



VIVA Victoria

# High-Quality and Accountable K-12 Education for Victoria

---

School Board District 61 Election Platform 2022

# Table of Contents

**01**

Who We Are

**03**

**02**

Our Values

**04**

**03**

Our Platform

**05**

Academic Excellence

**06**

Transparency and Parental Involvement

**06**

Fiscal Responsibility

**06**

Our Candidates

**07**

**04**

School Trustee Candidates

**07**

# Who We Are



We are VIVA Victoria, a new grassroots Elector Organization for the City of Victoria created to give voice to the residents and taxpayers of our beautiful city who have been excluded for too long.

We want all citizens – not just a narrow political elite – to be heard and involved in municipal and school board governance decisions. (For more on the VIVA Victoria City Council platform, [click here](#)).

Greater Victoria School District 61 can and should provide high-quality and welcoming K-12 public education for students and families from all walks of life – education that embraces all ethnicities, religious and cultural backgrounds and orientations, and is free from ideological indoctrination and division.

VIVA Victoria candidates are above all ready to listen, serve and represent the views of Victorians, and work hard to improve K-12 public education as School Trustees in School District 61.

We are inspired by the Vancouver Island Voters Association (VIVA) founded in 2022 to promote citizen engagement, education and participation in democratic electoral processes on Vancouver Island.

# Our Values

We believe **Victoria has suffered from a lack of democratic values** in recent School Board District 61 administrations.

Our values are simple. They are:

## Respect

because we must respect each other to have open and constructive dialogue.

## Honesty

because we must be honest with each other to build and maintain public trust.

## Reason

because through reasoned debate we arrive at good public policy.

## Logic

because our arguments must be sound and not based on self-serving ideologies or agendas.



# Our Platform

Our 2022 School Board election platform has three pillars:

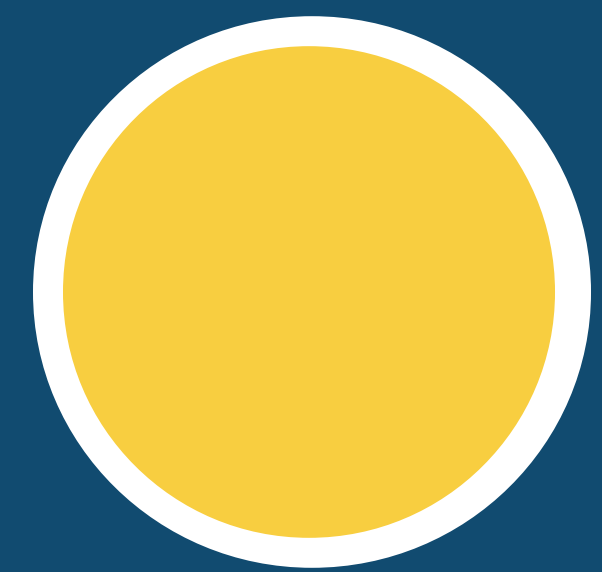


## Academic Excellence

"... develop and achieve academically to prepare for life."

## Transparency and Parental Involvement

"... parents are the primary stakeholders in their children's education."



## Fiscal Responsibility

"... act wisely and prudently with public education funding."

## Academic Excellence

Helping students develop and achieve academically to prepare for life and work is a fundamental priority of public education.

A VIVA Victoria-led School District 61 **will:**

- Support measures that enable students to successfully demonstrate their ability to perform, achieve and excel in their scholastic endeavours.
- Advance initiatives that build student resilience and encourage their mental, physical and emotional wellbeing to prepare them for challenging life experiences.
- Prioritize high-quality instruction and participation in music, art, science, math and English, including exposure to great classic literature.

## Transparency and Parental Involvement

We believe parents are the primary stakeholders in their children's education.

A VIVA Victoria-led School District 61 **will:**

- Ensure parents are free to express concerns and advocate for their children, knowing they will always be heard.
- Guarantee parents of all ethnic, religious and cultural backgrounds and orientations that they will be treated equally and respected and their voices will be represented.

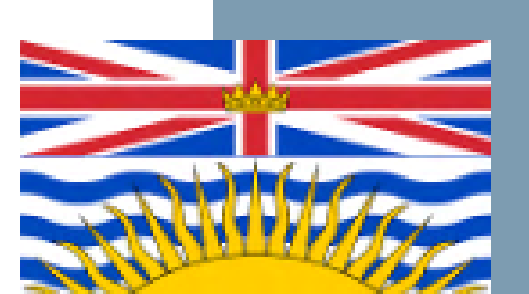
- Ensure the School Board always acts with integrity and transparency, represents parents and supports teachers, and does not act in the pursuit of personal or political agendas.
- Hold all relevant School Board discussions in the open for public scrutiny and not behind closed doors or off the record. The public has a right to know.

## Fiscal Responsibility

School Trustees have a responsibility to act wisely and prudently with public education funding.

A VIVA Victoria-led School District 61 **will:**

- Establish robust budget review and accountability procedures to ensure all financial accounting is transparent and the public is adequately informed about revenues and expenditures.
- Not spend scarce and valuable education resources on destructive lawsuits that do not improve the quality of education students receive.
- Act always in the best interests of students and families and direct funds to learning priorities, not pet projects that do not align with fundamental educational objectives.



## Our Candidates



**Salvetina Agba**

**Leslie-Anne Goodall**



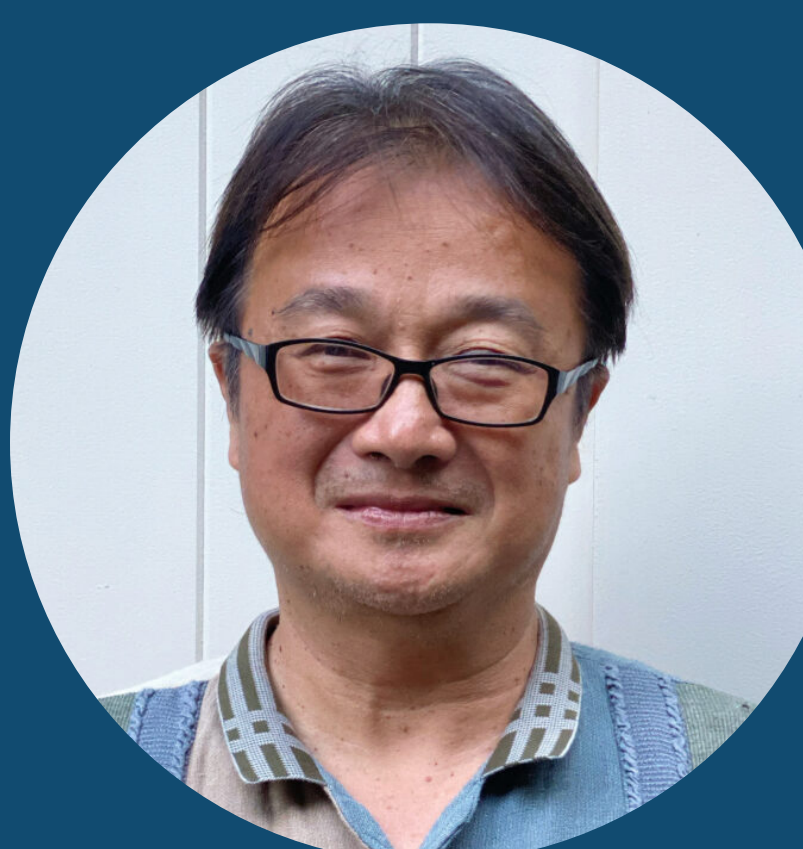
**Janice Novotill**



**Roberta Solvey**



**Oliver Wu**



Our School Trustee candidates are individuals as well as a team. They are diverse and have a wide range of knowledge, skills and experiences. Each will bring a unique perspective and voice to the School Board. From parents with children attending SD 61 schools to retired high school teachers, business owners to health and social services professionals, and former Parent Advisory Council members, VIVA Victoria candidates are passionate about democratic accountability and renewing and improving School Board SD 61 governance. All our candidates share our values of Respect, Honesty, Reason and Logic, and a desire to work together, and with other School Trustees, to achieve positive results for children and their families by prioritizing VIVA Victoria platform commitments.

**Sasha Zhang**



