

Name: Randy Menjivar

Line of work: Graduate Student

1) Please give a brief summary of your background and qualifications for the office of County School Board.

I'm attending University of San Francisco's school of education graduate program, so I am acquiring the necessary educational qualifications to perform at an optimal level.

2) A. Why are you running?

For a long time status quo leadership has not needed to be accountable to the constituents that it is supposed to serve because of its massive influence on the political machines that govern.

B. What do you believe are the main priorities for the County School Board?

Making sure unions are incorporated in wage negotiations and ethnic studies curriculum implementation throughout Alameda County.

C. If you are an incumbent, how would you assess your job performance? Please cite specific accomplishments and setbacks. [[If you are not the incumbent: How would you assess the current incumbent's job performance? Please cite specific strengths and/or weaknesses.]]

I have a son growing up in east Oakland that will eventually attend Oakland schools and schools should be better equipped to help students graduate and attend college or get good jobs. I am running for this seat because I am a native of east Oakland and I am dissatisfied with status-quo leadership.

3) Concretely and specifically, how will you make yourself available to those who elect you? That is, how can we participate in holding you accountable if you are elected?

I would hold weekly office hours in my district. I have always been accessible to my community.

4) How familiar are you with the School Board's responsibilities under the Local Control Funding Formula? What efforts would you make to hold district's accountable for demonstrating that they have conducted an adequate process for getting public input into their

Local Control Accountability Plan? How will you ensure that the LCAP aligns with the state priority areas and expressed community needs?

I am a very transparent person. I would make sure that information is dispersed so that constituents have sufficient time to provide feedback. Competent leadership is very important in providing our community a better future.

5) How will you deal with violations of the law over which the School Board has direct control? Specifically, Education Code section 41372 requires that when a district fails to meet its obligation to spend at least 55% of expenditures on current classroom expenses, the deficiency needs to be set aside and paid to teachers and instructional assistants the following year. The Superintendent's office has either waived the provision or, when she has refused to waive it, has not mandated the funds be used in the proscribed manner the following year. Would you enforce this provision?

I support unions and I would enforce it so that teachers and other union workers be paid.

6) A. Alameda County has had several "fiscally challenged" districts over the past few years, with Oakland perhaps being the most notorious. Are there systemic reasons why this is so, and how can the County School Board address these if they do, in fact, exist?

People get involved in electoral politics to continue moving up the hierarchy. Systemically, issues have not been resolved because there is a lack of commitment to improving the livelihood of certain communities.

B. What role can the County School Board play in addressing this issue? The county school board can definitely hold districts accountable.

7) The School Board and the Superintendent provide fiscal oversight for Alameda County's school districts, including Oakland Unified School District. The Oakland Education Association previously said that "Oakland Unified has gotten over 20% in COLA since 2002, yet District employees have received less than 1%!" Please explain how your fiscal oversight will be used to benefit the students and employees of OUSD.

There is an obvious lack of sincerity and desire to help OEA. I support unions and would address the issue accordingly. In 2012, before I got disqualified due to lack of signatures, OEA was going to endorse my city council race. Unions know I support them!

8) A previous County Superintendent's message on the ACOE website stated that "it is true that we lack the funding needed to do the job right." What proposals do you have for increasing funding to our schools? Please include proposals that can be implemented at the County level and also proposals for which you advocate when contacting State-level officials.

We have to develop some type of parcel tax to generate revenue. It could be done with the Port of Oakland or Coliseum.

9) What is your position on charter schools? Will you support charter school applications turned down by local school districts?

I will comply with local and statewide policy, if that means that I have to work Charter schools, I will.

10) A. What is the role of the County School Board in appeals from parents and students from the local districts?

To listen to all of the appeals and give them equal consideration.

B. Transfers, expulsions, other decisions of the local boards are sometimes overruled at the County level. What is the criteria for overruling a local decision?

Each case is distinct and must be assessed individually. We have to promote restorative justice and help our youth thrive. We must end the school-to-prison pipeline.

11) A. How much money do you currently have for this race?

\$0

B. How much money do you plan to raise?

\$100

C. Where will the money come from?

My own donation.

D. Describe sources of financial contributions for your campaign that you would refuse to accept (if any).

I would refuse corporate donations or money coming from businesses that thrive on the exploitation of working-class people.

12) What endorsements have you received thus far?

Oakland Councilmember Noel Gallo and I expect to get a few more endorsements in the upcoming weeks.

13) What is your political party affiliation and how committed are you to that affiliation?

Democrat. I support Bernie Sanders.