

Holly Casey's dedicated students in King City

She's president of five-member school board

By **DAVE NORDSTRAND**
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The first time Holly Casey faced the hot glare of public office, she felt fear.

"I was the deer caught in the headlights," she said. "There was just so much to learn."

That was December 2001.

King City voters on Nov. 8 sent a vastly more confident and knowledgeable Casey back for a second four-year term on the King City Union School District board.

That's the city's kindergarten-through-eighth-grade district, and Casey is president of the five-member board.

"I've learned so much, but public speaking still makes me nervous," she said. "It hasn't gotten any easier. It's just something I have to do."

One of Casey's early challenges involved deciphering what seemed to her at the time as budgetary hieroglyphics.

Issues resolved

Casey took her place during a critical time in public education in King City.

The board faced a lawsuit over land for a new middle school. It struggled to fine-tune curriculum to boost test scores. It had to hire a superintendent to oversee both the elementary and the high school districts.

"We just approved a bid for a new middle school. That's just one of many things Holly's helped make happen," said district Superintendent Wayne Brown. "Issues are complex, but Holly asks the right questions. She's helped us navigate those waters."

Casey has lived in King



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Holly Casey was just re-elected to her second four-year term on the King City Union School District Board.

City for 20 years. She's a "Navy brat." The military moved her family from place to place.

She went on to earn a bachelor's degree in interior design from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.

While at Cal Poly, she met Bill Casey, her husband-to-be.

Bill's family owns Casey Printing Inc. in King City. Holly works in the company's business department.

The couple have four children. They live two miles west

of King City in Pine Canyon in a new home that they helped build. Rolling pastures, vineyards, an olive orchard and wooden fences stretch out around them.

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