

Senate District 9 Primary Candidates

Our state Senator Brenda McKenna is not running for re-election in Senate District 9; however, she is showing up and representing us through the remainder of her term.

Please join Placitas Dems & Friends **Thursday, May 9, at 6pm at the Placitas Community Library, 453 Highway 165**, to hear from the two candidates running in the upcoming primary for the SD9 seat that McKenna is vacating, and the current County Treasurer who faces an opponent in the general election.

The meeting will end no later than 7:30pm to allow time for Q&A.



Heather Balas, a Democrat running against Cindy Nava in the primary for SD9, has dedicated her entire career to fighting to make government work better for us. With over 30 years of experience in public policy, Heather has worked with leading institutions and organizations to learn from voters what they need – on education, healthcare, the economy, natural resources, and a government they can trust.

Heather is a Senior Consultant to the Carter Center, a nonprofit advancing human rights, which helps improve the lives of millions by "waging peace, fighting disease, and building hope." As Vice President of the Election Reformers Network, she focuses on state and federal reforms to strengthen American democracy against threats and misinformation and works to advance a fair, trusted democratic process in America, including equitable redistricting reform in New Mexico.



Cindy Nava, a Democrat running against Heather Balas in the primary for SD9, is a proud immigrant and lifelong policy advocate. As the Executive Director of Transform Education New Mexico, Cindy spearheaded the creation of a platform to advance education reform that reflects and incorporates the cultural heritage of our diverse communities, values educators, and ensures resources are allocated to public schools to ensure success.

With the support of her family, Cindy became the first in her family to graduate college and the first Dreamer (DACA recipient) in the country to be appointed by the White House, where she served as Senior Policy Advisor at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.



Jennie Taylor is running for re-election as our County Treasurer. By transitioning to Automated Clearing House (ACH) for monthly distributions, she has saved valuable resources and increased the security of sensitive financial information, reducing the risk of check fraud.

Transparency and accountability are core values for Jennie. By automating the Treasurer's Report, she has eliminated the possibility of human error and ensured 100% transparency in financial matters. With zero audit findings, she has delivered on her promise to safeguard taxpayer funds and maintain the utmost transparency in all collections, distributions, and investments.