

GREEN PARTY OF ALAMEDA COUNTY, FALL 2016

PERALTA BOARD CANDIDATE ENDORSEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Please complete this questionnaire as an electronic document and email it to GPAC-VoterGuide@yahoo.com

In the subject line, please include "Peralta Board".
We need to receive your response no later than Saturday, August 27, 2016

If you are not able to e-mail the questionnaire you may send it by snail mail to:

Peralta Board Questionnaire
c/o Green Party of Alameda County ,
2022A Blake Street ~ Berkeley , CA 94704

Name: Karen Weinstein

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1. Why did you decide to run for this office? What skills/strengths would you bring to the Board? As member of the Berkeley City College Presidents Advisory Board I became acquainted with faculty members and students from all the colleges. I thought they were extraordinary, I wanted them to receive the best possible education. I have strong communication skills, I seek community input, I am a team player and I do the research necessary to understand the most pressing issues.

2. Describe your relevant employment experience, particularly in community colleges. If employed in community colleges, what length of service? I have worked in the field of counseling and have been a youth advocate, mentored many students, and helped families make a better life for themselves. I have volunteered with a variety of student groups at colleges, as well as serving on boards and advisory committees.

3. What are three major issues in Peralta that need to be addressed? How would you address those issues? 1. Decreasing enrollment – increase partnerships with high schools and other community groups, as well as increasing workforce development and partnerships with unions 2. Success and equity- Too many students are forced to drop out of college because of economic stresses and need for improved basic skills – increase funding for student services particularly advising, mental health services, mentoring, tutoring and apprenticeships, advocate for affordable housing in the bay area and a living wage, 3 Problems with Accreditation – Excellence in education should be the goal. Work towards resolving the problems addressed in the accreditation report.

4. What would you do as Trustee to ensure that Peralta is accountable to the

community in use of public funds, including bond money, and the parcel tax (Measure B) passed in June 2012? I would make efforts at transparency with the public and communication with the colleges.

5. What are you prepared to do to advocate for increased state funding? I am prepared to work with all the elected state officers and advocate for increased funding. I will also work to help pass state propositions by doing the grassroots work that is necessary.

6. What creative ideas do you have to develop alternative funding sources? Increasing application for grants particularly within the technology and environmental sector.

7. How would you define the role of trustee in relation to the chancellor and administration? The trustees represent the public. It is important that the trustees have a good working relationship with the Chancellor and the administration. The Board hires the Chancellor and evaluates the Chancellor.

8. Describe your understanding of shared governance. What is the role of faculty, classified staff, and students in shared governance? I believe all members of the Peralta community should have a voice at the table. They should be encouraged to be involved early in decision making.

9. What is your opinion about selling/leasing college land for commercial development? I do not support. In all cases decisions about land should be discussed within the college and within the community. Land should be used for the mission of education.

10. What is your view on parity for part-time faculty? Yes, absolutely.

11. What is your experience with collective bargaining? What is your approach to conflict resolution? I have been a member of a union and helped our steward by making sure information was shared with our members. Respect is the key component to conflict resolution. Having the ability to listen to the other persons opinions with an open mind is crucial.

12. What do you think about charter schools and privatization in education? I do not support.

13. What are the three most important accomplishments that you have achieved in the last four years that improved the quality of life in your community? 1. Worked with the undocumented students and dreamers to raise funds for a center. 2. Worked with the Commission on the status of women to tackle the issue of sexual assault on college campuses. 3. Worked with Berkeley Public Schools Fund to establish music scholarships for low income students.

14. Who has endorsed you so far? What labor support do you have? I am attaching my list of endorsers thus far.

15. How much money do you currently have for this race? How much money do you plan to raise? Where will the money come from? \$27,000. \$50,000 needed, labor, educational leaders and small donors.

(Please respond to: GPAC-VoterGuide@yahogroups.com by Saturday, August 27).