

# Press Release



## Battle Ground Public Schools

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April 21, 2011

### Four applicants in the running for Board; interviews and selection set for April 30

Directors of Battle Ground Public Schools decided Thursday they will fill a vacancy on the School Board from among all four applicants who had submitted a resume' and letter of interest by Wednesday's deadline.

The Board had the option of trimming the field to fewer for the remainder of the selection process but opted instead for interviewing all four separately in a public session beginning at 7 a.m. Saturday, April 30, at the district office, 11104 N.E.149<sup>th</sup> St. in Brush Prairie.

The interviews will be followed by a closed session at which the Board will evaluate the qualifications of the applicants. The directors – Steve Pagel, Monty Anderson, John Idsinga and Sam Kim -- are scheduled to reconvene at 9 a.m. that morning in the same place in an open meeting to pick the new Board member in a roll call vote. The new director will take office on the spot and participate in the remainder of that day's meeting.

The regular April 30 Board meeting had been scheduled for the Pleasant Valley schools on Northeast 50th Avenue, but the venue was changed to the more centrally located district office.

The vacancy in Director District No. 2 was created on March 26 when veteran Board member Karen Lehman announced her resignation, effective that day. She cited job-related conflicts and concerns. Her term ends in December and she had already decided not to seek re-election. The person selected on April 30 will be an interim Board member to serve out Lehman's term. That interim director and any other qualified resident of Director District 2 may file to run for a full four-year term in the fall election.

The vacancy and procedures for applying to fill Lehman's seat were publicized in news stories in The Reflector, The Columbian and The Oregonian, in multiple legal advertisements in both The Columbian and The Reflector and on the school district's Website, [battlegroundps.org](http://battlegroundps.org).

The four applicants are:

1. **John David Fitzgerald**, a resident of the district since 1972. He is retired as U.S. international vice president of the United Transportation Union. His application cites volunteer work in classrooms at Captain Strong Primary School and service as its PTA president.

2. **Kenneth Allen Root**, a resident of the Venersborg area since 1995. He is western regional sales manager for Rosenberger of North America, a supplier of test and measurement devices for the microwave industry. Root cites his membership on the school district's Fiscal Advisory Committee, the Battle Ground High School Booster Club and Grad Night Committee and his volunteer efforts in diabetes education and other charities.
3. **Peter Uskoski**, a 1972 graduate of Battle Ground High School. He has worked for Christensen Electric for the past 27 years. He cites service as a volunteer firefighter with Fire District 3 from 1975 to 1985. He has been a Sunday School teacher for more than 15 years.
4. **Amy Wheaton**, a four-year resident of the school district. She has worked for Columbia Credit Union in Battle Ground since October 2007. Prior to that she was a full-time mother with three children. Her application cites her volunteering in her children's classrooms, her service as treasurer of the Chief Umtuch Middle School PTO and her participation in the PTA at Captain Strong Primary School.



The Battle Ground School District provides equal opportunity in programs and employment and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin/language, creed/religion, sex, sexual orientation-including gender identity, disability, or the use of a service animal by a person with a disability, age, marital status, honorably discharged veteran or military status and HIV/Hepatitis C status. Diana Gilsinger, Marcia Christian and Jane Mercier are designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination. They can be reached as follows: Maria Christian, Title IX Sexual Harassment Coordinator, 360-885-5415, christian.marcia@bgds.k12.wa.us; Diana Gilsinger, Deputy Superintendent, 360.885.5338, gilsinger.diana@bgds.k12.wa.us; Jane Mercier, Section 504/ADA Coordinator 360.885.5318, mercier.jane@bgds.k12.wa.us; or a letter may be submitted to the designated coordinator at the Battle Ground School District, PO Box 200, Battle Ground, WA 98604.