

Changes to D181, D86 school board races

Clarín drops out, leaves caucus slate unopposed; write-in makes five candidates for D86

By Pamela Lannom

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In the past week, The Hinsdalean has learned of two changes to school board races in the Tuesday, April 4, election.

Gary Clarín informed the paper Friday that he is withdrawing from the Community Consolidated Elementary District 181 election, leaving that race uncontested.

The paper also learned that James Alfred “Fred” Hoch has filed as a write-in candidate in Hinsdale High School District 86. He is one of five individuals seeking four open seats

on the board.

Clarín said the lawsuit filed by five Clarendon Hills residents who want a judge to declare the results of the Nov. 8 referendum for a new Hinsdale Middle School invalid prompted him to reconsider his decision to seek a second term.

“One of the main reasons I wanted to run was to have a nice, smooth transition to building a new school and that’s not going to happen,” he said. “It’s become very ugly to me and I don’t want to be part of it.”

Clarín voiced his support of Superintendent Don White and said he wishes the other three candidates

— Margaret Kleber, Nathan Lucht and Meeta Patel — the best.

“I’m 64 years old,” he said. “I really wanted to come back and be involved in building this school if I got elected again. I can do that from the outside, too.”

Clarín missed the Jan. 26 deadline for having his name removed from the ballot but insisted he will not serve.

“Even if I won, I wouldn’t take it. I will just tell them no,” he said.

In District 86, the four candidates who are running as the #Vision86 candidates — Kevin Camden, Keith Chval, Robin Gonzales and Nancy



Pollak — have a competitor.

Hoch, who lives in Burr Ridge, is running as a write-in candidate.

An individual may run as a write-in candidate if he declares his intent to do so with the DuPage County election commission no later than 61 days prior to the election, which was Feb. 2 this year.

Koch did not respond to a request for a comment on his decision to run.