

Mike Hutchinson  
510 853-2911  
[blackholemike@aol.com](mailto:blackholemike@aol.com)  
mikehutchinsonforschoolboard.nationbuilder.com

1. I am proud to say that I was born, raised, and educated in Oakland and I have spent the last 25 years working in Oakland's schools and with Oakland's youth. I am deeply troubled by the state of public education in our city and I think we can do better.
2. My 3 main priorities are to institute a moratorium on charter schools and an end to the privatization of public education, to re-prioritize the budget, and the initiate authentic community engagement.
3. As the son of a former teacher I have been engaged with the school board for most of my life. I became even more involved during the school closures in the 2011-2012 school year. I actively attend every school board meeting and I believe I have the background and experience to be a very effective school board member.
4. I don't believe in rating schools. We have many successful programs but they are not equitably spread across the city. Our schools will be a success when every community has access to quality, public, neighborhood schools and not just those above 580.
5. I have a three-step plan to create more flexibility in the budget. I want to cut the central administration and limit the use of outside consultants, direct our advocacy work in Sacramento to get more funding and have our debt to the state forgiven, and increase enrollment.
6. I have a lot of questions about where the money is going because we have not really seen it at the school sites and the targeted groups under LCAP have not seen additional targeted funding.
7. Charter schools should not be co-located on our public school campuses. I will work for a much more restrictive interpretation of Prop 39 and I will fight the suit brought by the CCSA. I will not improve any long-term leases to charters and I will work to rebuild the Paul Robeson building. I will work to prevent the sale of any of our public property.
8. No. Every school should have some sort of "program" but I personally prefer the conflict manager model.
9. We need to create schools with a varied and relevant curriculum. Our schools need full wrap around services and we especially need to lower our counselor ratio from the current 500:1. We need to restore a safety net, which includes a full Adult Ed program.
10. I am calling for a moratorium on charter schools. Charter schools are not public schools. There is no distinction between different charter schools. Unionizing charters is not a solution. I will continue to actively fight against common enrollment, the equity pledge, and any other effort to privatize our schools.

11. Teacher evaluations should not be tied to test results. We should actively work to limit testing and time spent on test prep.
12. I am against common core. I am against all forms of the corporate education reform movement. I don't believe in national standards and I definitely don't believe in national standards written by non-educators at the Gates Foundation.
13. The small school movement was mainly a failure in Oakland. We have very few true academies. I do believe in small learning communities but not the current plan for career pathways.
14. I believe in site based budgeting and the resources should be spread equitably so that the schools with extra needs get extra resources.
15. The city could direct many of its services like Park and Rec and the libraries to work in conjunction with our schools. I am strongly opposed to the current Oakland Promise initiative.
16. Our school district should not have its own police force and police should be on campus as little as possible.
17. The relationship now is mainly antagonistic. OUSD and its unions should be in constant communication. I would check with the unions and seek their input on how to improve the relationship.
18. It should be fully restored.
19. It should be fully restored.
20. I worked for Playworks (Sports4kids) for 8 years. Although they and many others do some good work, I believe that as many jobs as possible should be filled by unionized district employees. In a true academy system there is no conflict with electives. Academies are just smaller learning groups but the should still have the option of choosing from a varied curriculum.
21. I don't think we need to change the length of the school day but if we do it needs to be collectively bargained with the teachers. Every school should be able to offer full wrap around services including an enriching before school and after school program.
22. I will always be accessible and accountable to the community and I plan on having monthly advisory meetings that will be open to everyone. The School Board's job is to create policy and then to direct the superintendent to implement their policies. The community directs the school board and the school board directs the superintendent.
23. Yes. Yes.
24. I will not be endorsing anyone in this election. I have many pending endorsements that I am hopeful that I will receive. So far I have been endorsed by SEIU 1021, Oakland Justice Coalition, Alameda

County Central Labor Council, John George Democratic, and National Union of Healthcare Workers (NUHW).

25. I have just started to fundraise. So far I have a few thousand dollars but I plan to raise \$30,000-\$35,000. I expect most of the money to come from individual contributions from supporters of the campaign. I never have, nor will I ever, take money from charter schools, their advocates, or any of the billionaire backed corporate education reform organizations. When I ran for school board in 2012 I had nearly \$200,000 spent against me by the incumbent and the GO PAC that supported her. I expect for there to be heavy spending against me again this year.

26. I have been working for the last 5 years to save public education in Oakland and nationally. With your help and support I am confident we can have a successful campaign and bring a real change to Oakland's school board. Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to the opportunity to more deeply answer these or any other questions you may have about my positions and vision for Oakland's education system. Charter schools are not public schools. We must ensure everyone has access to quality, public, neighborhood schools.