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Q1

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Q2

What are your qualifications for Board of Education? (please limit your response to 250 words)

I have three children in public schools in San Francisco and attended SFUSD Schools myself (as did my wife). My wife has been a public school teacher for over 25 years (we have been married/together for 28 years.)

I have been active as a volunteer at my children's schools and through the SF Education Fund, working in the classroom, with extra-curricular programs, and around the school in general. I have held various roles with the PTA as well as being a member of the School Site Council.

For nearly 15 years, I have been working with school districts and county offices of education around the state as a software developer working on their back office systems.

This gives me unique insight into all aspects of the school district, from the back office to the classroom, as a student and as a parent.

Q3

How should the school district add more school buses and improve its coordination with MUNI and BART in order to provide better, greener transportation to schools for students

and employees, many of whom currently drive? (please limit your response to 250 words)

There is coordination with MUNI in regards to student schedules, but it seems to me that there is room for improvement when it comes to teachers' schedules. Teachers arrive at school early and leave late; there needs to be adequate service to match their schedules.

Q4

What should the school district do to improve bicycle and pedestrian access to its schools? (please limit your response to 250 words)

I have seen how walk and bike to school days can make a difference in encouraging parents to leave their cars at home. More support at schools, including "walking school buses" should be encouraged.

Q5

How would you promote and implement green building elements for new and renovated school district buildings? (please limit your response to 250 words)

All new construction and renovation should include solar power generation. This seems a no-brainer and if it is not already the case, it should be.

Outdoor classrooms give kids a chance at fresh air and can take advantage of natural lighting reducing the cost of electric lighting

Q6

What should the School District do to improve its environmental practices? (please limit your response to 250 words)

Spending money to light a classroom seems foolish when there is plenty of light available outside. When practical and safe, teachers should be encouraged to take advantage of favorable weather and take their classes outside to make the most of natural light.

Q7

What is your opinion of the School District's current environmental education curriculum? How can it be improved? What is your opinion on SB 720, the environmental education bill currently in the State Senate? (please limit your response to 250 words)

There are a lot of programs available but not all schools take advantage of them. Not every school has the funding to provide a dedicated outdoor science teacher. This can be addressed by putting a stronger focus on environmental education and by improved fundraising.

Although I am not overly familiar with SB720, I can say that I support expanded environmental education and that, after a superficial review of the bill, it appears to be a good idea.

Q8

How could school district policies encourage the most environmentally beneficial use of school property surrounding its buildings? (please limit your response to 250 words)

I am a fan of community gardens and could see using space around school buildings for that purpose. I also think that when trees are planted, strong preference should go to fruit trees to provide fruit to students, their families, and neighbors.

I am also a fan of landscaping that requires little water use -- rather than lawns, rock gardens and "dry creek beds" give kids opportunities for creative play while reducing water usage.

Q9

SFUSD has done a lot to improve student access to locally grown, healthy and organic foods. What more can be done in this and related areas (for example, to address the issue of food waste)? (please limit your response to 250 words)

Having a school garden where students can grow and harvest fruits and vegetables (as is the case at my kids' elementary school) makes a big difference. When kids know how food is grown and have participated in the growing of that food, they will be more aware of the value of healthy, locally grown foods. In addition, by understanding how much effort it takes to produce their food, they will be less

likely to waste food. In addition, when there is an active garden on site, students can see their food scraps put to use as compost.

Q10

Why should SFLCV endorse you? (please limit your response to 250 words)

I am not just a parent. I am not just an educator. I am not just an administrator. I have experience in all of these areas and can best put that experience to work for the benefit of our students, our teachers, and our community.

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