Name: ABDUR RAHMAN SIKDER

Phone: 510-717-6837

Email: abdursikder1@gmail.com

Website: www.abdursikder.com

Line of work: Scientist/Entrepreneur

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

I have my Bachelor of Science degree in computer science from The University of Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand. I also have a Masters degree in IT and a PhD in Bioinformatics from The University Of Sydney, Australia. I studied in the University of California San Diego as a PhD student (EAP). I am the Founder & CEO of Sikder Institute (nonprofit for research & Training) and Bay Tax (An IT and Tax Consulting firm). I worked as a Scientist, a Software Engineer and a professor in various organization in New Zealand, Australia, Bangladesh and USA. He is currently pursuing his MBA degree at Lincoln University, Oakland, CA.

I was the secretary of waikato ethnic council, Hamilton , New Zealand. I was the secretary of Campbelltown Bangla School, NSW, Australia. I am a member of Bangladeshi American Democratic Coalition, Berkeley Democratic Club and IEEE.

2) A. Why are you running?
  B. What do you believe are the main priorities for the County School Board?
  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 am running for Alameda County Board of Education Trustee Area 1 because I want our District to be a place where all children have an equal opportunity to have high quality education, all students are taught to enjoy learning not that they have to. As a parent I know what kind of environment requires for students to become lifelong learners. I attended Schools in Bangladesh, Singapore, New Zealand, Australia, and USA including UC San Diego & Lincoln University being founder of a nonprofit educational institute and a for profit Software company and accounting firm in Berkeley I have the diverse background to understand all the stakeholders in Alameda County Board of Education.

My three children currently attend Berkeley public institutions. Having a Ph.D. in Computer Science and training in Teaching & Learning in higher education I have the skill, experience and commitment to ensure that we use our resources efficiently. I will listen to all stakeholders and will incorporate their suggestion in the decision making process. Together we can achieve impossible. If elected I will work to have a safe, fun and friendly environment for

our children to be successful including special need students. My goal is to facilitate practical oriented curriculum for our children to be ready to go to college or enter into workforce and live a productive life.

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?

One can contact me directly to my office.

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?

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?
Yes.

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?
   B. What role can the County School Board play in addressing this issue?

7) The School Board and the Superintendent provide fiscal oversight for Alameda County's school districts, including Oakland Unified School District. Explain what actions the Board can take to strengthen districts' financial stability What are your thoughts on state receivership.?

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.

9) What is your position on charter schools? Will you support charter school applications turned down by local school districts? Do you have any interaction with the California Charter School Association?
I may support it if necessary. No.

10) A. What is the role of the County School Board in appeals from parents and students from the local districts? How might the Board impact the difficulties in many district's with special education.

   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?

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

       B. How much money do you plan to raise? None.

       C. Where will the money come from? N/A

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

12) What endorsements have you received thus far? N/A.

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

14) Anything you would like to add? I do not believe in spending money in the election. Voter should get an opportunity to elect best candidate not the richest one.