purposes only and is compiled from sources deemed reliable but has not been verified. Changes in price, condition, sale or withdrawal may be made without notice. No statement is made as to accuracy of any description. All measurements and square footage are approximate.