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San Francisco Parent Action
www.sfparentaction.org

Questions for SFUSD School Board Candidates 2024 DEL MEDINA

1 = Strongly Disagree, 2 = Somewhat Disagree, 3 = Somewhat Agree, 4 = Strongly Agree

<i>Excellent and Equitable Public Schools</i>	<i>Level of Agreement</i>
1. I SUPPORT the SF Parent Coalition Parent Priorities Platform. A focus on equity and excellence going hand-in-hand, improving student outcomes in our district, regaining trust and rebuilding community morale, improving the fiscal health of SFUSD, and overall good governance should be the top priorities of the School Board going into 2024-25.	4
2. TRANSPARENCY: I support increased transparency of school performance that enables San Francisco to evaluate and improve the quality of our public schools. This should include a public dashboard that shares math and reading assessment data at the school level, updated at least twice a year.	3
3. LITERACY AND MATH: I believe in the urgency of improving student outcomes in literacy and math at SFUSD. I commit to ensuring that SFUSD adopts a comprehensive and fully funded plan , and makes the necessary changes to our curricula, tools, and instruction methods that will follow an evidence- and standards-based instructional approach.	3
4. GOVERNANCE: An effective School Board follows the lead of and supports the superintendent and staff, letting them be the experts and making recommendations for the direction of the district.	2
5. BUDGET HEALTH: I commit to governing in accordance with nationally-established best financial practices . I will hold District leadership accountable for presenting the budget clearly. When fixing our budget deficit, I support SF Parents' call for minimizing negative impacts to our most vulnerable students while ensuring a baseline of excellence across all schools.	3

SFPARENTS

OPEN-ENDED: (all responses should be 250 words or fewer)

1) Optional: Expand on any of your responses to the statements above, in 250 words or fewer.

While in principal I agree with the SF Parent Coalition on your assessments and priorities, I believe that in an uncertain times community engagement should lead to create solutions. Keeping in mind the fine balance between individual student and staff privacy, and public accountability required for the best outcomes. My responses reflect that way of thinking.

2) *Why are you running for the Board of Education? Within this response, please describe a) your connection to SFUSD students and families, and b) a description of your leadership style, experience, and/or training.*

It is thanks to SFUSD, that I became proficient in English at the age of eight. I had many wonderful teachers who to this day I think about and am grateful for their dedication to education. It also was an employer of my mother as a para-professional, as a teacher's aide at what is now know as Gordon Lau Elementary.

As a parent I have seen how supports are not distributed in equitable ways across the district. This is both a sense of frustration and frankly, shame of how a city with lots of resources can't support all of our young people with a quality education.

My kid is now a student at Ruth Asawa School for the Arts. Ironically, Ruth Asawa was one of my teachers at Alvarado Elementary School, and I was a summer program art student at what was to develop to be SOTA. This in an example of how we don't use models we know work across the district for all.

3) *Do you support the superintendent's [plan](#) to fix SFUSD's budget deficit, including but not limited to classroom consolidations and school closures?*

I have more questions than a statement on the superintendent plan:

How will the community input be integrated into the plan?

How accountable will the plan be to changing population and demographics?

Why isn't there leadership on attracting and retaining students?

We know there is a geographic and demographic divide in the city, how is this taken into account to ensure social cohesion and academic excellence?

SFPARENTS

4) How can SFUSD increase academic [outcomes](#) for the most underserved students and close the racially predictable achievement gap?

Acknowledge that when you engage, recruit, and center the needs of those most marginalized we all win. That we are now in a demographic and cultural shift that requires for equity to be at the center of all of our lives. That an equitable lens is not about just creating fairness but also opportunities for young people in San Francisco.

5) How can SFUSD challenge and create learning opportunities for higher achieving students?

Based on my experience as both a community member and parent, having SFUSD be in better relationships with City College, other external specialized partners, corporations, and DCYF who do have not just specialists but can expand the horizons of students.

6) What should SFUSD do to increase enrollment and to attract more students and families to the San Francisco Unified School District, at elementary, middle, and/or high school entry points?

This is a city that has no comprehensive plan for children and families. The fact that we have more dogs than children is often touted, without a critical examination of what does that mean for the city. SFUSD should be leading the charge to create a plan with other city agencies, to ensure that a quality education is available in a free, public, and accessible system as a cornerstone to keeping families in San Francisco.

7) What do you think of SFUSD's lottery system of enrollment?

Is it frustrating? Absolutely! Yet, it is the best system to ensure racial equity to date. I believe that without a city wide plan to ensure all families prosper in San Francisco, the lottery system is the best tool we have.

8) How did you vote on Prop G (8th Grade Algebra) and why? What are the top three areas to focus on in math currently to improve math outcomes for kids at SFUSD?

I didn't understand the logic behind this measure when the district is already working on this issue and it was unenforceable. As a result I voted, no.

9) What was your position on the school board recall of February 2022, and why?

I took no public or private stance as I was deep in the affects of the pandemic and with consequential health issues.

10) Who will you look to as your trusted sources of feedback, information, and advice as you make decisions as a BOE Commissioner? In what ways will you engage

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with and solicit feedback from community members?

I believe that being in service means that you are both a conduit for your community and a consensus builder with others.