

## Rebuttal to Argument Against Measure S1

The long-term success of school districts as measured by student success depends on high-impact governance by the superintendent, who oversees operations, and the school board, which sets annual and long-term goals.

Effective school boards, in partnership with the superintendent, make strategic decisions, select key district innovation targets, monitor district educational performance, and make decisions that align district systems and resources to ensure long-term fiscal stability. This requires a school board to gain knowledge in all aspects of running a school district. The Board sets the direction for student achievement and has ultimate responsibility for finance, facilities, human resources, educational policies, collective bargaining, advocacy, community relations, and judicial review.

School board term limits create an impediment to positive high-impact governance. The school board must be able to examine any issue from historical, educational, and societal perspectives and understand how it relates to the district's vision and strategic goals. It takes time to foster and nurture school district and community relationships. Even a short "sabbatical" of two years can cause a gap in historical perspective and can destabilize an otherwise focused governance team.

Research indicates that the educational effectiveness of a school system depends on continuity of service—*not total length of service*—of the governance team. Please help ensure the continued excellence and stability of Albany schools by voting YES on this charter amendment.

Val Williams, Superintendent, Albany Unified School District

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