LAUREN BARNES   **AGE: 26**
Biomedical Engineer

I am running for Board of Education because I will represent the voice of students. If elected, I will be one of the youngest members to serve BOUSD. After attending BOUSD for my K-12 education, I studied biomedical engineering at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. I currently work as an engineer for a medical device company, where I address clinical needs through new product development and product enhancements.

I recognize the rapid growth of the STEM industry and believe we need to provide students with a strong technical foundation by expanding STEM programs. I will also prioritize strengthening student safety, enhancing transparency, and improving diversity and inclusion initiatives.

As the daughter of a nurse and a public school teacher, the importance of serving the community has been instilled in my upbringing. I was an orientation leader at Cal Poly and organized activities surrounding inclusion, campus safety, and substance abuse prevention. I currently mentor a teenager through Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County. I will fight to ensure every student has the same opportunities that I had.

Courage, compassion, and drive are not defined by age, but by heart. It's time Brea listens to a new generation. I would be honored to tirelessly serve BOUSD.

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