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Current occupation: Business Owner, Clubhouse Caravan Charters

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

I have been an active parent at Anna Yates for the last 6 years, starting with my child in Kindergarten. I started as a regular member of the PTO then became the Vice President and Secretary most recently. I have spent many hours in the classroom and on campus, listening to teachers and parents, advocating for their concerns, volunteering my time for both support and fundraising. I am a trusted face in the community already so this transition to the school board I see as a step toward more impactful change.

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?

There are many opportunities at Emery Unified, given the small size of the district, the central K-12 campus and the unique city/school partnership of the ECCL. Now that we have transitioned to a new campus, new principals AND a new Superintendent, I would like to prioritize the needs of the teachers to build a solid foundation for growing our community and school. I consistently see and hear that teachers do not have the support they need to provide basic instruction much less fulfilling the goals of our LCAP. They particularly need support in the classrooms with teacher aids. Classroom disruption is the norm: Students that are challenging get sent from room to room, classrooms get split up when there are no substitutes (a frequent problem), low- and mid-range students get left behind, high achievers take care of themselves while challenging students take all of the teacher's attention. As a school board member, I want to make sure that we are not putting the cart before the horse as it has felt in previous years. Building a new building and recruiting new students before we had a proper foundation in place has led to many disappointed and frustrated parents and teachers. I want to help align and sustain resources to help our teachers get the basic support they need.

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? My motivations and qualifications are similarly aligned. I have been an active parent at Anna Yates for the last 6 years, starting with my child in Kindergarten. I started as a regular member of the PTO then became the Vice President and Secretary most recently. I have spent many hours in the classroom and on campus, listening to teachers and parents, advocating for their concerns, volunteering my time for both support and fundraising. I am a trusted face in the community already so this transition to the school board I see as a step toward more impactful change.

Additionally, I have my MBA in Sustainable Business and have

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

Our schools are a work in progress. We have successfully grown enrollment this year I have recently heard. We have serious shortcomings in recruiting and retaining teachers and staff. The overall outlook this year is good - with the new principals and superintendent people are feeling positive.

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?

I am looking forward to becoming more familiar with the budget and to help focus it on supporting our teachers. I know that we need more stakeholder input on the LCAP and that it has been very challenging to get it in the past.

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?

I believe the leases for both properties have 4 more years or so until they will be renewed. At that time I think they should be reviewed with input from stakeholders on how to best utilize them, whether that be bringing them back into the EUSD fold or continuing to lease them out.

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

Our schools need more money and Emeryville is a community rich with resources. The board should absolutely advocate for, support and execute on fundraising for the our district. There is nothing but opportunity for strengthening the relationships with donors and particularly businesses in our community and I think the board should take the lead.

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

Currently the PTO is a 501c3 and receives monetary donations for the school and there is no transparency around how other contributions are being handled. I believe they should be managed by a third party.

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?

I have mixed feelings about charter schools. I want our public schools to serve the needs of all children but recognize that there can be a case for a school with a different focus, for high-risk kids for example. I do not believe there is room for a charter school within our district boundaries.

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?

I believe that School Boards are most successful when they are data-driven and the data gathered from student testing and teacher evaluation is valuable as a piece of the overall performance picture. Scores should be used as a piece of data that is a part of a larger systems overview.

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?

I have a strong relationship with many teachers now and I plan on continuing to be open to interacting with them in any manner that they prefer. They are an invaluable source of information, ideas and feedback.

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?

In general I believe that these outsourcing decisions have been primarily budget driven and do not put the needs of our community first. The art and music programs in particular have suffered as a result of this in my opinion. In some cases, I can see how an expertise might best be filled through outsourcing but as a policy I don't support services or staff.

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

The city should continue to grow the strong city/school partnership that has existed and is further developing with the ECCL. I think we can strengthen our connection to the Emeryville Childhood Development Center as the readiness/feeder program that it is and continue to grow our after school and teen programs run with the city now. The kids of this town will become our leaders and we have seen this already in the current teachers and staff that grew up in the EUSD system. The better we serve them now, the better we are in the future.

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

I have a website, social media presence, email and phone number so that people can easily contact me. I am on the school site every day and have no doubt that the people of Emeryville will keep me accountable!

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>)

Yes and yes!

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?

Mayor John Bauters

City Council Member Christian Patz

City Council Member Dianne Martinez

School Board Trustee Barbara Inch

Expected endorsements:

Emery Teacher Association

Democratic Party

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 have currently only used personal finances for this race and plan on raising minimal contributions from community members. I do not anticipate the need to refuse any money but I would never accept money from a source at conflict with my personal beliefs.

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

As the only candidate with a child in the school, I think I have a unique perspective that will make my service invaluable. My education in sustainable business helps me to understand our schools from a systems mindset, as interconnected with our local and global community - particularly in that our campus is the Emeryville Center for Community Life. My restorative justice and non-profit training as a board member with the Bay Area Girls Rock Camp has also prepared me to work with diverse students and stakeholders. I am excited to take my dedication to children and public schooling to the next level.