

Name: Mike McMahon

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1. Motivation -- Why did you choose to run for the School Board? I enjoy challenges and finding solutions to problems.

2. Program and Priorities -- Elected office provides the opportunity to proactively lead by placing new ideas on the agenda for consideration and development. What are some specific ideas you intend to pursue if elected? What do you believe are the main priorities for the School Board? As an elected official you are a part of governing body. Unlike serving at the State or Federal level, being on a school board is more following the rules handed down rather implementing new ideas. Still, the school board has latitude to work with educational professionals to adapt mandates that will work on a local level. With the implementation of Common Core, I believe our school district needs to evaluate the implications to our Math curriculum. There are two choices: integrated vs. traditional. We need to have dialog about the implications of either choice for the high schools and the middle schools.

3. Qualifications -- Please give a brief summary of your background and qualifications for the office of School Board. If you are an incumbent, what issues can you point to in your time as an incumbent that have had a positive impact? As an incumbent what can you tell us about your service on the school board, and share with us the decisions you have made in this capacity that you believe made a difference in the functioning of the school district? Once again as one member of a governing board to take credit for any accomplishment of the District would be presumptuous. I have one motto that I have attempted to live by since I was elected in 2002 - "What I know you know". I have attempted to keep all relevant documents used in the Board decisions accessible to the public on my website. Since the upgrade to the District website in 2010, I have still keep track of board meetings but with less detail since it is available on the District website.

4. The AUSD is now searching for a new superintendent -- what qualifications will you consider important? The community will provide input to the Board who will develop a candidate profile for the search. Ultimately, the collective Board has to choose the candidate that comes closest to the community

profile. Here is background on prior searches:
<http://www.mikemcmahon.info/supesearchAUSD.htm>

5. Due to the tight budget constraints how do you propose to handle the district's need for a new office? Ideally, the implementation of Facilities Master Plan will provide opportunities to move District offices back to District owned space.

6. How did you perceive the district's refusal to obtain appraisals for the tidelands swap with the city? AUSD did not legal authority to own the Tidelands property. The land swap meet a number of needs that City and District needed to resolve. As to the appraisals issue, there was an appraisal of the Island property done. The Tidelands property appraisal was a moot issue since the School District could not own the property. The land swap at Alameda Point was chance to relocate property closer to housing while at the same time giving the City a better opportunity for commercial development. In 20 or so years, we will know what these properties were worth when the deal was made.

7. How do you stand on the agreed-upon \$175 million bond to be placed before the voters this fall? If you have disagreements with this bond what would you have suggested? I fully support the bond. Any delay in addressing our aging facilities will only result greater expense to Alameda taxpayers as well as force us to use General Purpose funds to fix things as they break.

8. Budget -- In the coming period school budgets will be facing continuing shortfalls -- how would you propose dealing with this crisis? Over 70% of a school district comes from the State. Therefore the State needs to invest more in public education. We cannot expect local school districts to get more from less when California continues to slide down the charts in per pupil spending.

9. Accountability -- Concretely and specifically, how will you make yourself accountable to the voters who elect you? How can the voters participate in holding you accountable if you are elected? By making promises I can keep. I make very few promises. I promise to work hard to keep current on educational issues, be prepared for Board meetings and make myself available in public forums where individuals can interact with me.

10. Campaign Funding -- How much money do you currently have for this race? How much money do you plan to raise? Where will the money come from? Describe sources of financial contributions for your campaign that you would refuse to accept (if any). I will spend under \$1000 of my own money for the campaign and not accept any donations from anyone.

11. Anything Else? -- Is there anything else you would like us to know about you? I am grandparent with grandchildren attending or about to attend public schools, so good public schools matter to me.