

East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club Endorsement 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 for questionnaires is posted on the East Bay Stonewall website (<http://eastbaystonewalldemocrats.org/Elections>). Any candidate submitting a questionnaire that is received after the deadline will not appear on the endorsement ballot. To ensure a fair process, no grace period will be granted.

Please return your completed questionnaire via Google forms by clicking submit at the bottom of this form. All form submissions are final. If you have questions, please contact Joe Greaves, EBSDC PAC chair via email at jsphgreaves@gmail.com.

Email *

araceliorozco4schoolboard@gmail.com

Name (First Last) *

Araceli Orozco

Are you a registered Democrat *

Yes

No

Office you are seeking? (e.g. City Council, School Board, Supervisor, etc) *

HUSD School Board

Jurisdiction *

N/A

District *

Hayward Unified School District

Are you an East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club member in good standing? If you are unsure, email eastbaystonewalldems@gmail.com. *

Yes

No

I self-identify as: (check all boxes that apply; note these identifiers will be used publicly during our endorsement process.) *

Gay

Lesbian

Transgender

Gender non-conforming

Bisexual

Queer

Straight

Other:

How have you participated in East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club activities, and/or supported the Club other ways? What other LGBTQ+ organizations are you affiliated with and in what capacity? What other Democratic clubs are you affiliated with? *

I am not currently a member of the East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club, nor have I been involved with the group in the past, but I have worked very closely with separate democratic members in their activities as a volunteer.
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Using specific examples, please identify the causes you have advocated for and the ways you have helped advance LGBTQ+ rights or otherwise helped foster a community of inclusivity for LGBTQ+ individuals and families. *

As an active member of my community and school district, there are many parents/families, teachers, and students that come to me for help and advice. One of the students attending a high school I was heavily involved in at the time informed me of a teacher who harassed him about his sexual identity before he was out. Multiple comments were made about the student's attire and overall appearance during school hours that made them feel uncomfortable. I brought light to the discrimination this student was experiencing to the administration and advocated for better gender identity acceptance between the school faculty and students. After, the student shared that the teacher ceased from making comments. A separate case involving an elementary school student faced a similar incident, where a teacher undermined the student's gender identity which lowered their confidence and self-esteem both in and outside of school. By the time the mother of the student shared their experience with me, the student had suffered immense emotional and psychological turmoil. I shared professional resources that the family could look into to help their child. These are just two of the many cases in that I was able to raise awareness to seek professional development for staff and advocate for inclusion and shared resources to help families face such difficulties.

Have you previously supported LGBTQ+ candidates for office? If yes, did that include financial support? *

Yes, I have supported LGBTQ+ candidates in the past, but not financially.

Which LGBTQ+ organizations and elected officials have formally endorsed you for this race? *

None at the moment.

Please describe a policy/goal that is part of your formal platform that benefits the LGBTQ+ community? *

Despite all the changes and efforts made across the state and nation, our kids within the LGBTQ+ community in school are continuing to suffer injustices and bullying. Sometimes, policies are just simply written on paper but are never fully implemented. I want to integrate a stronger sense of advocacy and positive changes made in the district for the LGBTQ+ community.

My biggest goal is inclusion and safety; I want an equitable, positive and safe environment for our students and staff that are often faced with bullying and discrimination within the community regarding their sexual orientation and/or gender identity and preferences.

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

I am not a member of the LGBTQ+ community, but I am a strong supporter and ally, and I advocate for inclusion and equal treatment for all people, regardless of their sexual orientation.

What qualifies me for this office is that my husband and I have been living in our community for almost 30 years and we know our community. We have 5 children, 4 have graduated from HUSD, and our youngest is a third grader and currently attending an HUSD elementary school. For the last 28 years, I have been a parent and student advocate throughout HUSD. I have also been a parent representative in different committees throughout these years. Committees such as District Advisory Committee (DAC), Parent Advisory Committee (PAC), District School Usage Design Team (SUDT), School Site Council (SSC) in different schools, Site Based Decision Making (SBDM), and currently serving my second term as the president of the District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC). I have also served as a lead parent ambassador, participated in the HUSD parent policy work group and The Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) workshops. I have attended most board meetings, where I have advocated for parents and students and volunteered in many community events within the district. I have also had direct communication with several previous superintendents and staff.

What makes me unique from the other candidates in this race is that I have six grandchildren. My youngest daughter and my oldest granddaughter are attending elementary school, and if elected, I will be the only Latino board member in the district that serves a school district with a 65% of Latinos students.

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