

East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club Candidate Questionnaire

Thank you for your interest in obtaining an endorsement from the East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club.

Per the Club's bylaws, to be eligible for endorsement, a candidate must be a registered Democrat. All candidates must also complete this candidate questionnaire to be considered for an endorsement. Endorsements are decided by the general membership, and candidates must receive at least 60% of votes cast to be endorsed.

The deadline to return your completed questionnaire to jbauters@gmail.com is Monday, September 10th at 5:00pm for the September 13th East Bay Stonewall endorsement meeting for the November 2018 general election.

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, since I was 18 years old. I have never been registered with another party.

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 currently a member of the East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club. I believe I have been a member as early as 2012, although potentially not consistently. I have participated in club activities, participated in Oakland Pride, and attended the LGBT Democratic Caucus meetings in my capacity as an appointed delegate for Alameda County Democratic Party, Assembly District 18. I am a member of the City of Alameda Democratic Club, East Bay Women's Political Alliance, and have been a member of Wellstone Democratic Club in the past.

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 participated in political actions to fight for marriage equality in the Bay Area and in Washington D.C. Hyper-locally, I have joined our two different school systems in promoting inclusive practices to support children. This includes participation in school-level diversity, equity, and inclusion committees which were formed to examine supports to LGBTQI children in our school community, parent training and supports to educate ourselves around how to create safe and supportive environments for our LGBTQI students and a gender inclusive school community.

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

Yes. Our family has financially supported many LGBT candidates.

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

Brendalynn Goodall, George Perezvelez, Joaquin Rivera, Jim Oddie, Robbie Wilson, Judy Appel

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.*

Alameda Unified School District has a long way to go as a school district in its active creation and support of LGBTQI students and families. It was within our near history that the community objected to the adoption of curricula that focused on sharing all types of family structures. Much of the work that has been accomplished to create supportive communities is done at the school level, with only very recent efforts to create proactive, affirmative district policies across the school system. My top three policy goals include: 1. Adoption of inclusive practices and data tracking protocol to understand incidents of bias as well as the implemented resolutions district-wide; 2. Adoption of career technical and vocation programs to develop a leadership pipeline for our students that will allow them to explore different career pathways. This is necessary because our students need more exposure to careers in the social impact sector among other vocations that are typically hidden to students; and 3. Increasing the availability of quality preschool options to support children and families, particularly low-income children, in the city. And, 4, adoption of a mental health and wellness policy and required school-level supports in order to address the needs of children and youth who currently feel unsupported and unsafe in the school district.

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

I have 20+ years' experience working in the education sector, particularly on behalf of marginalized children and youth and families. I have worked in a direct service capacity, at the policy level, and as an advocate, and am a parent of three children who have attended Alameda schools, so I have a diverse experience-set, am a systems thinker and executor. I also am the only candidate with children currently in the school system. So when my children experience homophobic slurs and bullying and body shaming, as they have, I know what it's like to be dealing with this in a present-day context of our schools and will demand real-time solutions.

Please return you completed questionnaire to John J. Bauters, East Bay Stonewall PAC Chair, by email at jbauters@gmail.com. If you have questions, please contact Mr. Bauters at 415-999-7932.