



## 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 - Background

**1.1 Full Name:** Myel Jenkins

**1.2 Email address:** [myelj@att.net](mailto:myelj@att.net) and [mjenkins@electmyel.com](mailto:mjenkins@electmyel.com)

**1.3 Office Sought:** San Juan Unified School District, Board of Education

**1.4 FPPC ID:** 1401306

**1.5 Occupation:** Manger

**1.6 Employer:** California School Boards Association

**1.7 Campaign Phone:** 916-964-3251 and 916-716-5941

**1.8 Campaign Website:** [www.electmyel.com](http://www.electmyel.com)

**1.9 Campaign Manager:** n/a

**1.10 Campaign Consultants:** Chris Chaffee

**1.11 What is your anticipated budget and how much have you raised to date?** Anticipated budget: \$30,000. Raised to date: \$22,000 (as of June 30, 2018)

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

San Juan Teachers Association, friends and family

**1.13 Will all your campaign materials be printed by a union printer?**

Yes

**1.14 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.**

Yes

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

Bella Vista High School PTSA	Secretary	Claudette Yang Former President
Women's Empowerment Board of Directors	Vice-President	Lisa Culp Executive Director
Local Control Accountability	Parent	Donna O'Neil

Plan Parent Advisory Committee	Representative	Associate Superintendent
Comprehensive Sexual Health Adoption Committee	Parent Representative	San Juan Unified School District
Superintendent Parent Advisory Committee	Northridge Elementary School, Parent Rep	San Juan Unified School District
California Stigma and Discrimination Consortium, California Mental Health Services Authority	Consortium member	Adele James Consultant and Facilitator

**1.16 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: last name/office sought.**

My biography and current list of endorsements can be found at the end of this document.

**1.17 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

**1.18 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

**1.19 Are you a dues-paying member of the Democratic Party of Sacramento County?whi**

No

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

Yes

**1.21 What will your ballot designation be?**

Manager, Education Organization

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

Yes

**1.23 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

**1.24 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

**1.25 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

**1.26 How long have you lived in the district you seek to represent?**

July 2007 to present

**1.27 Out of the last five elections, how many have you voted in?**

5/5

**1.28 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 am running for the San Juan Unified School Board to represent families and their children because I want to build a school district that ensures the success of ALL students. As a parent of two SJUSD students, and as an active volunteer, I understand the issues that impact our students, schools and the district overall.

I know firsthand the difficulties all districts face providing high quality educational programs for all students, as I am currently in the professional development department of the the California School Boards Association, which is a member organization for California school board members. Part my work is to educate school board members on the best practices districts have implemented statewide to improve educational achievement. I also have an extensive background on how San Juan chooses to allocate its fund as I serve on the LCAP Parent Advisory Committee. My experience and background provides me with both a statewide and local perspective on how San Juan can improve its educational programs and increase student achievement.

That's why I am running. I will bring a unique perspective to the board, as I will never stop advocating to build programs that successfully close the achievement gap, ensure every student is prepared for college and career, and that our students and teachers have the resources they need to be successful. As a San Juan Unified School Board Member, I will bring a parent's voice, management experience, and a commitment to serving every student in our district. As an engaged parent and active volunteer in the San Juan district, I have developed four priorities that I would address if elected.

- **Academic success for all students**

High quality education should be accessible for all student regardless of their zip code. I am committed to continuing to build strong, neighborhood schools that provide students with a quality education, enriching programs, and opportunities for parents to engage in their children's education.

- **Prepare all students to be college and career ready**

It's not enough just to graduate. It's our job to make sure students are prepared for their next steps- college and careers. I'm committed to a K-12 education that prepares students for their success upon graduation and beyond.

- **Social-emotional support for students that helps them to succeed academically**

We know that for students to do well in school, they must have their social-emotional needs met. I will continue the work of strengthening programs which address the social-emotional wellbeing of our students.

- **Strong, quality and diverse teacher force**

San Juan Unified School District is a district committed to hiring a quality teaching force and providing ongoing professional development. I am committed to continuing to build a strong, qualified, and diverse teaching force.

**1.29 If you are an incumbent, what have you accomplished during your tenure?**

I am not an incumbent, this is my first time running for any office.

**Section 2 - District & Governance**

**2.1 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 San Juan Unified School has a budget of \$387 million with the principal revenue coming from state and federal funds. The growing expenditures are around retirements, but there is also competing fiscal pressure to implement the unfunded state and federal mandates, such as special education and implementation of new curriculum.

**2.2 Will you support moving to by-district elections (rather than at-large) where they are not held now? Please explain.**

San Juan Unified School District is a district that is 75 square miles and serves over 39,000 students. The district currently operates under an at-large election system. As an at-large district, there is not the guarantee that all areas of the San Juan community are represented on the governance team. A by-district election would provide that opportunity for a well-balanced representation, where voters could elect a school board member that would represent and advocate for the educational needs of their community.

Further, by going to by-district elections, the cost of running successful campaigns will decrease considerably as the number of likely voters will be reduced to 20% of the current target. Reducing the cost of running for office and the size of the districts will allow a more diverse group of candidates to run, helping to increase the diversity of the board.

**2.3 What sets you apart from other candidates for this office?**

I am running as a parent voice advocating for the success of ALL children. As a San Juan Unified School District Board Member, I will bring a parent's voice, management experience, and a commitment to serve every student in our district.

What differentiates me is the unique perspective I bring as an engaged parent, active volunteer and decades of management experience at non-profits, foundations, and county government. I have been an active parent in our district, since my oldest son started kindergarten in 2007. As a parent of two sons with educational 504 plans (support plans to provide accommodations to meet their needs) I have advocated for my sons and have acted as a partner with their teachers and administrators to ensure they are provided with the supports they need to be successful in the classroom. These personal experiences have built my understanding of the need for strong social-emotional supports for our students, and the importance of schools and parents to engage as educational partners.

As an active volunteer, I have served in many classrooms and on several districtwide initiatives, such as the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) since 2014 and the Comprehensive Sexual Health Adoption Curriculum Committee in 2017. These experiences have put me in touch with the issues that uniquely impact our district and made me aware of San Juan's strengths and challenges.

In addition, I bring close to 20 years of experience as a manager of non-profit, foundation, and county government programs. In this time, I have managed youth development, youth-focused reproductive and mental health programs, and family engagement programs. The programs I've managed and the issues that I have addresses are all issues which impact students and families in our district. I believe these complimentary experiences will allow me to provide a unique perspective on the board and help the district

tackle the complex socio-economic pressures students from a parent's point of view.

I am also a 2018 graduate of the Emerge California program, a training program for Democratic women interested in running for office. Emerge has enhanced my commitment to public service. I believe these collective experiences make me a strong and a unique candidate for the San Juan School Board.

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

It is important to have a district that engages stakeholders and engages in transparent practices. As a candidate, I have visited several of our Title I schools and connected with different community stakeholders, from parents of special education students to non-profit partners. If elected, I would continue to be available to community members, families and our schools and would continue to visit schools and attend school events and district committees.

**2.5 What will you do to promote transparency and ethics?**

To promote transparency, we must ensure that we are clearly communicating with families and partners. Transparency cannot be achieved if information is not shared. I support employing multiple communication strategies that are culturally appropriate and engage families and partners in district decision making through participation in listening circles, forums and district committees. Accountability occurs when information is shared, and families are engaged.

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

Whistle-blowers should be able to speak out and expose corruption, sexual harassment and other illegal/unethical activity without the fear of retaliation for their courageous actions. To help foster this, there should be continuous training for employers that encourages the raising of issues and fair resolution of those issues. In addition, employee training should include information about their rights and the ways to exercise those rights.

**2.7 Do you believe that current campaign finance rules should be changed? If so, how would you change them?**

I support public financing of campaigns and campaign spending limits and believe that *Citizens United* needs to be overturned.

**Section 3 – Civil Rights**

**3.1 What will you do to advance the rights of:**

**A. The LGBTQ community?**

I unequivocally support equal rights for the LGBTQ community and my professional path has demonstrated my commitment. When I was a manager overseeing sexual health services for teens, I took steps to ensure that our clinic was a safe and welcoming place for LGBTQ youth to seek services. As a manager, I ensured that all staff received ongoing training around providing culturally appropriate sexual health services to LGBTQ youth, revising clinic registration paperwork to be more appropriate for all, and establishing gender neutral bathrooms. San Juan Unified School District supports equality for the LGBTQ student community ([SJUSD Supports for LGBTQ youth](#)). I support these programs and would advocate for their growth and, in addition, would continue and expand staff training on LGBTQ issues.

**B. Racial and ethnic minorities?**

I would support the rights of racial and ethnic minorities through several strategies that focus on creating culturally appropriate learning environment for kids, a welcoming environment for all families and intentional

shifts in the district culture. I would advocate for students and families to know their educational rights and to support culturally appropriate family engagement strategies that include families of color the school and district decision-making. I would also support strategies to diversify the San Juan teaching and staff forces and school and district leadership. In addition, I would continue to support staff training on implicit bias and restorative justice while supporting the work of the SJUSD Equity Office.

### **C. Gender and gender identities?**

Advancing rights of gender and gender identities takes similar strategies to what was previously mentioned. I would advocate for a culture shift to recognize, welcome and include all communities. Part of the efforts include implementing culturally appropriate engagement strategies, educating students and families on their rights and implicit bias training for staff. If elected to San Juan School Board, I would be a voice advocating for the rights of students and families and ensuring that our district policies, practices and professional development are aligned with this advocacy.

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

As a school board member reviewing policies and practices, I would have the opportunity to see how our system and structures may create discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity for kids, families and staff. As a school board member, I would actively ensure we are dismantling systems of discrimination using intentional policies and practices.

### **3.3 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 support a woman's right to comprehensive healthcare. As a manager of teen health programs, my work was to manage teen sexual health clinics where young people could access health care. Clinic services included case management services in which pregnant teens had the support of a case manager to access abortion services, as requested. Managing this program closely aligned with my value that access to sexual health services is critical, and specifically access to reproductive health service for young and adult women is vital.

More recently, I participated on the Comprehensive Sexual Health Curriculum Committee of San Juan Unified School District as a parent volunteer. As a committee member, I was active in selecting sexual health curriculum that would ensure our students receive accurate, comprehensive sexual health information.

If elected to San Juan School Board, I would be a voice for the importance of providing our students with accurate health information and access to quality health care.

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

As a school board member I would advocate that the district analyzes the gender pay gap within the district and raise the issue during labor negotiations.

### **3.5 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 support the Democratic Party Platform on Immigration. I support an amnesty program, a clean DREAM Act and undocumented immigrants having a pathway to citizenship.

### **3.6 What will you do to protect immigrant communities?**

I support AB 669 that puts into place policies that affirms a student's right to a free public education regardless of their immigration status. I also believe that all school districts should be a safe haven for students and their parents. ICE or other federal authorities have no place detaining students or their parents on school grounds.

**3.7 Should there be limits on free speech or assembly in public places, such as protesting or picketing? Please explain.**

I believe in free speech and assembly in public places. A major foundation of our democracy is free speech. I also believe that school districts should look at policies that support students' right to free speech and protesting while being mindful of keeping students safe as they exercise their right to free speech.

**3.8 Do you support background checks for all gun and ammunition sales? What other restrictions on firearms do you think are appropriate?**

I support background checks on semi-automatic gun sales. I also believe that our schools should be and remain gun free.

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

Data demonstrates repeatedly that our criminal justice system is not just or fair to black men, other people of color and the poor. Policies, such as three-strikes and school policies of zero tolerance, create systems that disproportionately penalize communities of color. I believe that we need to continue to look at implicit bias and the role implicit bias plays in creating unfair and unjust policies and structures.

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

I do not believe in capital punishment.

**3.11 Please share your views on the Black Lives Matter movement.**

I have seen firsthand that Black Lives Matter is an action-oriented movement advocating for putting Blacks in control of policies that impact our communities. As a school board member, I could directly support the Black Lives Matter Platform of *An End of Privatization of Schools and Direct Community Control*. Achievement gaps occur when there is inadequate funding, lack of strong teachers, and educational supports. My position as a school board member will be to look at the disparities within our district that contribute to the achievement gap, actively addressing those issues while also engaging families as active partners in their children's education.

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

As a school board member, I would look at our districts partnerships, including partnerships with the Sacramento Sheriff's Department, to review our current methods of accountability and if/how those systems of accountability could be increased.

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

I believe in the universal use of body cameras as it leads to greater transparency and public accountability of police officers' behavior. I believe it is appropriate to release police body camera footages when it does not interfere with ongoing investigations.

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

As a candidate for the San Juan School Board, I hosted a listening circle with San Juan parents who have children in our district's special education program. This listening circle provided me with an opportunity to learn more about San Juan's special education programs and the needs of our children and their families in special education. I support the district Special Education Committee Advisory Committee and would like to expand the San Juan practice of listening circles to include discussions surrounding special education students. The next step would be to use the learning from the listening circles to inform how we make our community more accessible to people with

disabilities.

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

We need to continue the work that has been started. I would support and expand on the sharing of printed and electronic information in all languages, multi-lingual staff on campuses, and translation services at all public meetings.

**Section 4 – Healthcare**

**4.1 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 that healthcare is a human right. With my brother I have seen first-hand what happens when there is lack of options for consistent health care and treatment because a person does not have health insurance. I acknowledge that healthcare is a complex system, but as the wealthiest nation in the world we must be able to provide access to affordable, quality healthcare to all of our residents.

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

I believe that teens should have the right to confidential reproductive healthcare, including terminating pregnancies. Changing laws to require parental notification could put some teens at risk, particularly those living in abusive families. As a former manager of teen reproductive health clinics and a parent, I feel strongly that we must preserve teens ability to confidential care.

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

As a Program Officer at Sierra Health Foundation, I helped distribute \$5.5 million dollars to expand community based mental health services in Sacramento community. I have a deep commitment to ensuring adequate mental health services for all. I would commit to working with our community partners, such as Wind Youth Services and Gender Health Services and others, to see how we can promote community mental health services and find ways to make them more accessible.

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

I would support the efforts of the Black Child Legacy Campaign, the Sacramento initiative addressing high child mortality rates in our black community. I would specifically support continuing and expanding the partnership with Mutual Assistance Network (MAN) in the Arden-Arcade community. MAN is funded by the Black Child Legacy Campaign to address this issue in the Arden-Arcade community, the only community in the San Juan Unified School District to receive this specific support. As a school board candidate, I have met with MAN to learn more about their work, the families they serve in Arden-Arcade and their current partnership with SJUSD.

**Section 5 – Good Jobs for All**

**5.1 Describe your relationship with organized labor.**

As the daughter of a union member, my father was a reporter and active member of the Newspaper Guild, I know firsthand how important organized labor is to level the playing field and protecting workers. When my father faced retaliation due to a story he wrote for the *Sacramento Union* newspaper, the Newspaper Guild represented him and ensured he kept his job. This type of representation is vital to protecting workers and preserving their rights.

**5.2 Do you support the right of workers to unionize by card check?**

I support the right of workers to unionize by card check. Workers should have the fundamental right to unionize



without retaliation.

**5.3 Have you attended the Sacramento Central Labor Council Candidate Academy?**

In February, I attended the Labor 101 Candidate Academy put on the by the Sacramento County Central Labor Council. I also attended the Emerge California Bootcamp hosted at the Central Labor Council in August 2017.

**5.4 Do you support project labor agreements?**

I support project labor agreements.

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

I'm honored to have earned the endorsement of the two unions representing employees within the San Juan School District, the San Juan Teachers Association (SJTA) and the California School Employees Association, San Juan Chapter 127. I look forward to continuing to build these relationships by continuing to make myself available, visit school sites throughout the district and engage in authentic and transparent conversations.

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

The San Juan Unified School District employs more than 5,000 employees in the Sacramento region. The role of the school board is to provide governance to the district and direction to the superintendent. These responsibilities provide the board the opportunity to promote good jobs within Sacramento County and provide the educational foundation to our K-12 students who will one day be a huge part of our workforce. As a San Juan School Board member, I would advocate for our district to create a culture that supports a diverse and strong teaching force in which teachers seek out employment in San Juan.

Further, the reason I'm running for office is to focus on providing EVERY student with a quality education with the tools to be either college or career ready. This perspective and drive will guide me on the school board and if successful create a strong future workforce of San Juan High School graduates.

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

I propose engaging stakeholders to build a comprehensive understanding of what is important to constituents. If elected to the San Juan School Board, I would make budget decisions based on how best we can preserve high quality education to our San Juan students and preserve healthy working conditions for our teachers and staff.

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

Income inequality is an issue within San Juan, as the district has a mix of low-serioeconomic families and high-socioeconomic families within the same communities. This mixture is seen most prominently in the Arden-Arcade area, which has been identified as the highest disproportionate income community in the nation. To address this, it is important that San Juan continues to offer competitive salaries to both teachers and classified staff and supports career pathways for ALL students.

**Section 6 - Local Economy & Public Resources**

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

California's commitment to our schools, as seen through its funding formula, has not kept pace with the funding needs of school districts throughout the state, this deficit in funding has been acerbated by growing labor, healthcare, and pension costs. School district budgets are often inadequate in comparison to the California Constitution's mandate of providing a quality education to EVERY student. I would support raising revenues

through tax increases to support public services, like high-quality education for all.

**6.2 How do you balance more progressive vs more regressive forms of taxation or other revenues and their specific impacts on the community, and what means of such revenues would you have at your disposal and support?**

California faces numerous revenue gaps in providing the public services residents demand – quality education for all students, access to affordable healthcare to all residents, a robust transportation system to support our economy, and so much more. At this point, Californians must be willing to pay more for these public services. Given our current budgeting needs, we must look for revenue from whatever source we can find.

**6.3 Under what conditions would you support the privatization of public or natural resources (i.e. water, publicly-owned buildings, schools, park lands, parking facilities)?**

I do not support the privatization of public or natural resources, particularly schools.

**6.4 What is your position on "public/private partnerships"?**

I believe that public/private partnerships can benefit the community. Public/private partnerships should be structured in way that builds upon the strengths of both partners. As a Program Officer with Sierra Health Foundation, I managed the foundation's first public/private partnership with the County of Sacramento. Through that partnership, I managed the distribution of grant funds to expand mental health services. We distributed \$5.5 million dollars in three years; the distribution of funds to providers would have taken much longer if distributed through the traditional County government process.

**6.5 When is it appropriate to use public money or tax incentives to subsidize private business?**

It can be appropriate to use public money or tax incentives to subsidize private business when these subsidies provide a needed service to the community that may not be filled without the incentive. For instance, encouraging the development of affordable housing or mixed-use space.

**6.6 What is your plan to support and encourage local small business development?**

If elected to the San Juan School Board, I would encourage the expansion of career pathway programs. Local businesses can support students in discovering their career paths through internships, externships and mentorships. When we support students in developing career goals, we develop the next generation of business owners.

**Section 7 – Environment**

**7.1 Do you support the construction of the Delta tunnels and the Southeast Connector? Please explain.**

I do not support the Delta tunnels. It is not clear to me that the environmental impacts have been fully mitigated.

**7.2 When is it appropriate to expand the urban growth boundary?**

I believe that it is appropriate to expand the urban growth boundary only after careful deliberation that involves all stakeholders, environmental reviews and thorough discussions on development within the urban growth boundary.

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

I support the protection of green space, wetlands and protected habitat.

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

If elected to the San Juan School Board, I would advocate to ensure that the construction of new spaces within our district are done with sustainable development.

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

I do not have experience with land use planning.

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

I have read the Executive Summary of the General Plan and agree with the proposal to revitalize existing mature communities, many of which are in the boundaries of San Juan Unified School District.

**Section 8 – Education**

**8.1 Do you support Restorative Justice and funding such programs?**

I support Restorative Justice programs and recognize that these programs are one strategy to counter discriminatory and penalizing practices. I also recognize that our budgets reflect our values, and I would support the funding of these programs.

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

San Juan Unified School District has ten charter schools. My youngest son attended one of the charters for two years. He needed a teaching method that would fit his needs, and this charter school provided that while my older son attended and continues to attend our neighborhood schools. I recognize that the California launched charter schools to offer innovative approaches. And, I recognize that charters are not a panacea and believe that we need to hold all schools accountable, demand they offer every student a quality education and measure their results.

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

I support teacher tenure, securing due process protections for all teachers and employees and paying teachers' salary and benefits that reflect their high value to our communities. This year, we have witnessed a wave of teacher strikes in several states. It is hard not to notice that these strikes have occurred in Right to Work states, which have minimal protections for teachers. Teaching is a noble profession and we will not be able to grow the diversity of our teacher workforce without teacher tenure, due process and competitive salary and wages.

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

As a school board member, I would advocate for a continued culture shift to recognize and welcome all communities- particularly communities of color and LGBTQ students. I believe any bullying and harassment of students because of their real or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, culture or race and/or immigration status is unacceptable. I would support training programs for school administration and staff on addressing bullying and harassment behavior. We must ensure that complaints of harassment that come from students and families are addressed and that there is a clear and transparent process to move complaints to a district level if needed. I would also promote creating a safer environment for all students by finding strategies to diversify our teaching force to be more reflect of the diversity of our students and that our district is teaching more inclusive curriculum across the district. |

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

LCFF is a funding formula that provides local control to allocate funding programs that benefit the students of most need and to close the achievement gap. LCAP is the community engagement process to prioritize local

goals and strategies, and the measurement of the district performance to meeting those goals. I am honored to have served on the San Juan LCAP Parent Advisory Committee starting in 2014.

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

I believe that adult education and community colleges should be tuition free. I believe that the state of California needs to go back to our practices of when our state and university systems had low-tuition that made college more affordable for all students.

**Section 9 - Housing**

**9.1 What is your plan to address homelessness in your community?**

Affordable housing is an issue in the Sacramento region and it is increasingly impacting families and children. I have served on the Board of Directors of Women's Empowerment, a non-profit addressing homelessness one woman at time and have seen through our programs how lack of affordable housing impacts all facets of life: employment, health and childcare issues. As a member of the San Juan School Board, I would be an advocate for our homeless youth and students with insecure housing to ensure we support them and provide them access to consistent and high-quality, public education. I would support the existing partnerships that San Juan has with non-profits like WIND Youth Services and Mutual Assistance Network.

**9.2 What is your plan to relieve the rental housing crisis?**

N/A

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

I support rent protections that protect our vulnerable communities, such as low-income persons and the disabled and address the lack of supply.

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

I support inclusionary housing ordinances that protect our vulnerable communities.

**9.5 What is your plan for funding affordable housing construction?**

If elected to the San Juan School Board, I would like to explore innovative programs across the state, such as San Francisco Unified School District's loan program for teachers.

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

I would support a local ordinance to end Housing Choice Voucher discrimination. This type of disclination only contributes to the lack of affordable housing and homelessness.

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

I would contribute to California School Boards Association's advocacy efforts addressing affordable housing for our educators.

**Section 10 – Transportation and Public Transit**

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

I lived in the Bay Area where there were multiple public transportation systems that can take you around San Francisco and beyond. Now that I am back in Sacramento area and I live outside of the Sacramento City bounds where public transportation options are limited. Public transportation is essential to connecting people to jobs and other opportunities. I would support a local tax measure to fund public transportation.

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

If I was appointed to SACOG, STA or Regional Transit, I would prioritize regional transit systems and transportation projects that promote reducing vehicle miles traveled, as climate change is a real problem that we must systematically address through planning.

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

There needs to be ways to increase public transit options across the county that create safe, reliable alternatives to private commutes.

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

Priorities should be made to increase rail service across the County and when possible, replace older buses with green electric buses.

*Please next pages for the Bio and Endorsements*

## **Myel Jenkins Bio**

I bring experiences as an active parent and an engaged volunteer and the skill set of an experienced manager. I have been an active parent in the San Juan Unified School District (SJUSD) volunteering on a classroom, a school and a district level. These experiences have broadened my insight on the issues facing our students and have built my working knowledge of our district.

I first became involved in SJUSD as a parent volunteer in 2007 when my oldest son started kindergarten. My involvement expanded from classroom volunteer to PTA board member, to Northridge Elementary representative on the SJUSD Superintendent Advisory Committee.

I am proud to have served on the district's Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) Parent Advisory Committee since it started in 2014 and from my committee involvement have learned more about our district's strengths and our challenges. Most recently I volunteered on the SJUSD Comprehensive Sexual Health Adoption Committee and served as the Bella Vista High School PTSA Secretary in 2017-2018.

My rich volunteer experience is complemented with a strong professional history of managing programs for non-profits, county government, and foundations. This history includes managing community engagement and youth-focused programs. I was the Director of the California Friday Night Live Partnership, a statewide, youth development organization. I was also the manager for the youth focused non-profit, Huckleberry Youth Programs where I managed health and wellness programs and partnered with school districts to bring Huckleberry services into middle and high schools.

More recently I was a Program Officer at Sierra Health Foundation where I managed the distribution of \$5.5 million in grants to establish new mental health programs in the Sacramento community. Currently, I am Manager with the California School Boards Association (CSBA) where I see first-hand the issues impacting public education on both a local and state level.

In addition, I graduated this Spring from Emerge California, a training program for Democratic on preparing to run for elected office. This five-month program has provided me with the tools to run an effective campaign and to serve as public official from a place of authenticity and values.

My volunteer and professional experiences have inspired my commitment to ensure success for ALL students, and to address my priorities of Academic Success, College and Career Ready, Social-emotional Support, and a Strong and Diverse Teacher Force.

*Endorsements on following page*

## Myel Jenkins Endorsements

### CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

- [Fem Dems of Sacramento](#)
- [California School Employees Association San Juan Chapter 127](#)
- [San Juan Teachers Association](#)

### ELECTED OFFICIALS

- Eleanor Brown, Trustee, Area 4 (past), Sacramento County Office of Education
- Thomaysa Glover, Board of Education (past), San Juan Unified School District
- Roy Grimes, Past President of Sacramento County Board of Education, Sacramento City School Board, & Third District PTA
- Rick Jennings, Council Member, City of Sacramento
- Bina Lefkovitiz, Trustee, Area 1, Sacramento County Office of Education
- Michael Minnick, 2nd Vice President and Trustee Area 4, Sacramento City Unified School District
- Stephanie Nguyen, Council Member, City of Elk Grove
- Mai Vang, Trustee Area 5, Sacramento City Unified School District

### COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

- Richard Callahan, Community Leader
- Lisa Culp, Executive Director, Women's Empowerment
- General Davie, Superintendent (retired), San Juan Unified School District
- David DeLuz, Assembly District 9, Chair (past), and CEO Greater Sacramento Urban League (past)
- Frances Freitas, MSW, Mental Health Professional (retired)
- Bruce Fisher, Executive Director (retired), Huckleberry Youth Programs
- Hedy Govenar, Board of Directors, KVIE and Women's Empowerment
- Ruth Haskins, M.D., Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Chet Hewitt, President & CEO, Sierra Health Foundation
- Cassandra Jennings, President & CEO, Greater Sacramento Urban League

- Jim Kooler, Administrator, California Friday Night Live Partnership
- Erin Maurie, Program Planner, First 5 Sacramento Commission
- Toni Moore, Executive Director (retired), First 5 Sacramento Commission
- Lindsey Nitta, Consultant
- Susan McCrae, Minister, and Member of the Respite Partnership Collaborative
- Beth Wilcoxon, Community Volunteer

### **LOCAL PARENTS, STUDENTS AND TEACHERS**

- Sean Anderson, Parent, San Juan Unified School District
- Craig X. Alexander, Volunteer, San Juan Unified School District
- Melissa Benke, Parent, and Teacher San Juan Unified School District
- Julie Caldwell, Parent, San Juan Unified School District
- Marley F., Student Member, LCAP Committee
- Monica Eisel, Leadership Consultant and Trainer, Eisel Consulting
- Kimber Rice, Former President, Cameron Ranch PTO
- Elaine Weideman, Treasurer, Bella Vista High School PTSA
- Tom Weideman, Volunteer, San Juan Unified School District
- Felicia Wimberly, Former President, Northridge Elementary School PTA
- Claudette Yang, Former President, Bella Vista High School PTSA

*\*Titles are for identification purposes only*

*Please see next page for list of community involvement*



## Myel Jenkins Community Involvement

### Accomplishments

- 2018 Graduate, Emerge California: [Emerge California](#)
- 2016 Health Leadership Program, Sierra Health Foundation [HLP at SHF](#)
- 2014 Consumer Ally Award, NorCal Mental Health America [NorCal MHA](#)

### Volunteer

- Secretary, PTA, Bella Vista High School (2017- 2018)
- Member, Comprehensive Sexual Health Adoption Committee, SJUSD (2017)
- Member, Sacramento County Coalition for Youth (2017) [SCCY](#)
- Parent Representative, Local Control Accountability Plan, San Juan Unified School District (2014-present)
- Board of Directors, Women's Empowerment (2015-present) [Women's Empowerment](#)
- Parent Representative, Superintendent Parent Advisory Committee, SJUSD (2013-2016)
- Classroom Volunteer and Art Docent, Northridge Elementary School (2007-2015)
- Coach, Fair Oaks Soccer Club (2012-2017)
- Member, California Stigma and Discrimination Consortium, California Mental Health Services Authority (2012-2015) [CalMHSA](#)
- Membership Chair, PTA, Northridge Elementary School (2011)
- Faith Formation Teacher, Divine Savior Catholic Parish (2008-present)