

Dana Tom Kicks Off School Board Campaign *Emphasizes Fiscal Stewardship and District-wide Collaboration*

PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA, September 21, 2005.... Dana Tom officially kicks off his campaign to be elected to the Palo Alto Unified School Board on Thursday, September 22, with a reception at the Barron Park home of Kate Hill and Ken Poulton. Beginning at 5:00 PM, supporters of Dana Tom will be on hand to rally around his campaign.

A 44-year-old father of an elementary student and a middle school child, Tom is himself a product of San Francisco public schools. "I grew up in San Francisco and attended public schools there, so I witnessed first-hand the value of an outstanding public education. We moved to Palo Alto seven years ago for its excellent schools for my family, and I want to help keep our schools on top for all Palo Alto children," Tom said.

Tom's campaign prioritizes fiscal stewardship at the top. "Without that foundation," Tom observed, "our district cannot do its most important work: first rate teaching and learning." With a professional background in management and organizational development, Tom's platform also focuses on improving teamwork and collaboration for the district.

According to campaign Honorary Co-Chair and past President of the Palo Alto School Board Julie Jerome, "It's wonderful to see a parent with such a strong passion for our schools willing to serve as School Board Member. Dana's successful project management experience and team-building skills will make him an outstanding contributor on the Board."

"Dana is experienced, bright, and articulate," added Carolyn Tucher, also a former School Board President and Honorary Co-Chair. "He coached my grandson, and he's great with kids! Those parents who worked with him on Measure A are supporting him now. They know he's a hard worker and committed to making schools better."

As a leader in the Measure A campaign, as PTA president and Site Council Co-Chair at Duveneck, and as a youth sports coach, Dana Tom brings a wide range of experience with schools and volunteering to his candidacy for the board.

Tom observed, "Palo Alto public schools are among the finest in California, but we can't just assume they will effortlessly remain there. Even with the success of Measure A and the recent property tax increases, careful money management is absolutely necessary to ensure that Palo Alto schools spend wisely. I am committed to working with the whole community to keep our schools fiscally sound and academically excellent."

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