

# 2020 Endorsement Questionnaire

Email address \*

mikehutchinson4schoolboard@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 \*

Mike Hutchinson

City and zip code of residence.

Oakland 94602

What is your campaign website address?

<https://www.facebook.com/MikeHutchinson4SchoolBoard/>

What is your campaign email address?

[mikehutchinson4schoolboard@gmail.com](mailto:mikehutchinson4schoolboard@gmail.com)

What is the office that you are seeking? \*

- Alameda City Council
- Alameda School Board
- Berkeley, Mayor
- Berkeley, City Council, Dist. 2
- Berkeley, City Council, Dist. 3
- Berkeley, City Council, Dist. 5
- Berkeley, City Council, Dist. 6
- Berkeley, Unified School District Trustee
- Berkeley, Rent Stabilization Board
- Oakland, City Council, Dist. 1
- Oakland, City Council, Dist. 3
- Oakland, City Council, Dist. 5
- Oakland, City Council, Dist. 7
- Oakland, City Council, At-large
- Oakland City Attorney
- Oakland USD, School Trustee, Dist. 1
- Oakland USD, School Trustee, Dist. 3
- Oakland USD, School Trustee, Dist. 5
- Oakland USD, School Trustee, Dist. 7
- AC Transit, Bd. of Directors, Ward 1
- AC Transit, Bd. of Directors, Ward 2
- AC Transit Bd. of Directors, At-Large
- EB Regional Park Dist. Bd. of Directors. Ward 1

[unclear] [unclear], [unclear], [unclear]

AD 15, State Assembly Representative

AD 18, State Assembly Representative

Peralta Community College District, Bd. of Director, 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.

8 years .....

Are you an APA Caucus member?

Yes

No

Why are you seeking the Caucus's endorsement?

I am seeking the endorsement of all progressive democratic clubs and organizations, especially those that are BIPOC led. Through the campaign we are building a coalition of progressives, labor and community with a focus on racial equity and education justice.

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

OEA, SEIU 102, East Bay DSA, Oakland Rising Action, Carroll Fife

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?

I have lived in District 5 in Oakland my whole life and have lived at my current address almost 40 years.

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

I attended Crocker Highlands, McChesney, Oakland High and graduated from Skyline High School in 1991. I also attended UC Berkeley for 2 years before leaving school to pursue a music career.

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

2001-2008 Sports4Kids site coordinator at Maxwell Park Elementary and Santa Fe Elementary. 2008-2012 BACR after school program coordinator at Santa Fe Elementary. 2013-current Co-Founder and ED of OPEN, community organizing around public education and education justice issues.

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

OPEN - Oakland Public Education Network, Journey for Justice National Alliance, Oakland Justice Coalition.

## CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

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

I am proud to say that I was born, raised, and educated in Oakland. I attended Crocker Highlands, McChesney Jr. High, Oakland High, and graduated from Skyline, before going on to UC Berkeley. My mother was a teacher in Oakland and an active OEA member for 40 years. My father was an instructor at Laney College for over twenty years. Even my brother was a teacher in Oakland before leaving teaching to become a lawyer. I spent over 20 years working and volunteering in Oakland's schools and with our youth. I have been engaged with OUSD and the school board since I was an OUSD student. In 2011-12 my engagement increased when the two schools that I had worked at since 2001 Maxwell Park and Santa Fe were part of the five schools threatened with closure. I became very involved in the fight to stop the school closures. Since 2012 I've worked to save and improve public education in Oakland. I've actively attended nearly every school board meeting, testified at the Department of Education in Washington D.C. about the damage caused by school closures and charter schools in Oakland, co-founded OPEN and became a founding member of the Journey for Justice National Alliance, and ran for school board in 2012 and 2016.

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

I have led and been involved with numerous campaigns around public education in Oakland since 2012. In 2012 I helped lead the fight to stop the mass school closures in Oakland culminating in our 17-day occupation of Lakeview. I ran for school board in 2012 and 2016. I was the west coast anchor for the #WeChoose campaign 2018-20. I also co-led the #NoCutsNoClosures campaign 2017-2019. I led the fight to stop the sale of the administration building and was involved in the #PublicLandForPublicGood campaign around the sale of the E12th Parcel. I've also led many smaller campaigns like helping individual schools stop charter locations and our campaign to stop the sale of the Derby Ave Parcel to a charter school. <https://www.eastbayexpress.com/oakland/oaklands-exclusive-deal-to-sell-city-owned-land-to-charter-school-draws-opposition/Content?oid=15872497>. I've also been involved in other smaller lesser known local campaigns and in smaller roles with multiple national campaigns that I'm always willing to talk about.

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

I am not sure for District 5 but I would assume its close to the 16% for Oakland overall.

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

Chinese, Vietnamese, Filipino.

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

The most at-risk members of the APA community as with other communities are recent immigrants, elders, youth, and those with health concerns. Lack of income coupled with issues and race and language for non native english speakers continues to be a problem for far too many members of our community.

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

safety, quality public schools, affordability.

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 will always work for equity, justice and an end to white supremacy by any means necessary.

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

No. Elected officials should actively work to engage the community especially communities that have historically been marginalized. There also needs to be a greater effort to remove barriers of access, especially barriers due to language, income, or ability.

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.

In the past I have not been asked to endorse any candidates and this year I have only been asked to endorse 2 candidates both of whom are not Asian Pacific American.

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 North County Endorsement Meeting is scheduled for Thu., Sept. 24 beginning at 6:30 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.

# Google Forms