

2020 Endorsement Questionnaire

Email address *

santana2020@maximo.is

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 *

Maximo Santana

City and zip code of residence.

Oakland 94607

What is your campaign website address?

<https://www.santanaforoakland2020.com/>

What is your campaign email address?

santana2020@maximo.is

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

Regional Council, Bd. of Directors, Area 1

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.

I have been a registered democrat since I first registered to vote in 2008.

Are you an APA Caucus member?

Yes

No

Why are you seeking the Caucus's endorsement?

Our school board needs to be responsive to all of our students' needs. An endorsement from the APA Caucus will go a long way to show the people of Oakland that I am the candidate that will take care of our Asian students and families.

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

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?

Five years

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

B. Sc. in Education, Florida State University, 2013

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

Pandora - Training and Enablement Specialist, 2018- Current

Facebook - Training Lead, 2017-2018

Rubicon Programs - Employment Coach, 2016-2017

West Oakland Middle School - English Teacher, 2015-16

American Indian Public High School - English Teacher, 2014-15

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

Tech Workers Coalition

Tech Equity Collaborative

CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

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

Our school board is in desperate need of an individual who can help us negotiate contracts with educational technology vendors in an effective and transparent manner so that Oakland students are given a modern online schooling environment as soon as possible. Our students need a representative on the school board that is aware of what the technology needs and hurdles are as well as someone who can identify and lead the board in getting to a successful digital solution the first time.

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

As an Oakland teacher, I've taught our students using a variety of online tools and systems, created curriculum for STEM courses, and motivated students to learn how to code. In corporate environments, I've helped organizations of thousands transition to new online systems like many Oakland students will be this school year. I have been involved in all aspects of selecting and implementing new systems including exploratory research, beta testing, training, and evaluation.

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

District 3 is almost 3% APA heritage.

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

Chinese, Vietnamese, Philipino

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

Right now, the Chinese community is the most at-risk in district 3. Since the rise of coronavirus and hateful terms that are perpetuated by our president, Chinese people in Oakland have seen their business disproportionately impacted, have had more crimes committed against them, and have seen a rise in verbal abuse as well. Furthermore, recent tensions in Hong Kong and with TenCent have given many Americans the idea that Chinese-Americans are anti-democracy.

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

1. Keeping families safe and healthy from COVID-19, fires, and racial injustice.
2. Having a full, rigorous school year where students learn everything they are expected to learn during the school year.
3. Maintain housing and income that allows them to stay in their Oakland homes.

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?

Anti-asian verbal and physical attacks have increased since COVID-19 has spread. I believe in restorative justice as a tool to combat any type of race-based violence or bullying. This means that any student who says or does anything abusive while referencing someone's APA heritage will have to speak to someone with that background, learn from them how their actions are hurtful, and listen to how they can heal that relationship. Restorative justice practices will help our Asian students be seen and heard.

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 can write and vote for legislation that dispels common misconceptions like only people born in the United States can seek elected office. I'll work to ensure all of our students know the history of Oakland and understand how their local representatives work for them. I will always strive to have our history books written by people who look like our students.

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.

None, this is my first election cycle beyond participating as a voter.

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.

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