

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 *

shanoski@gmail.com

Name (First Last) *

Jennifer Shanoski

Are you a registered Democrat *

Yes

No

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

School Board

Jurisdiction *

Berkeley

District *

at large

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 have not participated in EN Stonewall Democratic Club activities nor am I affiliated with other LGBTQ+ organizations. I am a member of the Wellstone Democratic Club and the Berkeley Democratic Club.

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 the president of the Peralta Federation of Teachers, I work hard to ensure that all faculty (and staff) are supported. Under my leadership, PFT worked with a group of faculty to change the naming system within our district so that the name that shows up in email communications matches the preferred name of individuals. This policy change was particularly important to members who may have transitioned but hadn't legally changed their names. I have also worked with our union's Diversity Committee to ensure that we have LGBTQ+ voices and can support issues of particular interest to members. PFT has also sponsored a PRIDE contingent at the yearly march and will continue to do so.

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

Yes and yes.

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

Terry Taplin (Berkeley City Council), Lori Droste (Berkeley City Council), and Judy Appel (former Berkeley School Board)

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

One of my primary goals is to bring real organizing through authentic engagement to the role of school board director. This will include talking with different groups to center their voices in the decisions being made. My outreach will include Berkeley's Rainbow Families (a group of LGBTQ+ families and allies and my kids' school - Malcolm X elementary) and similar groups from the other BUSD schools. I also want to talk students about their experiences in the schools including members of Berkeley High School's Gender and Sexuality Alliance Club. It is only through consistent and sustained communication that I will be aware of the specific issues that need to be addressed. Berkeley prides itself on inclusive policies but we cannot know what we do not ask about.

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

I am a single mother of two BUSD kids, a community college teacher, and a Labor organizer/leader. These three perspectives give me a different lens through which to look at decisions that come before the board. I know the questions to ask to ensure that we are supporting parents, considering education after high school (including CTE pathways), and centering workers alongside the students they serve. As an organizer I will also center our community in every decision I make not by assuming I know best what everyone needs but by asking individuals and groups about those needs. Lastly, my ability to balance these three distinct and demanding jobs demonstrates my ability to manage a variety of tasks and get results for those I serve.

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