New and Returning San Francisco Board of Education Commissioners Take the Oath of Office

January 4, 2013 (San Francisco) - Sandra Fewer, Matt Haney, Rachel Norton, and Jill Wynns will be sworn into office today at 6:00 p.m. by San Francisco officials at a ceremony held at the Tenderloin Community School. Oaths will be administered by California State assembly member Phil Ting, 19th Assembly District; San Francisco Supervisor Jane Kim; San Francisco District Attorney George Gascón; and California State Attorney General Kamala Harris.

Sandra Fewer
Fewer has served on the San Francisco Board of Education since 2009, where she authored resolutions to implement restorative practice approaches to student discipline, institute ethnic studies classes in high schools, create a parent engagement plan, and re-commit to the anti-discrimination of LGBTQQ youth.

From 2001-2009, Fewer was the Director of Parent Organizing and Education Policy at Coleman Advocates for Children and Youth, where she authored the resolution to create a Parent Advisory Council to the Board of Education and helped craft the first Education Equity Platform for San Francisco public schools.

Fewer’s awards include the Champion of Justice award (Chinese for Affirmative Action), Parent Leadership award (Bay Area Parent Leadership Action Network), Community Leadership award (Coleman Advocates), and Community Ally award (Harvey Milk Democratic Club). She holds a BA in Justice Administration and an MA in Public Administration.

Fewer is a SFUSD graduate and mother of three SFUSD graduates. She lives in the Richmond District.

Matt Haney
Over the past ten years, Matt has worked as an advocate, educator, organizer and policy analyst. As the Executive Director of the University of California Student Association, he works directly for over 200,000 students in the UC system.

He served as a Legislative Aide and State Senate Fellow for State Senator Joe Simitian in Sacramento and as a member of his education policy team. At Stanford Law’s Youth and Education Law Clinic, Haney assisted with a major school funding equity case in which SFUSD was one of the plaintiffs. He served on the SFUSD Public Education Enrichment Fund (Prop H) Community Advisory Committee, and as an appointee to SFUSD’s Restorative Justice Taskforce.

Haney holds a BA from UC Berkeley, an MA from Stanford University School of Education, and a JD from Stanford Law School with a focus on education law.
Haney lives in the Hayes Valley neighborhood.

**Rachel Norton**
Rachel Norton has served on the Board of Education since January 2009, and was elected Vice-President of the Board in January 2012. She has served as a member of the California School Boards Association’s Delegate Assembly since May 2009, and was appointed to the organization’s Legislative Committee in January 2012.

She has also volunteered for the Autism Speaks Bay Area Advocacy Committee, which works to secure health insurance coverage for kids with autism. Norton previously served as co-chair of the Site Council at her daughter’s public elementary school.

Norton has worked at The New York Times, Reuters, and CNET: The Computer Network. She created the Visual Journalism course at U.C. Berkeley’s Graduate School of Journalism, which she co-taught.

Norton was born and raised in Berkeley, California where she attended public schools. She has a degree in English from Barnard College.

Norton has two daughters and lives with her family in the Richmond District.

**Jill Wynns**
Wynns was first elected to the S.F. Board of Education in 1992 and has been re-elected six times. She served as Board President in 2001 and 2002, and as chair of the Budget Committee for five years.

Currently, Wynns is the Immediate Past President of the California School Boards Association and served as President in 2012. She served on the board of the Council of Urban Boards of Education (CUBE) for nine years. She has also been president of the Association of California Urban School Districts, served as a working group member for the California Education Master Plan, on the California Title I Committee of Practitioners and the State Attendance Review Board.

Wynns has become nationally recognized for her opposition to the commercialization and privatization of public schools, and for her advocacy to increase resources for public education. Wynns authored the district’s healthy foods policy.

Wynns lives in the Bernal Heights neighborhood.

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