

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:** Shanell Williams
2. **Address:** 438 Oxford St., San Francisco, CA 94134
3. **Telephone/Cell phone:** 415- 375-1069
4. **Email address:** info@shanellforcollegeboard.org
5. **What is your political affiliation? How long?**
I've been a registered Democrat for 14 years.
6. **Please list your campaign manager and contact info?**
Emily Swide, 707-980-2336, emily@shanellforcollegeboard.org
7. **What is the major source of your campaign funding? Also, please list your top 3 funders.**
The major sources of my campaign funding has come from educators, working-class folks, non-profit workers and laborers. 3 of my top funders are AFT 2121, Jill Habig and Andy Blue.
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 Community College Board because I want students to have the same opportunity of the affordable, accessible and diverse education that I had at City College. I have the leadership, experience, knowledge and relationships necessary to represent the diverse interests of San Franciscans and stakeholders in City College.

A native San Franciscan and proud graduate of City College, I've spent the past 4 fighting to save City College from loss of accreditation and closure. I served two terms as Student Trustee and served on the Student Senate for California Community Colleges as Communications Officer and External Affairs Officer for Region 3, the Bay Area region.

I have over 16 years of professional development training and experience combined with lived experiences in the communities that City College serves. I

am currently employed with UCSF as Community Engagement Specialist for the California Preterm Birth Initiative. I have worked for numerous nonprofit agencies and labor organizations dedicated to improving the quality of life of marginalized, low income communities such as: the Center for Young Women's Development, Youth Leadership Institute, UNITE HERE Local 2, Jobs with Justice, and Urban Services YMCA to name a few. I am a graduate of the Women's Policy Institute, the Women's Initiative for Self-Employment, the School for Organizing, Unity and Liberation, and have served on the Youth Commission, the Juvenile Justice Commission and other community boards.

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? (scale down to 3)

- a. **Preserve accreditation.** The Accrediting Commission for Junior and Community has been found to have taken illegal actions while evaluating City College. The injunction placed on the ACCJC mandates they reevaluate the College in a legal manner. It's a possibility the ACCJC will vote to close the College. If this happens, as a Trustee I will ensure we take swift legal action against the ACCJC and contributing parties to this decision. I will mobilize elected officials and stakeholders to fight back.
- b. **Independent oversight of the bond funding.** There was not a Bond Oversight Committee in place for Proposition A for the past four years at the College. The Performing Arts Education Center, approved by voters, has yet to be developed. Increased and independent oversight is essential to making sure these ballot measures are not just empty promises.
- c. **Stop relying on cuts to balance the budget.** The City College administration and Special Trustee have relied on cuts to fix the loss of revenue from the drop in enrollment. I'll ensure there are systems in place for students to enroll and stay in their classes. With the "super growth bill", the College is able to increase enrollment a a larger rate each year.

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.

Having lived in District 11, I have a deep understanding of the unique and diverse aspects of the District 11 community. On the College Board, I would work to represent the diverse interests of District 11. Specifically, I would ensure CCSF is supportive of low income and working class families. I would work to increase the availability of childcare, as this is all too often a barrier to accessing higher

education. In addition, I would support enhanced resources for undocumented students and students of color, and channel funding to bolster programs honoring diversity. Another challenge specific to District 11 is the congestion caused by commuters to CCSF. On the Board, I would make sure CCSF is respectful of its neighbor, District 11, and support transportation that works for everyone to curb congestion in the surrounding area.

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)

Support

Initiative Ordinance: Competitive Bidding for Affordable Housing Projects on City-Owned Projects (Resubmitted)

Oppose

Initiative Ordinance: Office Development in Candlestick Point and Hunters Point

Support

Initiative Ordinance: Allocation of Hotel Tax Funds

Oppose

Charter Amendment- Sixteen and Seventeen-Year-Old Voting for Municipal Elections
Support. Having gotten my start on the Youth Commission at age 15, and having written policy at age 18, I know we cannot underestimate the sophistication of young people. With record low turnout, we must do everything we can to encourage civic engagement, and inviting young people to engage in local politics is a great first step toward a lifetime of participation in political process.

San Francisco Community College District November 8, 2016 Parcel Tax Election
Support. Passing this proposition is critical to the future viability of City College, and if elected, I would ensure careful and independent oversight of parcel tax revenue.

Prohibiting Candidate-Controlled General Purpose Committees
Support

Initiative Ordinance - Sugary Drinks Distributor Tax Ordinance

Support. Last year, my mother passed away from Type 2 diabetes. Over time, I saw a beautiful, bright, healthy individual deteriorate and ultimately succumb to diabetes complications and kidney failure. As a woman of color who knows firsthand the impact of Type 2 diabetes, I cannot stand by and oppose this measure.

Initiative Ordinance - The Safe Neighborhoods Initiative
Support

Initiative Ordinance - Promotion of Safe and Open Sidewalks
Oppose

Resolution Ordering School Bond Election in an Amount Not to Exceed \$744,250,000 and Authorizing Necessary Actions in Connection Therewith
Support

Charter Amendment - Dignity Fund
Support

Charter Amendment - Municipal Transportation Agency- Appointments to Board of Directors and Budget Process
Oppose

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

Charter Amendment - Filling Vacancies in Local Elective Office
Oppose

Initiative Ordinance - Increase Real Property Transfer Tax on Properties of At Least \$5,000,000
Support. The revenue generated from this tax would help fund CCSF, making the college more accessible and affordable. Again, I would work to make sure funds are

used appropriately and that it is properly channeled directly into the classroom, particularly into programs that need it most, like diversity studies.

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

Charter Amendment - Housing and Development Commission
Support

Charter Amendment - Department of Police Accountability
Support. Police reform is long overdue and we have lost far too many men and women, particularly in communities of color, to unnecessary violence at the hands of police. We need to take action to cement change in this system.

Charter Amendment - Non-Citizens Voting in School Board Elections
Support

Charter Amendment - Public Advocate
Oppose

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

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.
Support

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

Oppose

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

Support

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

Support

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

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

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

Support

Proposition 60: Adult Films. Condoms. Health Requirements. Initiative Statute.

Oppose

Proposition 61: State Prescription Drug Purchases. Pricing Standards. Initiative Statute.

Support

Proposition 62: Death Penalty. Initiative Statute.
Support

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

Proposition 65: Carry-Out Bags. Charges. Initiative Statute.
Support

Proposition 66: Death Penalty. Procedures. Initiative Statute.
Oppose

Proposition 67: Referendum to Overturn Ban on Single-Use Plastic Bags.
Support