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Current occupation:Trustee Area 3 Peralta Community Colleges

Racial Dialogue and Restorative Justice Facilitator

1. Why did you decide to run for this office? What skills/strengths would you bring to the Board?

Initially it was my belief that my district deserved representation that first and foremost was committed to our students. I didn't feel that this was happening and thought a change was in order. I'm skilled in advocacy and human interaction and dynamics. In the past 4 terms that i've served, I believe I've strongly contributed to the organizational structure, stability and the enhancement of student life and expansion of participation in Student Government.

2. Describe your relevant employment experience, particularly in community colleges. If employed in community colleges, what length of service?

have 16 years of service to our four campus district as a Trustee. Prior to that I served as the assistant Director of the Minority Career Awareness Program,Orientation Coordinator and Work Study Coordinator for Case Western Reserve University.

3. What are three major issues in Peralta that need to be addressed? How would you address those issues?

Quality Education- Better technology, improved facilities with coordinated efforts to support the Associated Student of the four colleges.

Responsible Oversight of financial resources- although I believe we're now on the right track. I advocated for the hiring of an Inspector General in the past and Internal Auditor to address

fiscal oversight. Most recently we decided to create committees and invite the public to participate to improve transparency and engage creative ideas.

Empowerment of employees- Scheduled evaluations for reward for excellent service as well as identifying problems employees and issues. We still have not done as well as we should on this. Better articulated and structured approach to shared governance.

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 insist on open transparent and accountable reporting. I also believe the Chancellor should be evaluated on their ability to manage our financial resources through proper planning and without waste. I also support publication and dissemination of regular progress reports to the public on bond progress and other related issues. Also, information on all public resources and expenditures should be easily accessible on our website.

5. What are you prepared to do to advocate for increased state funding?

Ø I will continue to regularly go to Sacramento and lobby on behalf of our colleges and advocate for others to do the same. We've built one on one relationships with state legislators which has benefited us greatly. If the governor and legislators don't provide adequate funding then I would like to see a state ballot measure similar to prop 98 for community colleges because I believe we must return to the situation that existed previously in CA where community college was tuition free.

6. What creative ideas do you have to develop alternative funding sources for the Peralta District?

I think the District must think more entrepreneurially. We've invested Bond proceeds in upgrading our facilities to enable us to deliver state of the art and sometimes cutting edge instruction. We need to Market more Contract Education.

I facilitated the addition of the CREATE /Merritt Fellows Program of BOMA SF which will kick off their Real Estate property management training in the next few weeks.

I'm also partnering with a grant writer and community policy group to fund an over 2 million dollar comprehensive program for at risk men of color and most likely will see it funded in the next few months.

Our newly added workforce development program initiated a relationship with the Oakland A's that was pursued by Trustees then finalized in by the Foundation resulting in a 100,000.00 Endowment for our students presented at the game last Monday!

7. How would you define the role of trustee in relation to the chancellor and administration?

Trustees set the policy and budget direction for the District. The Chancellor is responsible for their implementation and management. It's our responsibility as a group to determine how to hold the Chancellor accountable and act on that. The challenge here is to get a majority or consensus to agree on a specific course of action. A further challenge with the Peralta District is to determine and act appropriately without micro-managing which would impact our accreditation.

8. Describe your understanding of shared governance. What is the role of faculty, classified staff, and students in shared governance?

Shared governance is the legally mandated participation of faculty in certain aspects of college decision making. Through shared governance, faculty has the chance to be heard in decision making regarding hiring and other critical issues. It is in the best interest of the District to have a team effort and through shared governance we can reach a well rounded approach that considers all perspectives.

9A. What is your opinion about selling/leasing college land for commercial development?

I'm not in favor of selling or leasing college land for commercial development. Our land is a sacred trust for the future of education protected from eminent domain. That being said community partnerships that enhance the campus such as hospitality training facilities, student faculty housing and other concepts explored by our sister colleges should be considered for the sake of the districts improvement.

9B. What was yr position in 2017 when the Oakland Athletics wanted to build a stadium on Peralta/Laney land?

Since there was never an offer on the table, there was no position to be taken by the Trustees. As a public entity it was our responsibility to listen to our constituents and do a feasibility /impact study at their expense if it came to a proposal being given for consideration. My personal position was to advocate for all of the promises they were making for the future begin now by being responsive to the community they've resided in for decades.

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

I generally support parity and protested when a past chancellor eliminated parity pay. As a result, his decision was rescinded within weeks!

11. What is your experience with collective bargaining? What is your approach to conflict resolution?

I wholeheartedly support collective bargaining. I believe in participatory dialogue to resolve conflicts. I pushed for and led the Bullying in the workplace initiatives at the District and I also led the charge for Interest Based Bargaining in my first years as Trustee. As a result, Peralta has benefited. My background and degree in Organizational Development and Analysis from Weatherhead School of Management at CWRU has proven to be invaluable in addressing Peralta related conflict be it between Trustees, administration, faculty, students or others involved at the District.

12. What do you think about charter schools and privatization in education?

Having a granddaughter in public education has put the issue of charter schools right in my face. The lack of accountability of charter schools and the departure of resources from and diversity our public schools is harmful to our children. I believe we could work together to find a solution that would bring higher standards of learning to our kids but until that happens, I understand why parents seek alternatives to low performing schools as we all want the best for our children.

13 . If you are an incumbent, what are the three most important accomplishments that you achieved during your time on the Peralta Board? If you are a challenger, 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?

My relationship with ACBH led to the collaboration with Alex Briscoe to create our first student health clinic at Laney college which continues to flourish providing much needed services. For 14 years I've raised funds to take student leaders or students that were not yet aware of their leadership abilities to Washington DC for a one week intensive immersion in our countries government. This has now become institutionalized and has led to Peralta being selected by our Congresswoman to participate in the China Educational/Cultural exchange for the past 3 years. The majority of our student continue on to the UC system because of the expanding of their horizons and i still hear from many of them to this day.

Leading the charge to bring in an Inspector General and strongly advocating for an internal auditor and transparency.

14. Who has endorsed you so far? What labor support do you have?

Building Trades, ACDLC, Sup Keith Carson, Nate Miley, Council member Larry Reid, Lynette McElhaney, Joel Young AC Transit, Ben Bartlett Berkeley City Council, Shanti Gonzales OUSD, Sandre Swanson, Julie Waters, Rena Rickles, Julina Bonila and others pending.

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?

Currently I have approximately 3,000.00 on hand. Fundraisers are scheduled and i expect contributions to come from community, church, education and other supporters.