

East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club

Candidate Questionnaire

1. *Are you a registered Democrat? If so, how long have you been registered as a Democrat? Have you ever been registered with another party and if so, when and for how long?*

I am a registered democrat and voted in my first election during the June Primary. I've only been a registered voter for a year.

2. *Are you a member of the East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club? If so, for how long? If not, have you participated in club activities, supported or contributed to the Club in some other way? What other lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) organizations are you affiliated with and in what capacity? What other non-LGBT Democratic clubs are you affiliated with?*

I am not a member of the EBSDC, and I have not participated in any club activities nor supported or contributed to the club. I was referred to the club and endorsement process by another member, Victor Aguilar representing San Leandro USD's Governing Board, Area 6. I may also note that I am seeking the endorsement of the Alameda County Democratic Party.

I have been endorsed by the LGBTQ Victory Fund and participate in communications and fundraising activities as required. When I was on the San Lorenzo USD School Board as the Student Board Member, I was a member of the LGBTQ Districtwide Task Force.

3. *Using specific examples, please identify the causes you have advocated for and the ways you have helped advance LGBT rights or otherwise helped foster a community of inclusivity for LGBT individuals and families.*

I have advocated for student representation and engagement with local entities such as the City Council, Mayor, and the San Lorenzo USD School Board. It's an issue I am particularly passionate about and will carry that into my term on the San Leandro School Board. Another issue I have advocated for is the revision of sexist and/or outdated policies—such as my successful move to completely overhaul San Lorenzo's Dress Code, as well as the removal of the San Lorenzo High School Mascot "Rebels." Both of which came with a not-so-great background and were particularly heated and discussion-oriented issues that hit home for LGBTQ students and community, and most other individuals.

4. *Have you previously supported LGBT candidates for office and if yes, did that include financial support?*

I have not supported (by means of outright endorsement or financial support) LGBT candidates for office other than Victor Aguilar for San Leandro City Council, District 3, and Ricardo Lara. Of course, however, I have vocally supported others not in my immediate area for Assembly, Congressional, and other state Gubernatorial elections.

5. *Who are your LGBT endorsers? Who are your LGBT supporters?*

I have been endorsed by the national LGBTQ Victory Fund after an extensive interview process and ultimately a vote by their Board of Directors. I have also been supported and mentored by Victor Aguilar who is running for City Council in San Leandro.

6. *What do you hope to accomplish if you are elected? Please outline your top three policy goals or objectives and how you intend to achieve them.*

Having formerly serving on a school board, I understand the role as one that involves extensive teamwork and a detachment from individualism. I will push for *building a community of trust and compassion* by being as full-time as I can in the job and connecting with constituents and staff in person to discuss issues first hand. I want to advocate for *extending the student voice* in the district to ensure they have increased and equitable opportunities to become agents of change in the district and beyond. Finally, I want to be a part of *ensuring accountability*; keeping the district fiscally solvent through means of budget review, maintain equity between sites, and ensure we recruit/retain quality teachers & staff for students to be college and career ready.

7. *What makes you uniquely qualified for the office and how are you different or unique from the other candidates in your race?*

As a recent high school graduate, I have a unique perspective to offer the Board of Education. With my experience as a Student Board Member and having worked in a classroom with Leadership students as a Student Leadership Consultant for an organization I work for, I can bridge the views of students and the younger community to the relevance of our district's work. Alongside the millennials, my generation is going to inherit the consequences of the decisions made today—thus our advocacy starts now.

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