KIMBERLY SMITH **AGE: 43**
Tech CEO/Parent

I am running for the Laguna Beach Unified School District Board because our schools should reflect the very best of our community: excellence, integrity, responsible stewardship, and an unwavering commitment to our future generation - students.

Laguna Beach schools have long been one of our community's greatest strengths. They attract families, enrich our city, and reflect the values we share. I am committed to preserving that legacy while thoughtfully preparing our students for the future.

I am the mother of two LBUSD students and experience this district as a parent and a community member who understands that strong schools are at the heart of a strong community. Our children should be challenged, encouraged, and truly known. Those experiences prepare them to lead fulfilling lives and help create the community we all want to call home.

Professionally, I serve as CEO of a national Public Benefit technology company that has built the infrastructure to redistribute surplus resources to people who need them. Leading an organization at the intersection of technology, operations, and public good has reinforced my belief that innovation succeeds when it is implemented thoughtfully, guided by clear objectives, and measured by outcomes. Those same principles belong in public education, where responsible governance, sound financial stewardship, and thoughtful decision-making create the conditions for students and teachers to succeed.

Technology plays an important role in our children's future, and our schools have a responsibility to prepare students for that reality. I support its thoughtful integration where it strengthens learning, enhances instruction, and equips students with the skills they need in college, careers, and life. Technology should enhance, not replace, the essential human skills that remain at the heart of exceptional education: critical thinking, communication, collaboration, creativity, sound judgment, and meaningful relationships with teachers and classmates.

Every student deserves an outstanding education and the opportunity to discover their strengths. For some, that path is advanced academics. For others, it is found through other important curricular choices that include the arts, athletics, Career Technical Education, leadership, and service. A great school district recognizes that excellence takes many forms and prepares every student for a successful future.

I believe strong governance creates stability. It builds trust, supports educators, and allows district leadership and our teachers and staff to remain focused on what matters most: helping students thrive.

My family is proud to call Laguna Beach home, and I would be honored to earn your support.