

Dear Candidate:

The San Francisco Democratic Party (SFDCCC) is eager to learn more about your candidacy and invites you to participate in our endorsement process.

If you would like to be considered for an endorsement by SFDCCC, please complete the attached Endorsement Questionnaire and return to [info@sfdemocrats.org](mailto:info@sfdemocrats.org) by **Monday, August 13 at 5:00pm**. Our Endorsement Committee will meet candidates for interviews on **August 18, 2018**. The exact time of your interview and location will be provided to you after we review your completed Candidate Endorsement Questionnaire and have determined that you meet our bottom line requirements to be considered for an endorsement. At the time of the interview, you may also provide additional information to supplement your questionnaire. You are limited to four (4) total pages, and you must provide 5 copies.

SFDCCC seeks to encourage the election of qualified local candidates who will help to advance our shared Democratic values. We are only able to endorse registered Democrats, except in the case of a nonpartisan race in which no registered Democrat has qualified for the ballot. We also seek to support those candidates who express agreement and have demonstrated support for our core issues and priorities, which are included in the California Democratic Party Platform, our Bylaws, and Policies and Procedures Manual (which can all be found at [www.cadems.org](http://www.cadems.org) and [www.sfdemocrats.org](http://www.sfdemocrats.org)).

To qualify for an endorsement interview, all candidates must indicate that they support the Democratic principles in our party platform, complete the Candidate Endorsement Questionnaire, and return it by the deadline of **August 13, 2018 at 5:00pm**.

Candidate interviews will be brief and will be open to both SFDCCC members and members of San Francisco's chartered democratic clubs. Following the Endorsement Committee interview, the full body will deliberate and vote on a final endorsement at our meeting scheduled for August 22, 2018, at 6:30pm, at the Tenderloin Community Elementary School. Meetings are open to the general public and are live streamed on our Facebook page. You are welcome to attend or follow our progress online.

The following rules also apply to the SFDCCC endorsement process and any violation may be subject to further actions, including a revocation of the endorsement:

1. Candidates may only use the “SF Democratic Party” name and image after the full membership endorsement;
2. Once endorsed, the SFDCCC will provide a high-resolution copy of our logo which may be used in your materials **only** for the race for which you were endorsed;
3. In the case of elections in which Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) is employed, listing of the SFDCCC endorsement must accurately reflect the ranked endorsement as detailed in our Policies and Procedures Manual;
4. Third parties wishing to utilize the SFDCCC name or logo in their campaign materials must submit a request to our Executive Director.

Thank you very much for your interest in the SFDCCC endorsement. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions. We look forward to learning more about your candidacy and your campaign.

Respectfully,  
The San Francisco Democratic Party

By signing below, you acknowledge that you will comply with the SFDCCC’s Bylaws and Policies and Procedures and you will not utilize the SFDCCC name, the San Francisco Democratic Party, or its logo without written permission.

Mia Satya

 (signature)

San Francisco Board of Education

8/15/18

## **SF DCCC Candidate Questionnaire Board of Education**

Name Mia Satya  
Address 717 Panorama Drive  
City, State, Zip San Francisco, CA 94131

Campaign Phone Number 415-304-3684

Cell Phone Number 415-304-3684

E-mail Address Mia@MiaSatya.com

Are you a registered member of the Democratic Party? **Yes** No

Have you read the California Democratic Party Platform? **Yes** No

Will you fight for its implementation in policies? **Yes** No

What office are you running for? San Francisco Board of Education

Are you running for re-election? Yes **No**

What other elected positions have you held previously? N/A

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

· Please complete this questionnaire and bring 5 copies (for the 31 Committee members and for Democratic Clubs) with you to be distributed just prior to your interview appointment on ***August 18, 2018***

**\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*** Please send electronic copies to info@SFDemocrats.org by **5:00 PM on August 13, 2018**. **With the possible exception of a Democratic candidate filing to run after the questionnaire due date, only candidates who return a completed questionnaire electronically by the due date will be allowed to present before the committee.**

At the time of the interview, you may also provide 45 copies of up to 4 pages of supplemental information attached to your questionnaire for distribution to SFDCCC members (materials are not to be passed out during the meeting). We may distribute the questionnaires in preparation for event and post them on the SFDCCC website for the public to view.

If you have not heard from the committee by **Thursday, August 16**, please contact Executive Director, Adam Mehis at 415-626-1161 or info@sfdemocrats.org to schedule a time slot during the Endorsement Interview Meeting.

**PART I: GENERAL QUESTIONS (200 words or less)**

**Why are you committed to serving on the School Board? What stake do you have in decisions made at the School Board (e.g. parent, student, educator, etc.)?**

I am thankful for public education, mentorship, and training opportunities that have allowed a girl like me, from a small town, to blossom into a nationally recognized social justice advocate and LGBTQ scholar.

Despite San Francisco's reputation as an LGBTQ mecca, fully half of trans children attempt suicide before 9th grade. Huge swaths of our students lack basic necessities of housing and subsistence. I believe SFUSD is one of the best school districts in the country, and yet we have some of the worst outcomes for African American students in California. The neglect we are seeing of African American students and students of color, in one of the greatest concentrations of wealth in the world is an unmitigated outrage.

I was a marginalized student who used the public system and organization of youth within it to effect the change that I and others needed to live. My career has been spent counseling, educating, and mentoring other young people in after school programs and summer job opportunities. Under the current national climate, I am running to ensure that the youth who should be at the forefront of social change are empowered to lead.

**Please describe your contributions to the Democratic Party and/or increasing civic engagement in the democratic process at the local, state and or/national level in the most recent years.**

I have served in various leadership positions in the Democratic Party at the local, state and national level. I have served locally as Secretary of San Francisco Young Democrats and Vice President of External Affairs, Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club, and statewide as Vice Chair of the California Young Democrats LGBTQ Caucus. In 2016 I was elected to serve as a delegate at the Democratic National Convention, and in 2017 I was elected to Delegate to the California Democratic Party. As a delegate I advocated for Medicare for All, repealing Costa Hawkins, and creating the most progressive platform for the California Democratic Party.

Locally I have participated in phone banks, canvassing, and get out the vote efforts for the Democratic Party. In 2016 I also started All Out the LGBTQ Political Pipeline, a series of workshops that inspired, educated, mentored, and empowered young people to be more politically active. All Out participants also lead voter registration drives in the Castro and Mission, to motivate more young people to vote.

**Are there any other civic causes or organizations that you are involved with? Please describe.**

I have extensive organizing experience fighting for racial, economic, and gender justice. I have worked for many of the LGBTQ nonprofits in San Francisco including the San Francisco LGBT Center, the Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center, San Francisco Community

Health Center (formerly API Wellness), St. James Infirmary, and I have collaborated on projects with over 30 youth serving nonprofits in the City.

Here is a selection of some of the leadership roles I have played outside of political organizations.

### **Community Organizations**

- Steering Committee, SF Transgender Empowerment Advocacy Mentorship Program
- Transgender Community Advisory Board, San Francisco Community Health Center
- Advisory Board Member, SF LGBTQ Speaker's Bureau
- Community Organizer, Children's Fund Community Coalition
- Advisory Board Member, Queer Land Trust
- Citywide Transitional Age Youth Advisory Board

### **Appointed Positions**

- San Francisco Unified School District Quality Teacher Education Act Oversight Committee
- SF Department of Children, Youth and Their Families Oversight and Advisory Committee
- San Francisco Youth Commission

### **Please summarize your qualifications and experience for the office you are seeking.**

Bridging my personal and professional experiences as a service provider and community educator, I advocate for policy solutions that will make our communities more equitable.

I became homeless as a youth and moved to San Francisco to find community. I dove into community work, and eventually enrolled at Mills College where I received a degree in Political, Legal and Economic Analysis. I worked in San Francisco at an afterschool program where I mentored high school students to help them achieve their educational and professional goals. I taught workshops on health, civic engagement and LGBTQ allyship at 10 public schools in San Francisco and lectured at 30 universities.

I have 5 years of experience working with students in San Francisco, and I have extensive experience successfully advocating for programs that benefit children. I have envisioned new programs, advocated for their creation, developed the implementation process, and evaluated the programs to continuously evolve and thrive.

I volunteered on the Children's Fund Community Coalition. I lobbied legislators, facilitated a town hall, and conducted trainings which empowered people to educate their communities about the fund. This resulted in an increase in the fund to over \$100M a year in critical services for children.

**Please list any organizations or elected officials who have endorsed you. (You may attach a list and exceed the word count limit).**

**Elected Officials**

Supervisor Rafael Mandelman  
Supervisor Jane Kim  
Commissioner Matt Haney, San Francisco Board of Education  
Trustee Ivy Lee, City College Board  
Trustee Tom Temprano, City College Board  
Trustee Thea Selby, City College Board  
Trustee Shanell Williams, City College Board  
David Campos, Chair of DCCC  
Honey Mahogany, DCCC Member  
Peter Gallota, DCCC Member  
Jen Low, DCCC Member  
Delaine Eastin, Former Superintendent of Public Instruction  
Former President of the Board of Supervisors Harry Britt  
Former Supervisor John Avalos  
Lateefah Simon, Bart Board of Directors  
Bevan Dufty, Bart Board of Directors  
Amber Childress, Alameda County Board of Education  
Jumoke Hinton Hodge, VP Oakland School Board  
Kalimah Salahuddin, VP Jefferson Union High School District  
Kim Coco Iwamoto, Hawaii Board of Education

**Leaders**

Juanita More, LGBTQ Leader  
Sophia Andary, SF Women's March\*  
Melanie Ampon, SF Human Rights Commissioner\*  
Angeles Roy, Immigrant Rights Commissioner\*  
Gary McCoy, California Homeless Coordinating & Financing Council Member\*  
Cecilia Chung, SF Health Commissioner\*  
Wendolyn Aragon, SFPUC Citizens' Advisory Committee\*  
Hene Kelly, Chair California Democrats Disability Caucus\*  
Sunny Angulo, Legislative Aide\*  
Renata Moreira, Director, Our Family Coalition\*  
Mollie Brown, Director, Huckleberry Youth\*  
Tony Kelly, President, Potrero Hill Democratic Club\*  
Kim Alvarenga, Director, California Domestic Workers Coalition\*

**Organizations**

Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club

**If you are elected, what are your top concerns? How would you address these concerns?**

San Francisco has the fastest growing wealth and income divide in the country and this has a negative impact on our students, teachers, and paraprofessionals. My top priorities are to address the root causes of the affordability crisis and its' impact in our learning communities, and to strengthen policies that make our schools more safe, supportive, and inclusive for all of our students.

San Francisco public school teachers should be the highest paid in the Bay Area, but are in fact some of the lowest paid. I have never made more than a first year teacher in San Francisco, and I know how stressful it is to survive on a limited budget in one of the most expensive cities in the U.S.

I will continue advocating for Solutions Not Suspensions and dismantle policies that funnel our students to the criminal justice system. I'm dedicated to increasing funding for health and wellness programs.

There remains an opportunity gap for African American and Latino students. We should strengthen mentorship programs and postsecondary pathways, as well as improve recruitment and retainment of teachers of color. Investing in early childhood education, smaller class sizes, and paraprofessionals in classrooms will help all students thrive.

**The California Democratic Party Platform mentions building healthy, livable, and sustainable communities, what does this mean to you?**

First and foremost we must have livable communities that create a position of security for individuals to contribute to the economy form, rather than one more commodity to be denied those who cannot afford it regardless of the consequences.

Firm environmental standards must be achieved, but there is no substitute for ready access to universal free healthcare, transportation without pollution or expense, education without charge or debt, and housing without fear of eviction. A truly safe community is one where democracy extends to all facets of life, where the economy serves and profits the residents, and whose planning proceeds from a concept ratified by the residents and reaffirmed according to their priorities.

Our planning must be democratic, hire locally, incorporate public infrastructure, and be created with the long term life of our planet and us as a people in mind.

**Would you support the idea of school districts using local accountability plans to grant funds to reach students with the greatest needs for whom they are most needed? Why or why not?**

Absolutely. In my various roles in City government I have consistently advocated for an equitable distribution of resources to best serve the most vulnerable children. I advocated for funding to go to communities with the highest needs instead of using a substantial amount of funds to support schools and students who have already pulled ahead.

In my activism and in talking to teachers, there is no greater pain than seeing a child with difficulties greater than we can surmount growing more and more distant from their education until they disappear from class. Funding directed towards areas in intense need is not only wise, it is a moral imperative. Assistance should go to those who need help, not as a reward for those who already have their needs met.

## **PART II: YES/NO QUESTIONS**

While it may seem that some of these questions do not apply to the office you are seeking, they represent California Democratic Party Platform principles and since many people run for higher office where they will be called upon to answer these questions, we would like them addressed.

### **ECONOMIC JUSTICE**

Do you support the divestment of public funds from Wells Fargo and other financial institutions involved in speculative and questionable banking practices?

**Yes No**

Do you believe that the government should provide foreclosure relief for borrowers who were victims of unethical financial service practices?

**Yes No**

Do you support the creation of a local municipal bank in San Francisco?

**Yes No**

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE/POLICE REFORM**

Do you support overhauling the bail system?

**Yes No**

Do you believe in ending mass incarceration and supporting the abolishment of capital punishment?

**Yes No**

Do you support using jails as mental health facilities and substance abuse treatment programs?

**Yes No**

Will you commit to encouraging “ban the box” to ensure that those formerly incarcerated are given an equal opportunity for housing and employment?

**Yes No**

Do you support the San Francisco Police Department being equipped with Tasers?

**Yes No**

## **CHILDCARE**

Do you support expanding affordable childcare to low- and middle-income families?

**Yes No**

Do you support expanding child care to include children aged 0-3 years old?

**Yes No**

## **EDUCATION**

Do you believe in a “debt-free college” and free community college (i.e. Education financed entirely without student loans)?

**Yes No**

Would you support the idea of school districts using local accountability plans to grant funds to reach students with the greatest needs for whom they are most needed?

**Yes No**

Do you support that teachers and professional staff deserve commensurate wages?

**Yes No**

## **ENVIRONMENT**

Do you oppose new fossil fuel infrastructure projects and supporting the divestment of fossil fuels?

**Yes No**

Do you believe in Free MUNI for youth?

**Yes No**

Do you support the Safe Routes to Schools program?

**Yes No**

### **HEALTHCARE**

Do you support a publicly funded single payer health care system for all people?

**Yes No**

Should SFUSD expand Healthcare Centers to all high schools?

**Yes No**

Do you support that all students have access to safe and reliable reproductive services and information without their spouse, judicial, parental, or guardian consent?

**Yes No**

### **CIVIL RIGHTS AND IMMIGRATION JUSTICE ISSUES**

Will you work to implement full Ethnic Studies courses and language immersion?

**Yes No**

Will you support Sanctuary policies and Due Process for All -- limiting the ability for local authorities to collaborate with Federal government on immigration enforcement which incites fear in immigrant communities?

**Yes No**

Do you support speaking out in public against all forms of racism, discrimination, hatred and violence and support standing in solidarity with movements that promote equity, including Black Lives Matter?

**Yes No**

Will you protect the right of all people to use facilities and participate in all aspects of society regardless of their gender identity and the gender assigned at birth?

**Yes No**

## **LABOR**

Will you support the push for a statewide minimum wage for at least \$15 per hour and living wages for areas that have high cost of living?

**Yes No**

Do you support that teachers and professional staff deserve commensurate wages?

**Yes No**

Do you support paid parental leave for school educators?

**Yes No**

## **CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM**

Do you support full disclosure of funding sources for political advertisements?

**Yes No**

## **HOUSING, TENANT, & LAND USE ISSUES**

Do you believe that housing is a human right?

**Yes No**

Do you believe the split roll for Proposition 13 that treats taxes for commercial and residential property differently?

**Yes No**

Would you support repealing Costa Hawkins and the Ellis Act?

**Yes No**

Do you support use of SFUSD property to build affordable housing?

**Yes No**

Have you read the California Democratic Party Platform?

Yes No

Will you fight for its implementation in policies?

Yes No

### **PART III: SHORT-ANSWER QUESTIONS ON ISSUES (250 words or less)**

#### **1) What programs or initiatives would you undertake to address the educational disparities for SFUSD students?**

Our schools are great, but there remains an opportunity gap for African American and Latino youth who are less likely to graduate and more likely to be incarcerated than their peers. For better advantaged parents, extra-curricular activities, tutorship, parent advocacy, and personalized therapy have all become expected standards in raising a child. An open conversation about what the more privileged are providing for their children is necessary so that we can fully understand the disparities in effect, and move towards enumerating a right to such advantages for all.

We must conceive and enact new baseline standards for all that incorporate the types of educational assistance that have become the de-facto standard for those who can afford it. Mentorship programs, Wellness Centers, Postsecondary Pathways, and other forms of emotional and holistic counseling must be strengthened. Trusted figures must be given structures to enable them to work with students between grades to provide stability in the long term, and advocate for those students when they are facing difficulty.

Classes themselves need to be smaller, and taught more often by teachers of color. Schools need to be able to connect children to social services without endangering their home lives. We need to expand the means we have to get material or mental resources to our students, and create the small classrooms and large teaching staff that can ensure that no child goes overlooked.

#### **2) What would be your budget priorities for the School District?**

Firstly I would prioritize securing the salaries and wellbeing of teachers. I favor overall raises to bring them up to city standards of living, and creating an automatic raise schedule based on indicators like the Consumer Price Index. However we can never increase every salary enough to meet the expenses of this city, so we must use our budget along with union and district collective negotiation to defray costs in every way possible- pursuing community land trusts for housing, re-investing in pensions for teachers, and acquiring group packages for educators with regard to

necessities like cell phone and internet plans. I would also shift the budget to better compensate first time teachers saddled with debt and added expenses like finding a first apartment or car.

Secondarily I would budget the expansion of health and direct services through our Wellness Centers. Schools should be prepared to intervene to reverse the downward spirals of students facing extraordinary deprivation and trauma including homelessness and mental health challenges.

Thirdly I would continue to prioritize additional funding for arts education. Many schools lack funding set asides like PEEF that support sports, arts, libraries music in our schools. We are lucky to have PEEF, but I believe that art is not only healing and empowering, learning how to play an instrument or how to paint can also help students excel in other subjects, which is a great return on investment for the district.

**3) Do you believe that SFUSD's school assignment system needs reform? If not, why? If so, how would you change it?**

San Francisco is losing it's diversity at an alarming rate and so are its schools. The school assignment system aims to make our schools more equitable, yet some schools have seen an increase in segregation since its implementation.

The increased ability of affluent, native English speaking parents to advocate for their children's moving schools means that we have enabled, through the understandable desire of individual parents to secure the best opportunities for their children, a de-facto system of segregation.

Students of color, low income students, and students in foster care do not always have the same resources to get into desired schools. Public schools have a responsibility to educate all students equitably, and to do that we can not use a color blind, cookie cutter approach to education. Many students need extra support to stay housed, healthy, and on the right track to success.

Ideally, every school in every neighborhood of San Francisco would hold a highly desirable school that parents would be excited about. Some schools will of course be too far, unsafe, or a poor fit for certain children. We must differentiate between these urgent safety needs and moving schools for other reasons.

**4) What is your belief on Common Core Standards? In recent years, there has been controversy that the new methodology is placing some students at a disadvantage for high achievement and college preparation. How would you address this concern?**

I believe that Common Core is a step in the right direction, and that students from across the country should graduate with equivalent competencies in core subjects. A high school diploma in Texas should not be worth less than a high school diploma in California. San Francisco should also have the power to set its own standards, taking federal considerations as a minimum to build

upon, and making provisions to exempt children from such standards on the basis of learning disability or linguistic non proficiency. We should investigate for ourselves in dispassionate and statistically rigorous manner whether or not a significant portion of our students are suffering from new standards, and act only in the event that we can confirm such facts. Should there be credible evidence created and interpreted demonstrating that Common Core Standards have had an adverse effect on some portion of our students, then I would be willing to pursue rollback of the pertinent changes to best serve all of our students.

**5) What do you think are the factors attributing to the teacher shortage in SFUSD? How would you address this?**

Principally, it comes down to pay. San Francisco is the most expensive city in the world, and we pay our teachers less than other Bay Area schools. We need answers better than periodically raising salaries when conditions are right for teachers to be heard, rather than making provisions to adjust their income automatically according to price indexes. We need a firm economic plan to attract and keep teachers, while giving them and their unions the means to articulate demands as they arise.

Incentivizing becoming a teacher by using city and district power to encourage excellent teachers from across the Bay Area to teach in SFUSD- by offering student loan forgiveness, stipends to move here or find an apartment, more bonuses in the first three years of teaching, and using union and district bargaining/purchasing power to secure permanently owned housing, and collectively bargained contracts for everything from phone bills to car insurance would all be ways to most effectively spend money to fight against the overall cost of living.

Secondly, we must look to the long term wellbeing of our teachers. Allowing them opportunities for more training, opportunities for other work over summers, curriculum creation as individuals, and opportunities to remain involved in the academic careers of former students are all means to fight burnout.

**6) What is your perspective about charter schools and their role in San Francisco? How would you advocate differently than SFUSD's current policies?**

I am firmly opposed to systems such as KIPP schools, who use their charter status to union-bust and privatize public schools. I am willing to protect those in our city which provide real good to our students, but will fight to halt the advance of new charter schools into the city and will contest any efforts to circumvent the rights of educators, students, or the voting public of San Francisco.

I have resisted efforts of the charter school lobby to co opt leaders in the California Democratic party, and I would not vote for new charter school applications. There are several charter schools in San Francisco like City Arts and Tech, Gateway Middle School, and Leadership that should remain open, though I would like to see all schools in the city back under the public purview.

My only involvement with charter schools is that I currently partner with 5 Keys Charter School to lead monthly workshops for incarcerated LGBTQ people to achieve their educational, professional and financial goals. I support existing schools that fulfill a unique unmet need, and I will continue to advocate on a state level for greater accountability of the charter school industry.

**7) Do you support the Safe and Supportive Schools Policy at SFUSD? How would you further these goals as a School Board member?**

I was bullied for being transgender from elementary to high school, and my school lacked policies to protect LGBTQ students. I am grateful for SFUSD's Safe and Supportive Schools policy, which has made great strides in ensuring all students are safe at school. Still to this day, in 1 in 3 LGBTQ middle schoolers in SFUSD have attempted suicide, and for trans kids, that number jumps to 1 out of 2. Nationally, SFUSD has paved the way in creating policies that support LGBTQ students, yet these statistics have remained stagnant.

As a Youth Commissioner, I convened a hearing on a little known section of the admin code, "12N", that mandates all service providers funded by the city who work with youth be trained to meet the needs of LGBTQ youth. After 16 years of not complying with "12N" we created a training for 9,000 city employees.

Within the schools I worked on the Bye Bye Bullying campaign with the District Attorney's office and as a Board of Education Commissioner I'm committed to continuing programs like Peer Resources, that empower youth to reduce bullying and make our schools healthier. I'm dedicated to increasing funding for LGBTQ Supportive Services, and expanding counseling at Wellness Centers. We should strengthen professional development programs that empower educators and students alike to stand up to bullying when they see it. We need to strengthen reporting processes that are centered in restorative justice practices.

**8) What role do you feel the Board of Education should play in sexual harassment and assault cases involving students? If elected, how will you address this concern?**

As a survivor I am well aware of the many ways rape culture is perpetuated within institutions. To reduce sexual harassment and assault, first and foremost it is important that our schools teach consent starting in elementary school. Instead of educating girls on how to prevent being sexually assaulted, we must educate everyone, and in particular young boys on how to not commit sexual assault or harassment.

Many survivors lack faith in the legal system, and will not press charges. It's important for SFUSD to have multiple reporting structures that can circumvent any ethical issues inherent in reporting to possible victimizers or their colleagues. Students must have means to report that fall outside of the structure of their school administrative and disciplinary hierarchy. Procedures for

the receipt of a complaint, the taking of statements, and firm ethics dictating district staff are obliged to refer matters to the legal system must be established.

In the absence of the power to make binding judgements as the legal system does, the district must act to protect students based on presuming the validity of complaints without victim blaming. It is our duty to act assiduously to protect victims whoever they might be, and to have formalized documentation protocols.

We must also be prepared to gather evidence through transcription and the administration of medical examinations amongst other tools in case the police fail to act seriously upon first being engaged.

**9) There is a perception that parent-led fundraising has widened the educational inequality gap among schools. What are your thoughts on this issue and how would you address distribution of school funds districtwide?**

I am not in favor of the cessation of parent funding as a system, however I believe that rather than being raised for individual schools, parent funding should be first given to and allocated through through the overall PTSA.

It is absurd that our wealthiest schools should have this extra revenue when others can barely function. And it is outrageous that a parent's ability to donate should be an added factor of pressure to working class parents whose children attend wealthier schools.

Ultimately the issue with charity of any sort, and with scholarships is that the money that is available goes to those who best advocate for it, rather than those who need it. Categorically, I feel it is always better to have an even tax distributed on the basis of logical need, rather than concentrated in areas that are already well funded.

The absurdity created by parent fundraising when some schools fail means only that it is incumbent on us to fund our schools properly, the absurdity is the result of the city's neglect rather than the parents, whose desires to support their children are understandable. The funds must be given to and allocated evenly by the district however.

**10) What role do you believe SFUSD should play in the City's housing crisis? How would you address the needs of homeless or underhoused students and their families?**

In my career as an advocate, educator, and youth service provider I never made more than a first year teacher in San Francisco. As a Youth Commissioner, one of my central focuses was to bring together agencies to improve services for homeless people and to advocate for more affordable housing.

I know how long the wait list is for an emergency bed, because I was on that list as a homeless youth. There are over 2,000 SFUSD students experiencing homelessness per year. It's challenging to focus on homework when you don't have a home. I support increasing supportive services for homeless youth, and rapid rehousing for homeless families without preconditions.

On the Board of Education I will continue to work with City departments to improve coordination of services for homeless and marginally-housed students.

Opening more navigation centers and transitional housing programs should be an immediate priority; as we also work to protect and expand rent control, halt evictions, and build new new affordable housing. Development should benefit residents and people displaced by gentrification, and developers should be required to build more affordable housing so that teachers, nurses, service providers, and emergency responders can afford to live here.

**11) Beyond reforming school assignment program, what do you see as the greatest barriers or major issues for families and youth getting to school safely while reducing traffic congestion?**

I have participated in Walk to Work Day, SF Transit Week, and I ride Muni frequently. As a Youth Commissioner I realized that without adequate transportation provided by SFUSD, many students struggle to get to school. Commissioners Leah LaCroix and Hillary Liang wrote a Free Muni for Youth Resolution, and as Chair of the Youth Commission committee that oversaw transportation issues, I championed the cause, and together we secured Free Muni for 40,000 low-income youth. I believe that if the program was expanded to include all San Francisco youth under 18, it could encourage more young people to take the bus to school and continue taking public transportation throughout their lives.

As a School Board Member, I would increase the school district's collaboration with the Bicycle Coalition to support the creation of more protected bike lanes across the City. This would increase parents confidence in the safety and feasibility of bikes as a reliable form of transportation for students. I would like to see SFUSD collaborate more with community based organizations to promote Safe Routes to School, which encourages parents to take public transit, walk, bike, wheel, or carpool to school.