

2014 DCCC Endorsement Questionnaire

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INSTRUCTIONS:

- Please complete this questionnaire and send electronic copies to:

Alix Rosenthal at alix@alixro.com

Matt Dorsey at mattdorsey@mac.com

by 6:00 PM on Wednesday, August 6, 2014.

- **Only candidates who return a completed questionnaire electronically by the due date will be allowed to present before the committee.**
- You may bring 15 copies with you to be delivered to Alix Rosenthal just prior to your interview at:

Laborers Local 261
3271 18th Street
San Francisco, California
Saturday, August 9, 2014
10 a.m.

- At the time of the interview, you may also provide 15 copies of up to 4 pages of information for distribution to SFDCCC members.
- The final endorsement decision will be made at the DCCC meeting on August 13:

Milton Marks Auditorium
455 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, California
Wednesday, August 13, 2014
6 p.m.

- While it may seem that some of these questions do not apply to the office you are seeking, they represent Democratic Party principles and since you may run for higher office where these questions will be relevant, we would like them addressed.
- We will distribute the questionnaires at the meeting and post them on the DCCC website for the public to view.

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. Are you a registered Democrat?
 - Yes
2. When did you first register as a Democrat?
 - 2008
3. Who did you vote for in the last two Presidential elections?
 - 2008: Barack Obama; 2012: Barack Obama
4. Have you ever voted for or endorsed a non-Democrat in an election? Who? When?
 - Never
5. Name the candidates you support or supported for the following offices:

Office	Year	Candidate #1	Candidate #2	Candidate #3
Mayor	2011	Mayor Ed Lee	John Avalos	Bevan Dufty
Assembly District 17	2014	David Chiu		
Supervisor, D1	2012	Eric Mar		
Supervisor, D2	2014	Mark Farrell		
Supervisor, D3	2012	David Chiu		
Supervisor, D4	2014	Katy Tang		
Supervisor, D5	2012	London Breed		
Supervisor, D6	2014	Jane Kim		
Supervisor, D7	2012	FX Crowley	Norman Yee	
Supervisor, D8	2014	Scott Wiener		
Supervisor, D9	2012	David Campos		
Supervisor, D10	2014	Malia Cohen		
Supervisor, D11	2012	John Avalos		

6. Please provide a brief summary of your *qualifications* for this office. (no more than 200 words)

I've spent my entire adult life working with students, families, teachers, and public school personnel on creating and supporting programs within public schools that ensure all students have the opportunity to learn and be successful. As a former educator, I understand the obstacles and challenges parents face ensuring their child gets a high-quality education. As a parent, I understand and identify with concerns and issues facing parents. As someone who has been providing quality programming in SFUSD for years, I understand what methods work best to address the issues facing SFUSD schools.

I've worked with elementary schools to provide universal access to screenings for children ages 3 months – 5 years to identify developmental delays pre-kindergarten. I've worked on kindergarten transition programs and secured funding for regular classroom teachers to provide instruction over the summer for incoming students. I've managed school truancy prevention programs and assisted in increasing student attendance.

Currently I am the Executive Director of Young Community Developers, a workforce development agency in Bayview Hunters Point, where I work to provide high quality tutoring and job training to SFUSD students. I have a Bachelors in Political Science from Morris Brown College and a Masters in Public Administration from SFSU.

7. Please describe your contributions to the Democratic Party at the local, state and or/national level in the last 4 years. (no more than 200 words)

Over the past 4 years I have contributed to the Democratic Party in several capacities. I have participated in the phone banking process for President Obama and distributed materials for his candidacy in 2012 and in 2008. I have also been instrumental in providing advocacy and fighting for several initiatives/legislation (that promote democratic principles) at the local, state and federal levels (ban the box, the Affordable Care Act, Prop 30 for school funding, working for local hire policies in San Francisco and fighting for the reauthorization of San Francisco's Children's Fund and Public Education and Enrichment Fund).

In addition, I have and will continue to donate to several Democratic candidates to help ensure that they have successful campaigns in order to continue to promote the party's interests. I have conducted door knocking and other outreach services for candidates and initiatives as well.

8. If elected, what are the three top issues you will work to affect? (no more than 200 words)

- We must develop real solutions to close the achievement gap that are innovative strategies and implement evidence-based practices. We need to provide teachers with the support/resources they need to be inventive (e.g., provide more practical learning experiences, accelerated language programs, immersion programs, arts programs, and tools to assist in the learning process). We also need school-day (not just after-school) programming for students who have not shown increases in graduation rates over the past 10 years.
- Fight for quality schools in every San Francisco neighborhood and community. I'll work to ensure every area in San Francisco has quality schools with quality program offerings. I'll push for equitable options in AP course, immersion programs, credit recovery and career/college exposure in each community.
- Ensure increased funding opportunities (Prop 30 and LCFF) are utilized on strategies that get resources directly into the classroom. I'll focus on funding for more teachers/para-professionals in order to decrease classroom sizes and for programs that increase access to higher education/career opportunities. It's crucial we bring in professional development and establish school-to-career pipeline options, especially drawing on the technology and innovation growth in our city. We need to integrate real-world learning into each subject area, such as internship/vocational programs.

What have you done to mentor women and people of color in your field? (no more than 200 words)

Aside from raising two children (including a daughter), I formally and informally mentor women and people of color on a daily basis. I participate in Fatherhood and Mentorship Initiatives for young men of color (through the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and in partnership with the San Francisco District Attorney's Office, SFUSD and Mo Magic in the Western Addition). I have promoted the push for women leadership for years and continue to support women in leadership

roles throughout San Francisco, the state of California and nationally. I have worked to ensure that many young women graduate from high school and college, and have provided several young ladies with jobs and other avenues for success while they pursue higher education. I have been invited to provide workshops at Log Cabin Ranch (a juvenile facility for young men in the juvenile justice system in San Francisco). I have spoken at several high school and college graduations (for minorities) and discussed the changes and tools needed to be successful. I continue to take young men on a yearly camping trip designed to bring male youth together from San Francisco, Solano, Contra Costa and Alameda counties.

9. Please list the organizations and elected officials who have endorsed you.

Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsome
 State Senator Mark Leno
 Assemblymember Tom Ammiano
 Assemblymember Isadore Hall
 President of the Board of Supervisors David Chiu
 San Francisco Supervisor Malia Cohen
 San Francisco Supervisor London Breed
 San Francisco Supervisor Mark Farrell
 San Francisco Supervisor Scott Wiener
 Public Defender Jeff Adachi
 Board of Education Commissioner Rachel Norton
 Board of Education Commissioner Jill Wynn
 Board of Education Commissioner Matt Haney
 Board of Education Commissioner Emily Murase
 Community College Board Trustee Rafael Mandelman
 Community College Board Trustee John Rizzo
 Democratic County Central Committee Member Alix Rosenthal
 Democratic County Central Committee Member Leah Pimentel
 Democratic County Central Committee Member Bevan Dufty
 Democratic County Central Committee Member Kat Anderson
 Democratic County Central Committee Member Petra DeJesus
 Democratic County Central Committee Member Carole Migden
 Democratic County Central Committee Member Kelly Dwyer
 Democratic County Central Committee Member Arlo Smith
 San Francisco Parent PAC
 Black Young Democrats of San Francisco

ISSUES QUESTIONS

Please only mark whether you SUPPORT or OPPOSE each issue.

Question	Support	Oppose
1. Do you support or oppose a woman's right to choose a safe and legal abortion?	Support	
2. Do you support or oppose affirmative action?	Support	

3. Do you support or oppose marriage equality?	Support	
4. Do you support or oppose privatization of essential government services?		Oppose
5. Do you support or oppose public power in San Francisco?	Support	
6. Do you support or oppose reducing jail/prison overcrowding by decreasing penalties for minor drug offenses?	Support	
7. Do you support or oppose rent control?	Support	
8. Do you support or oppose San Francisco's sanctuary city policy?	Support	
9. Do you support or oppose the repeal of instant runoff voting (ranked choice voting)?		Oppose
10. Do you support or oppose district elections of Supervisors?	Support	

Thank you for your time. We look forward to seeing you on August 9, 2014.