

San Francisco District 11 Democratic Club
Questionnaire for Candidates – November 2016 Candidates

PLEASE USE THIS TEMPLATE TO RESPOND ELECTRONICALLY TO
info@sfd11dems.com by **Wednesday, August 17, 2016** by 11pm.

Our PAC meetings are scheduled for Saturday, Aug.27 & Sunday, Aug. 28, 2016 from 10am-5pm each day. If you have a preferred time to schedule, please contact info@sfd11dems.com. Otherwise, you will receive time an email to sign up for timeslots using google docs.

1. **Name:** Phil Kim
2. **Address:** 384A Capp Street, 94110
3. **Telephone/Cell phone:** (248) 227 - 2127
4. **Email address:** phil@philkim.org

5. **What is your political affiliation? How long?**

I registered as a Democrat in 2008, when I first registered to vote.

6. **Please list your campaign manager and contact info?**

There are a number of volunteers helping to run this campaign. There is no formal campaign manager. Please direct all questions to Phil (contact information above).

7. **What is the major source of your campaign funding? Also, please list your top 3 funders.**

Friends and family. My top three most recent funders are all friends in San Francisco who have contributed the maximum contribution (\$500).

8. **What office are you running for? Please explain why you are running and what your qualifications are for this specific office?**

I am running for the San Francisco Board of Education.

Why I am running for office:

In many ways, my life reflects so many hard-working families in San Francisco. I am a first-generation American-born educator. I am the son of small business owners. I am a product of the public school system. I am gay. Money was an incredible barrier for our me, as I grew up in a family struggling to make ends meet. My mother and younger brother now live in government subsidized low-income housing outside of Detroit. Carrying my identities with me, I came into teaching with a desire to serve and give back to my community, and stayed in education because I realized how critical our educational system is in providing access and opportunity (and because I loved my team and my students).

Though I come to this work with a relentless commitment to access and opportunity, I am disheartened by the lack of educational equity in San Francisco. On average, San Francisco students appear to be doing well on many measures. However, if one disaggregates the averages for example by neighborhood, income, or race, it paints a very different picture.

If elected, I may be one of the only elected credentialed educators on the Board of Education. As the Board takes on important questions and issues, I want to ensure that the voice of the communities I serve, including that of teachers, the Asian-American, and LGBT communities, is heard. If we want to pay more teachers, support essential programs, and build and maintain sustainable facilities for our schools, priorities will need to shift and resources will inevitably need to be reallocated. All the communities impacted should be adequately represented in those conversations. I believe my experience both personally and professionally makes me uniquely positioned to be able to make informed decisions and enact policies or build programs necessary to elevate the needs of students, families, and teachers, and allow SFUSD to be a district where all students, regardless of their identity, can have an equitable education and live a choice-filled life.

My experience and qualifications:

I came into this work as a 7th grade Life Science teacher at KIPP Summit Academy, a public middle school in the East Bay. While there, I served as Science Department Chair, leading the school-wide transition towards the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). I have worked at both the local and state level, participating in the California NGSS Symposium for science teachers and leaders, and was an active member of the NGSS Science Stakeholder's Meetings sponsored by the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress. In these capacities, I worked alongside organizations such as K-12 Alliance/WestED, California Science Project, California Science Teachers Association (CSTA), Curriculum and Instruction Steering Committee, and the California Department of Education (CDE). While teaching, I led restorative justice circles and discussions, partnered with parents and families, supported the launch of student college savings programs, and served as Instructional Innovation Specialist.

I now serve at the regional support level, working with 11 schools across the Bay Area to support blended and personalized learning, new classroom and school models, and working closely with Data, Technology, and Operations to ensure schools have all the supports they need to best serve their students. I work directly with teachers, deans, assistant principals, and school leaders. In addition to my work as Innovation Manager, I am charged with building out a vision and plan for supporting sciences across the region to more closely align with the NGSS. I work nationally with the KIPP Foundation as a member of the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Maker (STEM) Guiding Coalition.

9. Identify the three most important issues for the position you seek? What are the solutions you see for these specific issue areas or how will you work to tackle them?

Focus on Teaching and Learning - Students First

The people in our schools are our greatest asset. I want to first spend time understanding our people structure, and re-orienting the conversation at the Board level to focus on student progress and teacher outcomes. In addition to hiring and retaining local talent, I will focus my energy on strengthening teacher supports, developing curricular expertise, and securing an adequate salary and resources for our educators.

Encouraging Innovative and Data-Driven Practices

Our direction as a District is only as strong as the data we have to inform our next steps. First and foremost, I will work to ensure that data practices are efficient and that we are collecting the information we need to make informed decisions. Additionally, I want to pay particular attention to the science, computer science, and engineering areas to ensure we are integrating 21st century learning into our everyday teaching.

Promoting Safe and Inclusive Schools

In order to establish a positive culture and climate in our schools, there must be internalization at the school level of the District's initiatives around Social-Emotional Learning and Restorative Practices. As a teacher, I led development with staff around these areas. Furthermore, expanding high-quality wraparound services for students and families, offering more opportunities for cultural competency and implicit bias training is crucial in supporting teachers, families, students, and staff.

10. District 11 has more children, more ethnic diversity and more homeowners than any other district in San Francisco. These are just a few of the unique features of this district. If elected, describe the priorities of your office for District 11.

San Francisco Unified School District has a strong vision of equity and excellence, but a strong vision alone is not what is going to get all our students to be successful. Our Board lacks context of what it is like to be on the ground in schools. As elected leaders, our Board makes extremely important decisions that impact everyday teaching and learning in San Francisco. I want to ensure that the Board is as proximal to our work as possible so that they aren't making decisions that are solely politically motivated, lacking in the knowledge needed for true progress, or looking at data around school and student success without any context to hold themselves and the District accountable. I can bring that level of

context and accountability to the Board of Education, and ensure that the realities of our education system match the vision and innovation of our City.

My priorities in office, first and foremost, include raising salaries for educators and school staff. Additionally, I want to bring to SFUSD a robust and public data dashboard online to make our District's results and progress more transparent. I would also like to examine more closely the Multi-Tiered System of Supports and the School Assignment System, and explore potential shifts to improve on these systems.

There are also other important priorities, such as selecting a new Superintendent, and providing support around the implementation of computer science and new science curriculum around the Next Generation Science Standards.

11. We would like to know your position on the following ALL of the Measures, please circle or clearly mark your preference. In addition, please add short comments to your top 5 issues on why you believe this measure or proposition is of critical importance this election:

LOCAL Measures:

Initiative Ordinance: Affordable Housing Requirements for Market-Rate Development Projects (Resubmitted)
NO POSITION YET*

Initiative Ordinance: Competitive Bidding for Affordable Housing Projects on City-Owned Projects (Resubmitted)
NO POSITION YET*

Initiative Ordinance: Office Development in Candlestick Point and Hunters Point
NO POSITION YET*

Initiative Ordinance: Allocation of Hotel Tax Funds
NO POSITION YET*

Charter Amendment- Sixteen and Seventeen-Year-Old Voting for Municipal Elections
SUPPORT – I was at the board meeting with students made compelling arguments in favor of the #Vote16 initiative. I think coupled with the proper exposure, programs, and guidance, students 16 and over can be a powerful voice in local elections.

San Francisco Community College District November 8, 2016 Parcel Tax Election
SUPPORT

Prohibiting Candidate-Controlled General Purpose Committees
NO POSITION YET*

Initiative Ordinance - Sugary Drinks Distributor Tax Ordinance
NO POSITION YET*

Initiative Ordinance - The Safe Neighborhoods Initiative
SUPPORT

Initiative Ordinance - Promotion of Safe and Open Sidewalks
NO POSITION YET*

Resolution Ordering School Bond Election in an Amount Not to Exceed \$744,250,000 and Authorizing Necessary Actions in Connection Therewith
SUPPORT – This school bond is critical in ensuring a dedicated source of funding for our schools, including improving infrastructure, access to technology, and building/maintenance.

Charter Amendment - Dignity Fund
SUPPORT

Charter Amendment - Municipal Transportation Agency- Appointments to Board of Directors and Budget Process
NO POSITION YET*

Charter Amendment - Homeless Housing Services Fund; Transportation Improvement Fund - Budget Set-Asides
SUPPORT

Charter Amendment - Filling Vacancies in Local Elective Office
NO POSITION YET*

Initiative Ordinance - Increase Real Property Transfer Tax on Properties of At Least \$5,000,000
SUPPORT

Initiative Ordinance - Restrict Lobbyist Gifts, Campaign Contributions and Bundled Contributions
SUPPORT

Charter Amendment - Housing and Development Commission
NO POSITION YET*

Charter Amendment - Department of Police Accountability
SUPPORT

Charter Amendment - Non-Citizens Voting in School Board Elections
SUPPORT – I believe any parents of SFUSD students, including non-citizens, should be able to vote for School Board elections. If they are impacted by the District, they should have an opportunity to express their support for their preferred leadership.

Charter Amendment - Public Advocate
NO POSITION YET*

General Obligation Bond Election -Amending Earthquake Loan Bond Program to Finance Acquisition and Rehabilitation of Affordable Housing
SUPPORT

Charter Amendment - City Responsibility for Maintaining Street Trees
SUPPORT

*** I have indicated local and state measures that I currently support or oppose. For measures that I am not fully aware of or have not had a chance to thoroughly consider, I have stated as “No Position Yet.” This does not indicate any partial consideration to support or oppose; it simply means that I have not had enough time or exposure to come to a fully informed decision yet.**

State Measures:

Proposition 51: School Bonds. Funding for K-12 School and Community College Facilities. Initiative Statutory Amendment.

SUPPORT

Proposition 52: State Fees on Hospitals. Federal Medi-Cal Matching Funds. Initiative Statutory and Constitutional Amendment.

NO POSITION YET*

Proposition 53: Revenue Bonds. Statewide Voter Approval. Initiative Constitutional Amendment.

NO POSITION YET*

Proposition 54: Legislature. Legislation and Proceedings. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute.

NO POSITION YET*

Proposition 55: Tax Extension to Fund Education and Healthcare. Initiative Constitutional Amendment.

SUPPORT – I believe this tax extension is critical in bringing much-needed funding to our public schools, extending a stream of funding that will continue to serve our District.

Proposition 56: Cigarette Tax to Fund Healthcare, Tobacco Use Prevention, Research, and Law Enforcement. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute.

SUPPORT

Proposition 57: Criminal Sentences. Juvenile Criminal Proceedings and Sentencing. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute.

SUPPORT

Proposition 58: SB 1174 (Chapter 753, Statutes of 2014), Lara.

[English language education. \(PDF\)](#)

SUPPORT – I strongly support the choice of parents to choose a language acquisition program that best suits their child, in addition to bringing updates to the equity-based Local Control Accountability Plan requirements.

Proposition 59: SB 254 (Chapter 20, Statutes of 2016), Allen.

[Campaign finance: voter instruction. \(PDF\)](#)

NO POSITION YET*

Proposition 60: Adult Films. Condoms. Health Requirements. Initiative Statute.
NO POSITION YET*

Proposition 61: State Prescription Drug Purchases. Pricing Standards. Initiative Statute.
NO POSITION YET*

Proposition 62: Death Penalty. Initiative Statute.
SUPPORT

Proposition 63: Firearms. Ammunition Sales. Initiative Statute.
SUPPORT

Proposition 65: Carry-Out Bags. Charges. Initiative Statute.
NO POSITION YET*

Proposition 66: Death Penalty. Procedures. Initiative Statute.
NO POSITION YET*

Proposition 67: Referendum to Overturn Ban on Single-Use Plastic Bags.
NO POSITION YET*

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