

# 62nd Annual Laton Lions Rodeo Grand Marshall

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## Ernest “Buddy” Mendes



ERNEST BUDDY MENDES

Ernest “Buddy” Mendes grew up on his parents’ dairy farm in Riverdale in Western Fresno County. Buddy has been farming in the Central Valley for 48 years. He was a working partner in the family farming and dairy business and has owned and operated his own family farming business since 1991. Buddy has been very active in the local community, serving 20+ years on a variety of Boards and Committees including the Riverdale Unified School District Board of Trustees, Southwest Transportation Agency which provides student transportation for 13 school districts and the Riverdale Public Utility District. He is a member of the West Island Cotton Growers, the Riverdale Chamber of Commerce, and the Lions Club. Supervisor Mendes also served on the 2011 Redistricting Task Force for Fresno County. Married to Leslie for 48 years, they have three children - Darryl, Adam and John and seven grandchildren.

Buddy is honored to be serving his third term as the elected Supervisor representing District 4, which encompasses 9 cities and 9 unincorporated communities. As Supervisor he also represents the Board, serving on nineteen other boards and commissions including the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District since 2015 and is Chairman of the Fresno County Transportation Authority.