

# Bloc seeks east-of-Bayshore shift

A move to shift the balance of power to the east side of Bayshore Freeway is under way in the Ravenswood City School District's April 20 election campaign.

There actually are two races in the district: Three candidates, including two incumbents, are seeking two four-year terms, and three candidates are seeking two two-year terms.

Incumbents Robert Hoover

and Mrs. Syrtiller Kabat are forming a slate with Walter Randall, an electronics technician who is seeking one of the two-year seats on the Board of Trustees. Together the three of them hope to win an east-of-Bayshore majority on the board.

"We need a third person on the board who shares the same philosophy of education we do," Hoover said, "and we would

like to see a balance of power on this side of the freeway for a change."

Hoover noted that the district, which covers East Palo Alto and East Menlo Park, has seven of its 11 schools on the east side of the freeway, plus both child care centers.

Hoover and Mrs. Kabat are being challenged by Ralph G. Cahn, a department store manager.

Opposing Randall for the two-

year seats are Betty Johnson, chairman of the Menlo Park Housing Advisory Board, and Gerald Z. Marer, an attorney.

Three other candidates will be on the ballot, but they have announced they have withdrawn in favor of the Hoover-Kabat-Randall slate. They are the Rev. James A. Daniels, Mrs. Lila Holiday, a nurse's aide, and Mrs. Jennifer A. White, a housewife.



SYRTILLER KABAT



WALTER T. RANDALL



ROBERT HOOVER

## 3 candidates form slate

Mrs. Syrtiller Kabat  
Teacher  
2209 Dumbarton Ave.,  
East Palo Alto

Walter T. Randall, 37  
Electronics technician  
2548 Hazelwood Way  
East Palo Alto

Robert Hoover, 39  
Director, Nairobi College  
196 Jasmine Way  
East Palo Alto

Three candidates, incumbents Robert Hoover and Mrs. Syrtiller Kabat, along with Walter T. Randall, are running as a slate for the Ravenswood City School District (elementary) Board of Trustees.

Hoover, 39, is the director of the Nairobi College in East Palo Alto. He also is a consultant for the U.S. Office of Education and the East of Bayshore Education Planning Committee.

From 1967 to 1969 he was the director of the College Readiness Program at the College of San Mateo.

He is a 1959 graduate of Pennsylvania State University and has attended graduate schools at Stanford University, the University of California at

Berkeley and San Jose State College.

Hoover was first elected to the Ravenswood school board in 1967.

Mrs. Kabat was elected to the board at the same time.

She is the financial aids and job placement officer for Canada College and is active on the 701 Physical Environment Subcommittee in East Palo Alto.

Mrs. Kabat is a graduate of Montclair State College in New Jersey and holds elementary and secondary teaching credentials.

She is a widow.

Walter T. Randall, 37, is an electronics technician for Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co. He is a graduate of Coyne School of Electronics in Chicago and holds a certificate of business management from the College of San Mateo.

He presently is working on the government committee of the 701 planning grant with the East Palo Alto Municipal Council. He is chairman of the board of Nairobi College, and is also active in Nairobi High School and Day School.

Randall is married and has six sons.

Here is their joint statement: The past four years have

shown a significant increase in the academic achievement of children in kindergarten through third grade. We must now focus our attention on the fourth through the eighth grades. The academic and technical skills of the students must be brought up to state and national norms.

Along with the improvement of reading, math and writing skills, our children must be given the opportunity to learn skills in art, music, language and typing. We must improve inter-counseling and graduate eighth grade students who are achieving at or above grade level when they enter the Sequoia Union High School District.

In order for Ravenswood City School District to survive and provide quality education, it must receive more state and federal revenue. It is impossible for the district's fixed tax base, which is one of the highest in San Mateo County, to support the increasing cost of education. The significant decreases in state and federal funds in education have hurt the district severely.

Ravenswood district does not

## Housewife lists Ravenswood goals

Mrs. Betty Johnson  
Housewife  
216 Oakhurst Place  
Menlo Park

Mrs. Betty Johnson is one of three candidates seeking a two-year term on the Ravenswood City School District Board of Trustees.

She was born in Montana, reared in the Bay Area, attended Sequoia High School and the College of San Mateo. She and her husband, Bob, an engineer, have four children, three of them attending James Flood School and the fourth Menlo-Atherton High. They live at 216 Oakhurst Place, Menlo Park.

Mrs. Johnson is currently the chairman of the Menlo Park Housing Advisory Board. Her district activities have included the Citizens Finance Committee, the Community Unity Conference, the Family Life Education Committee and chairman of the Tax and Bond Committee. She has attended several

educational conferences and last month received a PTA Honorary Service Award in recognition of her youth and education activities.

Here is her statement:

Each child should leave the Ravenswood District confident and competent to meet the social and academic challenges of senior high school. To attain this goal I will work for:

—Continuing to build and maintain strong academic programs which teach children to analyze, evaluate, and reason objectively.

—Establishing regular means of communication (1) to inform parents of district goals, policies, and programs, and (2) to inform the district organization of citizens' suggestions and criticisms. School advisory boards can provide community input and permit the board of trustees to be more responsive to needs of individual schools.

—Improving our total junior high school program. This

should be a top priority time. We now have strong early childhood and primary education programs.

—Starting a long overdue drug education program.

—Changing statewide financing of education to get a more equitable distribution of educational tax dollars.

—Informing citizens about details of the master plan for reorganization of the district.

—Utilizing community resources more extensively.

—Making educational changes necessary for our schools to keep pace with dynamic world changes. Teachers need to be more involved in decision making processes if they are going to be receptive to changes. As professionals, they should direct change in line with goals set by the board of trustees.

—Individualizing instruction.

—Policies and practices which treat children as people, not products or statistics.

—Promoting awareness that



MRS. BETTY JOHNSON

self-esteem and dignity are essential to a child's development.

—Operating within our financial limits by setting realistic priorities.

(Continued on page 19, col. 1)