

Democratic Party of Sacramento County - Central Committee: Candidate Questionnaire

Note: The answers to the questionnaire will be shared with the members of the Democratic Party of Sacramento County and local Democratic clubs and may become public.

The DPSC Candidate Questionnaire contains questions from many subject areas that you may feel are not pertinent to the office you seek. We ask these questions because: candidates may go on to other offices, we use one questionnaire for all candidates, and we share the questionnaire with our many clubs which have broad interests. Please answer to the best of your ability. Thank you!

Section 1

Full Name. **Ray Green**

Email address. **VoteRayGreen@gmail.com**

Office Sought: **Sacramento County Board of Education Area 2 Trustee**

FPPC ID (N/A in process)

Occupation: **Program Director, Black Child Legacy**

Employer. **Roberts Family Development Center**

Campaign Phone: **Currently 209-818-1371**

Campaign Website NA

Campaign Manager NA

Campaign Consultants (list all)

What is your anticipated budget and how much have you raised to date?

Budget \$20,000

Currently raised \$2,200

What are your primary sources for fundraising? Please list your top three campaign contributors.

Los Rios Federation of Teachers

Ray Green

Will all your campaign materials be printed by a union printer? Yes unless donated

Do you voluntarily decline contributions from any particular contributor or class of contributors (e.g., Big Oil, Walmart, developers, lobbyists, charter schools, etc.)? If so, list who they are and why.

If someone wants to support my vision and beliefs based on what they know about me then I do not expect to be offered any contributions from those who disagree with my values.

Please list your top five elected or appointed offices currently/prevously held and any key affiliations, clubs, or community organizations. Please include your role and a contact name and phone number for reference

Organization	Role	Contact
Black Child Legacy Campaign	Program Director	Derrell Roberts 916-803-8461
SCUSD LCAP Advisory Committee	Appointed Jay Hansen Advise SCUSD LCAP 2014-2016	Jay Hansen
Sierra Health Leadership Program Class XIV	Fellow XIV	Amy Birtwhistle 916-922-4755 x3306
My Brothers Keeper Sacramento	Coalition Member	Alejandra Guitierrez
North Sacramento Community Coalition	Committee Health Lead	Derrell Roberts 916-803-8461

Please attach your biography, a list of current endorsements, and any campaign literature or social media information as a single file. Please name your file: lastname/office sought. **See Attached.**

Have you ever been registered to vote as a member of a political party other than the Democratic Party, or No Party Preference? If so, please state when, why, and for how long. **No**

Have you ever endorsed, contributed to, campaigned for, or otherwise supported a candidate for election or appointment to a partisan or nonpartisan office that was not a member of the Democratic Party? If so, who, for which office, and why? Please be specific. **No**

Are you a dues-paying member of the Democratic Party of Sacramento County? **Not at the moment.**

Do you plan to purchase a ballot statement? **Yes**

What will your ballot designation be?

Educator. Community Advocate.

Have you read the Platform of the California Democratic Party? It can be downloaded at <https://www.cadem.org/our-california/platform> **Yes**

Have you read, and will you adhere to the Code of Fair Campaign Practices distributed by the Sacramento County Elections Department? It can be downloaded at <http://www.elections.saccounty.net>
Yes

Have you ever been the subject of sexual harassment/abuse/assault allegations investigated by law enforcement, governmental institutions, businesses or any other organizations? What was the result of any such investigation? **No.**

Is there anything in your history on the subject of sexual harassment/abuse/assault which, if revealed, would bring you, your proposed office, or the Democratic Party into disrepute? **No.**

How long have you lived in the district you seek to represent? **For a combined three years.**

Out of the last five elections, how many have you voted in? **Three total.**

Why did you decide to run for your position and what do you hope to accomplish during your tenure? List your top three issues.

I have decided to run for Sacramento County Board of Education because I want to continue providing equity in education for some of Sacramento's at most at risk youth. I see a future where all students are academically proficient, teacher and family engagement is positive and impactful, multiple opportunities are provided for students and families who are most at need. I believe we need someone who will provide an ear to hear and heart to uplift the communities voice of concerns and willingness to address these concerns. My experience with equity work has lead me to take a key interest in how we can accomplish that vision by working in a collaborative fashion when making decisions for these students. My priorities are focusing on closing the achievement gap through focusing on early literacy programs, continuing to pursue school climate as an intentional approach to creating safe spaces for all students to engage with all student, staff, administration and parents. The second priority is to utilize the opportunity to bring equity in funding by approving prioritized funding through the local control accountability plan to meet the needs of low income, foster youth and english language learners. Lastly I will focus on bringing accountability for the students inner-district transfers, second chance students and support the expansion of high quality supplemental career and college readiness services.

If you are an incumbent, what have you accomplished during your tenure? **I am not an incumbent**

Section 2 - District & Governance

Are you familiar with the budget(s) for which you will be responsible, if elected? If so, state how large it is, what its principal revenue sources are, and what its largest expenditure categories are.

The budget is over 140 million dollars. The largest revenue sources are grants and ADA. Largest expenditures are on administration/personnel.

Will you support moving to by-district elections (rather than at-large) where they are not held now? Please explain. **I will support moving to by- district elections rather than at large to bring more voice to the stakeholders within that district to choose who they wish to elect as candidate.**

What sets you apart from other candidates for this office?

I am an African American male who understands some of our most at risk students needs and have dedicated my time working to provide a way towards student and family progressing in life through education and supplemental programs. I bring an interesting community perspective on issues by engaging the voices of youth and families who have experienced trauma within their households and communities. I also bring experience and success in instituting equity in education and overall health specifically focused on better outcomes for black and brown students within Sacramento County by developing plans and instituting practices particularly for boys and men of color, participate in My Brothers Keeper initiative strategizing best practices in improving health, education, police interaction and economic outcomes for our boys and men of color.

Experience that sets me apart is that of being appointed and serving two years for Sacramento Unified School District (SCUSD) Advisory Board focusing on prioritizing SCUSD funds for low-income students, foster youth, and English language learners. My knowledge on the LCAP is critical to aligning our students needs in order to meet the counties vision for students and families. My past positions of being a Program Manager and Site Coordinator for the Children's Defense Fund Freedom School summer literacy program and extended day program implementing culturally responsive curriculum through literature to reduce summer learning loss. Some other values I have are integrity, passion, honor true collaboration between schools and communities they serve have been pivotal in supporting students needs. In relation to closing achievement gaps and reducing summer learning loss. I sit on numerous initiatives and coalitions/boards such as Black Minds Matter Education Alliance, The Alliance for Boys and Men of Color, and My Brothers Keeper Initiative. I presently serve as Program Director for the Sacramento County's Black Child Legacy Campaign (BCLC), a county wide initiative to reduce African American child deaths by 10%-20% in the areas of child abuse and neglect, perinatal conditions, infant sleep related deaths, and third party homicides. Strengths are creating climate, supportive instruction for most of our at risk and vulnerable communities with my understanding of this . My experience and openness to seek understanding, critical eye for details have made me unique in comparison to my respected candidates.

How will you work with community advocates? What will you do to be accessible to community members and other stakeholders?

As a community advocate myself I seek the communities voice when it comes to making decisions. I will make myself available by continuing having listening sessions, one on ones with individuals, visit

schools, open myself to engaging with all stakeholders and provide stakeholders with my phone and email in case they cannot meet in person.

What will you do to promote transparency and ethics?

I believe in transparency and whatever opportunity comes up to support that I will be in support. I will involve the community on important issues and engage advisory committees to give proper oversight and create transparency.

What whistle-blower protections should there be for public employees who expose corruption, sexual harassment, or other illegal/unethical activity?

I believe that whistle-blowers should be protected if they speak up on any corruption, sexual harassment or other illegal/unethical activities they or someone else may have experienced. I would support having the prevention based training, training for staff on their rights and how to exercise their rights accordingly. I would also support providing the submission and allegation to be handled by a third party making that whistleblowers identity protected from any retaliation.

Do you believe that current campaign finance rules should be changed? If so, how would you change them? **I believe the current campaign finance rules brings transparency and I have worked to ensure information is open to public. I would also support public finance and spending limits for campaigns.**

Section 3 – Civil Rights

What will you do to advance LGBTQ rights?

I will continue to support the creation of safe spaces within the schools for our family and children against bullying or hate crimes.

Discuss your feelings about the bullying and harassment of LGBTQ students because of their real or perceived sexual orientation and/or gender identity. How will you help promote a safer environment in schools for all students? **I do not support any bullying or harassment for any student. Every student deserves to advance in education so I will promote safer environments in schools for all students by having a message of respect for diversity and provide supportive restorative justice practices as well as additional supportive resources for students who may experience bullying or harassment.**

What will you do to end discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity in education, employment, and housing?

I am concerned again about students within the SCOE schools that experience these type of discrimination and will focus on restorative justice due to reduce our students and families from suicide or being their last chance within our schools. I will also look into resources to best support these individuals experiencing discrimination.

What is your position on a woman's right to comprehensive healthcare, including the right to choose and access contraception, and the right to obtain a medically safe, legal abortion?

I believe women should have access to comprehensive healthcare including the right to choose access to contraception. I do not advocate abortion however if a woman wants to choose that as an alternative option she should be able to obtain it by being medically safe.

If elected, what will you do to close the gender pay gap?

I would support respecting the same pay for the same quality jobs and opportunities when it comes to the pay gap.

What is your position on immigration? Do you support an amnesty program for those immigrants already living in the United States? Do you support a clean DREAM Act, without any enforcement funding attached to it? Should undocumented immigrants have a path towards citizenship? Why?

I believe immigrants already living the in the United States should be supported by programs and services that lead to a path towards citizenship. I support a clean DREAM ACT. I believe everyone deserves the opportunity to achieve greatness and experience the rights and freedom we have to offer without discrimination, hate crimes, or targeted slander.

What will you do to protect immigrant communities?

I will protect families due to SCOE being a sanctuary district. I would not allow officers to engage in questions about status without a warrant to our students. I am support students and families through safe schools and supporting sanctuary cities and communities. I would also support resources and outside services for families to be aware of for their choosing to become citizens.

Should there be limits on free speech or assembly in public places, such as protesting or picketing? Please explain. **In general by law every citizen has a freedom of speech however in schools there are some limits to students free speech if it interrupts the educational environment.**

Do you support background checks for all gun and ammunition sales? What other restrictions on firearms do you think are appropriate? **Yes, I support background checks for all gun and ammunition sales. Most members of NRA support background checks as well. I do believe there should be more**

legislation to keep transparency from those experiencing mental health as well as those who had criminal offenses. I would also support the extinction of bumstocks.

Do you feel the criminal justice system is just and fair to everyone? If not, what reforms would you like to see?

I do not agree that the system is just and fair to everyone. I would like to see the elimination of private prisons. I would like to see the right to a fair trials without force of plea deals that impact at high disproportionate rates of black and brown youth and adults which comprise the juvenile and prison systems.

Do you support capital punishment? If so, please explain when you think it's appropriate.

I am against capital punishment. Because their is too much injustice and biases within our justice system. There have been numerous stories of someone being convicted guilty and years later due to upgraded technology and DNA testing have been found not guilty. I cannot trust the current system to decide the fate of another human beings life.

Please share your views on the Black Lives Matter movement.

I believe the Black Lives Matter movement was a great way to bring to front the issues of racial biases that still are apparent in law enforcement. The Black Lives Matter movement not only exposes the issue of police accountability in question. Some of their tactics and messaging have gotten off the original messaging but believe they have started a movement where all can pay attention to.

How will you work toward greater police accountability? What role would the community play in that?

I would propose that police have an community appointed police advisory committee that make decisions when misconduct is in question. Community should have opportunities to speak with their local law enforcement to build relationships and trust through police and community relationships.

Do you support the universal use of police body cameras? When is it appropriate to release police body camera footage?

I support the use of police body cameras. I believe that the police should release any camera footage to bring transparency to the department and build trust with the community as well as having courageous conversation of accountability within the police department. This timing is critical as long as it does not compromise the due process of the case.

What will you do to make your community more accessible to people with disabilities?

I will support any efforts to make our schools and community more accessible for people with disabilities. This will also come into prioritizing funding to keep up with the demand of access.

What will you do to ensure that non-English speakers can fully participate in public meetings and access public services?

I will support non-English speakers by finding out what needs to be provided whether that be printed material, translators via headsets and community groups to explore other options that will best provide non-English speakers needs.

Section 4 – Healthcare

Do you believe that healthcare is a human right? If so, what do you believe is the most effective way to provide quality healthcare for all? **I believe healthcare is a human right. I would suggest a Universal healthcare system for all.**

What is your position on parental notification prior to a minor terminating a pregnancy? Please explain.

I believe that a child under 18 years of age should have parental notification. That interaction should be done in a safe manner to the child as well as the adult .

What measures would you support to ensure adequate mental health services for all?

I will be in favor to support more resources to go or taxes to provide adequate mental health services for all.

What will you do to help address high child mortality rates in the black community in Sacramento County?

I will continue to inform and engage pregnant women to local resources to promote healthy birth outcomes. I will continue to spread awareness and create access to infant sleep related practices. I will continue to share with families resources for stability and connection with cultural broker programs and promote safe family engagement practices. I will also ensure that all youth have opportunities through expanded learning programs and job placement skills to divert their attention to gang or gun violence.

Section 5 – Good Jobs for All

Describe your relationship with organized labor.

I have attended the Central Labor Council Candidate Academy and learned how important it is for having strong relationships with organized labor for quality wages, safe working conditions and expectations quality retirements. I look forward to building my relationships with organized labor.

Do you support the right of workers to unionize by card check? **Yes. I believe that each employee should have the right to choose to be apart of the union or not to be apart of the union. They should have the right to bargain for wages, benefits and safe working conditions.**

Have you attended the Sacramento Central Labor Council Candidate Academy?

Yes I have attended.

Do you support project labor agreements?

Yes. I am in support of project labor agreements.

Which labor unions will you be interacting with in your role? What is your plan for building collaborative relationships with union and nonunion employees?

Labor unions that I will be interacting with teachers, staff, and all of SCOE local to address unions concerns with accountability and high standards, except of special land use projects when altering school boundaries. If needed I plan to build collaborative relationships with union and non union employees that might have an impact on any school sites or areas we oversee.

What is the role of the office that you seek in promoting good jobs for our region?

My role as a SCOE board member would be promoting good career and technical job opportunities through career readiness programs for our students. I would be able to focus on Project Labor agreements that give multipole opportunities for our region to grow.

What solutions would you propose to solve budget shortfalls and how would you prioritize the needs of your constituents?

I would work collaboratively with the board to seek additional funding through taxes, measures, bonds. I am in favor of finding new revenue for public sector programs like oil companies etc. I would prioritize with the board to find the highest needs first for our low income and foster youth. Then have to look into engaging the constituents input on what they would want to have prioritized.

Do you believe income inequality is an issue in your community? If so, what steps would you take to address it?

Yes I do believe income inequality is an issue. I would address it by finding more services to aid in our families earning ability, advocate for higher base pay so that single families do not have to work and still live in poverty working on a base rate. I would also give more opportunities for community to thrive by having more diploma programs, transitionary programs and career development trades that all can take advantage of.

Section 6 - Local Economy & Public Resources

Under what circumstances would you support raising revenues by means of taxes or fees to support public services and why?

I am also interested in new ways of revenue from different sources that address the inequities. As long as the taxes and fees do not become too taxing on the underserved communities.

Under what conditions would you support the privatization of public or natural resources (i.e. water, publicly-owned buildings, schools, parklands, parking facilities)? **I do not support privatization of publicly owned resources.**

What is your position on "public/private partnerships"? **I am concerned when it comes to privatization using public and private partnerships that give very little benefit to the public.**

When is it appropriate to use public money or tax incentives to subsidize private business? **I am concerned when using subsidized private businesses unless it shows beneficial to the taxpayers in the public.**

What is your plan to support and encourage local small business development? **As a board member of SCOE I plan to expand career and trades that support our communities for small business development.**

Section 7 – Environment

Do you support the construction of the Delta tunnels and the Southeast Connector? Please explain. **I do not support the Delta tunnels and Southeast connector. I believe it is a waste of money and serves no adequate proven success.**

When is it appropriate to expand the urban growth boundary?

It is only appropriate to expand urban growth boundaries once we utilize the space that is still underutilized within the neighborhoods.

Please describe your position on regional habitat and working lands conservation.

Although I have few experiences with regional habitat and land conservation I believe it is important to preserve, protect some of our area's most precious plant and animal life.

What will you do to address climate change in your role? Please be specific.

I support various programs whose focus is not just education but service learning programs that are beneficial to the environment.

Please describe your education and/or experience with land use planning.

I have aided in new gardens at the Roberts Family Development and creating and supporting a garden at one of the local churches in Del Paso Heights under the guidance of the conservation corps. I look forward to more opportunities.

Have you read the General Plan and do you agree with its vision of future development? If not, what changes would you propose?

Section 8 – Education

Do you support Restorative Justice and funding such programs?

Yes I do support effective Restorative Justice programs.

What role do you believe charter schools should play in public education?

I believe that investing public education is KEY to support academic success for all students. I do not promote charter schools however it depends if that charter school meets the needs by law to meet the needs of a student and have innovative ways that may be difficult to meet in traditional public schools. I believe that they should have sound fiscal and qualified teachers and infrastructure to support student needs. The legislation for charter schools were created to support innovation in education so yes they exist however I do not believe that charter schools should play as a replacement for traditional public education. I will follow the law and uphold it to ensure that charter schools that are approved are performing.

Do you support reforming teacher tenure, due process protections, or teacher salary and benefits? Please explain.

I do not support reforming teacher tenure. I do support in making it better. I believe that we should always assess the teachers to ensure that they are effective in supporting students. We should also provide them with up to date, research based practices that will equip them to continued growth. Those teachers who have proven to overcome the first three years should be respected and protected with supports and hopes of fair wages and benefits.

What will you do to minimize bullying and promote tolerance in school?

I will ensure anti bullying programs within schools and promote tolerance through a variety of PBIS practices. Also ensure restorative justice practices throughout the schools in order to keep students to learn from their experiences and gain rich opportunities to engage with others through conflict. I would also support teacher and student engagement through culturally rich activities that bring common ground and understanding of expectations and the ability to learn from each others in order to respect the diversity and differences.

Is there an achievement gap in your school district? If so, what will you do to close that gap?

I would expand universal preschool that develops their social skills, cognitive development, alphabet and word recognition. I would also look to prioritize supplemental and literacy extracurricular activities, quality teachers, restorative justice practices, provide access to daycare for working families, minimize suspension timelines, provide access to health care and nutritious foods. I will support Parent , student and teacher collaboration. For our English language learners I will support classes for their families. We have to continue finding effective engaging whole year extracurricular programs to address their desire to want to be apart of the educational community to stay in school.

For school board candidates: Please explain LCFF and LCAP in three sentences or fewer.

LCFF and LCAP is a funding formula and plan designed by Governor Jerry Brown to redirect the funds to support areas of low income, english language learners and foster youth to best address communities needs.

Do you believe that public adult education, colleges, and universities should be tuition free?

Yes I do believe that it should be free or at least income based adjustments.

Section 9 - Housing

What is your plan to address homelessness in your community? **I recognize that this is a concern for Sacramento and as of now other than respect I hope to find out what current resources are out there and find out where are the challenges with homelessness and how we as the SCOE districts are currently supporting students and families experiencing homelessness.**

What is your plan to relieve the rental housing crisis? **I see one of the ways to address individual families connected to. I am very concerned for homeowners that rent properties are taking advantage of people beyond people's abilities Predatory lending.**

Do you support rent control and just cause eviction? **Yes**

Do you support the adoption of inclusionary housing ordinances? **Yes**

What is your plan for funding affordable housing construction?

I do not have a plan for affordable housing but I know families in my county would benefit from having a stable place to live.

Would you support a local ordinance to end Housing Choice Voucher discrimination (Section 8)? Please explain.

Please explain. YES. I support all reasonable efforts to eliminate discrimination. I do support property owners rights, but not if it includes blatant discrimination against people based on their participation in public assistance.

What is your plan to ensure that working class people have opportunities for home ownership?

I plan to have SCOE workers and other aware of homeownership resources.

Section 10 – Transportation and Public Transit

Would you support a local sales tax measure to fund transportation and public transit? Please explain.

Yes I will support sales tax measures to fund transportation and public transit.

If you are seated on the board of SACOG, STA, or Regional Transit, how would you use your role and what would you prioritize?

I will not be seated on the board.

What is your plan to reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled in the region?

I support any efforts to develop regional, bus or train transportation in Sacramento County.

What is your plan to improve local and regional public transit? Please describe a priority project.

A priority project for me would be to ensure that they are safe for all staff and families.