

# 2020 Endorsement Questionnaire South County

Email address \*

winny.knowles.rn@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 \*

Winnie Knowles

City and zip code of residence.

Hayward 94545-3456

What is your campaign website address?

winnyknowles4ehd.com

What is your campaign email address?

winny.knowles.rn@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 have been a registered Democrat since was 18 years old .....

Are you an APA Caucus member?

Yes

No

Why are you seeking the Caucus's endorsement?

yes

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

Gordon Galvan - Chair of the Board of Directors of Eden Health District

Bill Quirk - California state Assembly, District 20

Mark Salinas - Hayward City Council member

Phong La - Alameda County Assessor

Aisha Knowles - Trustee, Area 4 and President of the Alameda County Board of Education

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?

44 years

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

1973 Hayward Regional Occupation Center; Licensed Vocational Nurse Program

Obtained my LVN in 1974

1981 Ohlone College; Associate Degree in Nursing.

2014 Coursework Provided by Kaiser Permanente to obtain my  
International Lactation Board Certification In Lactation in 2015

---

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

Kaiser Hospital Hayward, Licensed Vocational Nurse 1974- 1981

Kaiser Hospital Hayward, Registered Nurse 1981- 2013

Kaiser Hospital San Leandro, Lactation Consultant 2013 - 2016

---

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

Community Impact Lab, San Leandro

Davis Street Community Center, San Leandro

Building Futures With Women and Children, San Leandro

---

## CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

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

I am a woman of color and American immigrant. My parents came from Indonesia to Holland when that country declared its independence. My father found discrimination in Holland difficult and we came to America in 1960. I know what it is like to move a lot and have parents who worked hard to give their children a better life. With that said, my life experience as a wife of 44 years and mother raising three daughters while working full time on the PM shift (4pm-12:30am) having cared for children and families at the bedside for almost 40 years as a Registered Nurse and helping moms with their newborns as a Lactation Consultant. In addition, advocating for Healthcare or All and families in the community as a California Nurses Association union activist has given me the skills and ability to communicate and organize at a ground level with working people.

---

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

The issue for which I am the most passionate is advocating for families with children. Although you have asked for one issue I would also like to include the elderly as another. Making sure that available resources are provided for health services and education to these two groups to make their lives better today and in the future. In 2013 I advocated for Kaiser Hayward not to close the inpatient Pediatric Unit by organizing community action. Then I organized another community action to advocate for a dedicated Pediatric Unit at the Kaiser Hospital in San Leandro. Even though the effort was not successful it did call awareness to Kaiser members with children that if hospitalization was required they would have to drive to the nearest Kaiser Hospital with a dedicated Pediatric Unit which is in Oakland or Santa Clara.

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

53.8% of residents in the Eden Area are Asian.

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

The three largest APA ethnicities in the Eden District are Chinese, Filipino and Asian American.

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

The Chinese and Filipino population are most at risk in the Eden District. The Chinese residents live in the unincorporated community of Castro Valley whereas the Filipino population reside in the unincorporated communities of Ashland, Cherryland and San Lorenzo. Affordable housing in both communities is not readily available in comparison to the increase in their numbers. Both groups are near or of retirement age and experience a greater mortality rate due to cancer and heart disease and are at greater risk to be affected by COVID-19. Thus the need for more affordable housing, health services and the need to address food insecurity and social support.

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

Affordable housing, access to health services and food insecurity.

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 address this by making sure that all of the people I support and work with are anti racist and that any policy in place or new policies developed are non discriminatory and made in the best interest of the residents in the District. Educating all of the residents in the District with factual and truthful information is paramount. Holding individuals accountable for racist behavior and rhetoric is absolutely necessary. The safety of those who live and work in the District must be supported by compassionate individuals who can model loving behavior.

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

I do not believe that Asian and Pacific Americans are adequately represented in local government. Elected officials can develop a policy to drastically reduce the cost of filing for office with a ballot statement because the current cost is ridiculously high and discriminatory. That is why I believe there are not more people of color or women in politics. Current elected officials can mentor potential interested individuals and teach them how to achieve their political goals.

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.

I have supported California State Assembly member Rob Bonta for each of his elections and Kamala Harris in 2017. State controller Betty Yee in 2015. Alameda County Assessor Phong La in 2018.

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