



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Gerri Kramer, gkramer@hcsoe.org, (813) 367-8827 or (813) 415-4337

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**Hillsborough County School Board Member Submits Resignation
Creating Open District 1 School Board Seat**

Hillsborough County, FL – Supervisor of Elections Craig Latimer received a resignation letter on Friday, June 8, at 7:30 p.m. from Susan Valdes, who currently serves as District 1 School Board Member. The resignation is irrevocable and goes into effect on the earlier of the following dates (FS 99.012):

1. The date the officer would take office, if elected;
- or
2. The date the officer's successor is required to take office.

The vacancy created by this resignation means that Hillsborough County voters will have the opportunity to elect a new District 1 School Board Member during the 2018 election to serve the remainder of the vacant term. The seat will then be up for election again in 2020 for a regular, four-year term. School Board races are nonpartisan and appear on the Primary Election ballot.

Those who wish to campaign and raise funds for elected office must first file two forms with the Supervisor of Elections: a Statement of Candidate and an Appointment of Campaign Treasurer. Then, to secure a place on the ballot, candidates must qualify for office by submitting additional paperwork and a fee. The official qualifying period begins at noon on June 18 and ends at noon on June 22. (A fee does not apply to write-in candidates or those who have collected the required number of petitions. The petition collection period has ended and therefore does not apply to the new vacancy.)

Information about Hillsborough County's local candidates, including their financial contribution reports, can be found in the Local Candidates section of VoteHillsborough.org. Information about candidates for federal, state and multi-county offices can be found on the Division of Elections' website.

Friday, June 8th was the deadline for elected officials to resign from one office so that they can run for another open seat in the 2018 election. Florida law related to resignations and vacancies is outlined in FS 99.012, 100.031 and 100.111.