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Current occupation: teacher

1. Motivation -- Why did you choose to run for School Board?

For the past 23 years, I've supported student success one classroom at a time. Now I am ready to work towards students and families in our community having access to engaging, equitable, and socially just experiences at Emery Unified.

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?

My goal is for all students and families to feel as if they are welcome and supported at school. For too long, members of our community have not had equitable access to services and resources. I want to work with members of the Board and the school community to address matters related to student progress and success, both academically and socially/emotionally. I am also curious, after all the recent changes through which the district has gone, about how the Board can work to improve issues related to teacher and administrator attrition and retention.

3. Qualifications -- Please give a brief summary of your background and qualifications for the office of School Board member. If you are a current School Board member, what issues can you point to in your time as Board member that have had a positive impact? As a Board member what can you tell us about your service on the 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 Board?

I have been a teacher for twenty-three years. During my time as an educator I have worked primarily with historically under-represented urban families. I am very familiar with the systems and structures of education, both those that serve to support all learners and those that unfortunately serve to repress some members of our community.

I am also a parent of two school-aged children. We are a multi-racial, multi-faith gay blended family in which I am the only white person. Even as a white woman who is a professional educator, I have experienced barriers to access related to my own children's education and been in situations where our family's identities were unseen and invalidated. I do not want families in Emery Unified to share those experiences.

4. School Ratings and Evaluations -- How do you rate the Emeryville schools? Name the success and shortcomings?

Emery Unified is a uniquely small, geographically compact district in the Bay Area and serves its entire student population TK-12 on one new, modern physical site. This profile has benefits and drawbacks, and offers significant opportunities for improvement. Compared to other districts of its size and demographics, EUSD does not perform as well on standardized measures of student

achievement and this is especially true for African American and Latinx students. Students who are English Learners are making progress as reflected in standardized measures, yet along with the need for African American and Latinx students to make substantial progress I think there is room for students who are English Learners to make progress as well.

It is important to note that standardized measures are only one indicator and that there are many ways to observe student success. As a community I feel it would be beneficial for the Emery schools to experience growth in terms of increased involvement of currently-enrolled families, increased enrollment of students living within the district, increased steps taken towards diversity and inclusion, increased teacher retention, and the like.

5. Budget -- What changes to the EUSD budget would you suggest? (include changes to revenue). How do you see the impact of the Local Control Funding Formula and the role of staff and parents/community in LCAP?

As a prospective Board member, there is much I still need to learn about the EUSD budget and related matters. Overall, I support appropriate participation by all community members in matters related to LCAP and school funding.

6. Properties -- The District controls three properties. Now that phase one of the Emeryville Center of Community Life (ECCL) is completed, how do you think the former Anna Yates and Ralph Hawley sites should be utilized?

Before making any determination about this, I want to learn more about the uses these properties have served for the District in the past and build a stronger understanding about what options exist for their use going forward.

7. Fundraising -- What role should a Trustee play in District fund-raising from businesses, non-profits, and grant-making institutions?

Overall the role of a Trustee is to support the needs of the District and ultimately to be accountable to students and families. I think community partnerships can be a significant component in student success, and I would like to learn more about what roles Trustees have played in the past in regards to this matter.

8. Contributions -- Should Emeryville schools receive contributions directly, or should they be managed by a third party?

I think there are benefits to both models, and I would want to know what the Board as a whole feels would best serve the students and families.

9. Charter Schools -- What is your view of charter schools? How should the District respond to any applications it might receive to create a charter school within District boundaries?

As an educator I have seen charter schools that work in the interest of students, families, and teachers. I have also seen charter schools that drain public resources, take advantage of those within their communities who do not perceive themselves to have other school choices, and choose not to avoid accountability measures. Overall I support the use of public funds to support the improvement of public education services so that the schools of Emery Unified are seen by all families within the District as a positive choice to meet the needs of their children.

10. Testing and Teacher Evaluations -- What should the EUSD policy be regarding student testing and teacher evaluation? How would you use the scores? Should scores be used to evaluate the performance of administrators or teachers?

Teacher evaluation should not be tied to test scores. There are a huge range of factors which contribute to student achievement on standardized measures of success, many of which are outside of teachers' control. That being said, all teachers should indeed be evaluated using agreed-upon measures incorporating the California Standards for the Teaching Profession, the site administrators' vision for the schools as a whole, and most importantly the individual teachers' goals for their own professional growth and improvement.

11. Relationship to Teachers -- As an individual trustee, how would you want to interact with teachers? Would you want to meet with teachers as a group, individually, and if so, how frequently? Or would you primarily rely on the superintendent or public Board meetings to communicate with teachers?

As a teacher myself I am extremely comfortable meeting with and hearing from teachers. They are the backbone of a school and the primary point of contact for students and families. I believe structures should be created in which teachers feel they have access to Trustees so that the Board can develop a deeper relationship with this valuable resource within our district. Once these trusting relationships can be developed, the Board will be able to act with a fuller understanding of teacher needs. Supporting, recruiting, and retaining teachers gives a school the benefit of stronger relationships and a deeper institutional history within the community.

12. Outsourcing-- In recent years the District has fired or reduced the hours of some staff in favor of outsourcing school services such as the breakfast and lunch programs. When is it appropriate to outsource an existing school service? What factors should guide these decisions?

13. City Government Relations -- How should the City of Emeryville support the EUSD, and education in general?

Strong schools create strong communities, and partnership between the City and the District will be essential for school and community success. I know partnerships currently exist and if I am elected to the Board I would like the opportunity to review and potentially revise these partnerships to make sure they are of benefit to all participants.

14. Accountability -- How do you propose making yourself accountable and accessible to the citizens of Emeryville?

My contact information is readily available on the Official Election Site of Alameda County. You can access this information by going to acgov.org and using the Candidate List search feature. I welcome communication from any community member, and ask to be held accountable for my actions as a candidate and—if I am elected—as a Board member.

15. Money in Politics -- Do you support amending the Constitution to end corporate Constitutional rights and getting money out of politics? Have you [Taken the Pledge to Amend](https://movetoamend.org/take-pledge-amend)? (<https://movetoamend.org/take-pledge-amend>)

16. Endorsements -- Who has endorsed you so far? Who do you expect to endorse you? Who are you endorsing, from President all the way down ballot to local races?

To date, I am endorsed by Emery City Council Members Bauters, Medina, Martinez, and Patz. I am also endorsed by EUSD Board Member Inch.

17. 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 am in the early stages of funding my campaign and have not yet sought contributions.

18. Anything Else? -- Is there anything else you would like us to know about you?

I appreciate the opportunity to seek the endorsement of the Green Party of Alameda County. Reading, reflecting upon, and completing the candidate questionnaire has given me the opportunity to refine significant aspects of my beliefs as a candidate, and regardless of whether or not I am granted your endorsement I appreciate the chance to read and consider these questions.