

The Committee to Recall the Board of Trustees of the Napa Valley Unified School District announced it has fallen short in obtaining the required number of signatures to place the question of the recall of the seven trustees on the June 2018 ballot.

Connie Brennan, chair of the committee said that, "Although the committee and volunteers worked tirelessly until late in the day on Tuesday, we just didn't make our number." However, Brennan stated that because of the overwhelming response of the community, and surprisingly, by District employees, it was clear that change in the District is necessary in order to meet the needs of students, as well as address the concerns of teachers and other classified employees.

The committee feels that despite the fact the recall did not make the ballot, the community, along with the committee, will now be watching the District. During the recall process, California Public Records Act Requests served on the District led to the discovery of information that has been forwarded to appropriate local, state, and federal agencies for further investigation. While the recall process has concluded, other individuals will continue the pursuit of ensuring transparency of the District's actions.

At least three seats on the Board of Trustees will be on the November 2018 ballot – Stacy Bratlien (Area 1), Thomas Kensok (Area 3), and Robb Felder (Area 6). Brennan said that the committee had been informally approached by individuals expressing interest in running, and the committee is excited about the possibilities, "But we will just have to wait and see if they file."

On behalf of the committee, Brennan extended appreciation of its generous contributors and the efforts of volunteers who spent hours obtaining signatures from registered voters in the Napa Valley Unified School District. To preserve the confidentiality of those individuals that signed the Petitions, the Committee will dispose of the Petitions through a confidential shredding service.

The Notice of Intent to Recall was served on the trustees May 4, 2017, and the Petition for Recall was approved for circulation June 22, 2017. The Committee then had 160 days to obtain the signatures (approximately 10,000 for each trustee) necessary to place the recall on the June 2018 ballot. The grounds for the recall of the trustees were for demonstration of a complete lack of fiscal responsibility, as shown by the District's \$12.8 million deficit; failure to work with the public on several key issues as the Board of Education policies require; disregard of substantial input from the public regarding the replacement of Napa High School's Indian Symbol; mishandling of the Napa High Football team hazing issues, which led to the resignation of the entire football coaching staff; and the failure to listen to the wishes of a vast majority of the students and parents you claim to represent, reflecting an ignorance and arrogance. There was an additional ground specifically directed to trustee Jose Hurtado for loss of the public's trust by participating in the flawed committee that recommended replacement of the Indian Symbol.

Connie Brennan

Chair

Recall NVUSD Board of Trustees