

# 2020 Endorsement Questionnaire South County

Email address \*

mikegeela@gmail.com

APA Democratic Caucus of Alameda County



**PLEASE COMPLETE AND SUBMIT BY SEPT. 9, midnight.** Please take time to review the questions before filling in the boxes since you cannot save the responses for later completion. Thank you for your interest in being considered for an endorsement by the Asian Pacific American Democratic Caucus of Alameda County. Please answer each question in 250 words or less. Be honest and direct. Please note: your questionnaire will be posted on our website for Caucus members and the public to review.

Personal Information

Candidate Name \*

Michael Gonzales

City and zip code of residence.

Union City 94587

What is your campaign website address?

mikeg4newhaven.com

What is your campaign email address?

mikegeela@gmail.com

What is the office that you are seeking? \*

- City of San Leandro City Council
- City of San Leandro School Board
- City of Hayward City Council
- City of Hayward, Unified School District Trustee
- City of Fremont, Mayor
- City of Fremont, City Council, Dist. 1
- City of Fremont, City Council, Dist. 5
- City of Fremont, City Council, Dist. 6
- City of Fremont, Unified School District, Dist. 1
- City of Fremont, Unified School District, Dist. 4
- City of Fremont, Unified School District, Dist. 5
- City of Union City, Mayor
- City of Union City, City Council
- New Haven School Trustee, Area 1
- New Haven School Trustee, Area 2
- New Haven School Trustee, Area 3
- City of Newark, Mayor
- City of Newark, City Council
- City of Newark, School Board
- City of Newark, School Board, Short term
- Eden Healthcare District
- Washington Hospital Healthcare District
- Oro Loma Sanitarv District

Ohlone Community College

Alameda County Water District

AD 20, State Assembly Representative

AD 25, State Assembly Representative

Ohlone Community College, Area 2

Other: .....

Are you the incumbent?

Yes

No

Are you a registered Democrat? The APA Democratic Caucus can only endorse registered Democrats

Yes

No

How long have you been a registered Democrat? If less than 5 years, please explain your reason for becoming a Democrat.

I registered in 1995 as a Democrat. I switched to Green Party for a couple of years and last year I switched back. I consider myself to be a progress democrat

Are you an APA Caucus member?

Yes

No

Why are you seeking the Caucus's endorsement?

I grew up in Union City and some of my best friends are Asian-American. Within my own family my cousins and nieces and nephews are Asian-Americans. There is no Union City without Asian-Americans their contributions. It would be an honor to represent the APA Caucus endorsement.

List ONLY the top 5 endorsements that you have received. (Please reference your website if you want to alert us to more).

These are some of the prominent endorsers of me. New Haven Teachers Association, Vice President of the California Teachers Association David Goldberg, President of Oakland Education Association Keith Brown, Board of Supervisors of Alameda County District 2 Richard Valle, Assembly member Dr. Bill Quirk, and President of the United Teachers of Los Angeles Cecily Myart-Cruz.

If we endorse you, will you use our name in your campaign materials?

Yes

No

Maybe

How long have you lived in the district which you are seeking to represent?

25 years and then moved away for 18 years and now I am back.

Educational background: What schools have you attended, date graduated, major and degree(s) earned.

I graduated at James Logan High School in Union City. I graduated from Chabot Community College with an AA in Liberal Studies 2002. I graduated from California State University of Los Angeles with a BA and a Teaching Credential 2006.

---

Employment: List the last three (3) paid positions, indicating name of employer, job title, and length of employment.

From 2005-2006 I worked at Eastman Ave. Elementary School as a paraprofessional.

From 2006-2011 I worked at 49th St. Elementary School as a teacher.

From 2013-2020 I worked at Parthenia Academy Arts & Technology School as a teacher.

---

What are the names of any community or nonprofit organizations with which you have been an active volunteer in the past 3-5 years.

I have served on leadership positions such as; president of our school site council, vice-chair of our school PTA, school site representative for United Teachers of Los Angeles, California Teachers Association State Council Delegate, vice-chair of the CTA Hispanic Caucus, president of the Pacoima Neighborhood Council, chair of the PNC Education Committee, committee member of the CTA R.E.A.C. Racial Equity Affairs Committee, and UTLA P.C.O.C. Parent Community Organizer Committee.

---

## CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

1. What differentiates you from your opponents for the elected office that you are seeking?

I have an outstanding record with my community. If you were to google search me there is no negative record or news story like my opponent. My opponent is known for walking out on the community when it comes to public comment time. They tried to run a recall campaign against her.

---

2. Describe one issue for the district you want to represent for which you have provided leadership and about which you are passionate.

We have a major budget crisis in my district. I have spent my entire career fighting for progressive funding for public education. California has a major problem with per pupil spending on students and we are on the bottom of the nation. I have worked on the Millionaire's Tax Coalition, Proposition 30, Make It Fair Campaign, and now Schools & Community First Proposition 15. As much as I want to get elected to the New Haven School Board Trustee Area 3 we have to get Proposition 15 to pass. Proposition 15 brings in \$11.5 billion a year and makes major corporations pay their fair share. I will not let you down.

3. What percentage of the district you [or intend to] represent are of APA heritage?

42.7% APA heritage in my Area 3.

4. Please identify the three largest APA ethnicities in your district.

% of Asian Pop. 1. Filipino 41.7 2. Chinese 23.52 3. Indian 17.59

5. Please identify the most at-risk APA community in your district and explain why.

The most at-risk APA community is Vietnamese Americans. They have never had any elected official positions. They have an active gang and they have low representation in UC.

6. List the three top concerns of members of the APAs in your district.

The concerns are keeping schools safe, making virtual learning effective and not a waste of time, & affordable housing.

7. During the COVID-19 pandemic, reports of anti-Asian verbal and physical attacks have arisen. If you are the incumbent, how have you addressed this? If you are a candidate how will you address this?

I would pass a zero tolerance resolution to stop these attacks in my school district from students.

8. Do you believe that Asian and Pacific Americans are adequately represented in local government? What can elected officials do to improve participation?

I believe they are but not all Asian-Americans are represented. Asian-Americans should be united working together.

9. Please identify all Asian Pacific American candidates whom you have personally endorsed over the past 5 years including this election cycle. If there are none, please explain.

Judy Chu. I lived in the part of Los Angeles that did not have Asian-American candidates running for office.

10. If you were faced with a situation that involved an Asian Pacific American community, would you seek consultation with our Caucus as a resource?

Yes

No

Thank you for completing our questionnaire.

Please submit your responses by Sept. 9, 2020 midnight. Our South County Endorsement Meeting is scheduled for Sat., Sept. 20 from 1 to 3 pm on Zoom. Only those candidates submitting the questionnaire on time will be on our endorsement ballot. No changes to your responses can be made after it is submitted.

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.

Google Forms



