

2022 Endorsement Questionnaire- General Election - City Elections

Email *

ken94117@aol.com



Thank you for your interest in being considered for an endorsement by the Asian Pacific American Democratic Caucus of Alameda County. Please answer each question in 250 words or less. Be honest and direct. Please note: your questionnaire will be posted on our website for Caucus members to review. Please submit your responses by Tuesday, Sept. 6 by 5 pm.

Personal Information

Candidate Name *

Ken Rawdon

City and zip code of residence.

Hayward 94544

What is your campaign website address?

<https://www.facebook.com/kenrawdon4HUSD/>

What is your campaign email address?

Ken94117@aol.com

What is the office that you are seeking? *

- City of Alameda, Mayor
- City of Alameda, City Council
- City of Alameda, School Board
- City of Albany, City Council
- City of Albany, School Board
- City of Berkeley, City Council, Dist. 1
- City of Berkeley, City Council, Dist. 8
- City of Berkeley, School Board
- City of Berkeley, Rent Stabilization Board
- City of Dublin, City Council, Dist. 2
- City of Dublin, City Council
- City of Dublin, School Board (short term)
- City of Dublin, School Board, Area 5
- City of Emeryville, City Council
- City of Emeryville, School Board
- City of Fremont, City Council, Dist. 2
- City of Fremont, City Council, Dist. 3
- City of Fremont, City Council, Dist. 4
- City of Fremont, School Board, #3
- City of Hayward, City Council
- City of Hayward, School Board (long term)
- City of Hayward, School Board (short term)
- City of Livermore Mayor

- City of Livermore, Mayor
- City of Livermore, City Council, Dist. 1
- City of Livermore, City Council, Dist. 2
- City of Livermore, School Board
- City of Newark, Mayor
- City of Newark, City Council
- City of Newark, School Board
- City of Oakland, Mayor
- City of Oakland, City Council, Dist. 2
- City of Oakland, City Council, Dist. 4
- City of Oakland, City Council, Dist. 6
- City of Oakland, School Board, Dist. 2
- City of Oakland, School Board, Dist. 4
- City of Oakland, School Board, Dist. 6
- City of Piedmont, City Council
- City of Piedmont, School Board
- City of Pleasanton, City Council, Dist 1
- City of Pleasanton, City Council, Dist. 3
- City of San Leandro, Mayor
- City of San Leandro, City Council, Dist. 1
- City of San Leandro, City Council Dist. 5
- City of San Leandro, School Bd., Area 2
- City of Union City, City Council, Dist. 2
- City of Union City, City Council, Dist. 3
- City of Union City, City Council, Dist. 4

New Haven School District, #4

Other:

Are you the incumbent?

Yes

No

Are you a registered Democrat? The APA Democratic Caucus can only endorse registered Democrats

Yes

No

Are you an APA Caucus member?

Yes

No

Why are you seeking the Caucus's endorsement?

Over my years as a teacher I had many many students who were of Asian/Pacific Island descent. I loved working with them, hearing THEIR stories, and getting to know their families. As a board member for the last 4 years, I have worked to create and adopt policies that are geared toward their needs, both socio-emotionally and educationally. I will continue to do so in my 2nd term.

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List ONLY the top 5 endorsements that you have received. (Please reference your website if you want to alert us to more).

Hayward Mayoral Candidate Mark Salinas, Hayward Democratic Club, Hayward Chamber of Commerce, Hayward Education Association (Teachers Union), Hayward Mayor Barbara Halliday

If we endorse you, will you use our name in your campaign materials?

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

How long have you lived in the district that you are seeking to represent?

32 years

Educational background: What schools have you attended, date graduated, major and degree(s) earned.

I graduated from CSU, Fresno with both a bachelors in Music and an MA in Education

Employment: List the last three (3) paid positions, indicating name of employer, job title, and length of employment.

Chabot College / 2019-present; Eden United Church of Christ / 2020-present; Hayward Unified School District (Teacher) / 1989-2017.

What are the names of any community or nonprofit organizations with which you have been an active volunteer in the past 3-5 years.

Eden United Church of Christ, Hayward Rotary Club, Hayward Foundation for the Arts

CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

1. What actions have you taken to address anti-Asian discrimination/bullying/harassment? Please explain in what capacity you have acted and whether any of these actions were prior to 2020. (i.e., as an elected representative, member of commission/board/organization, and/or as an individual.

I supported and voted yes on the HUSD Board of Education's resolution condemning Asian hate and also voted yes on our sweeping new Anti-Bias / Anti-Racism policy.

2. One out of every 3 Alameda County residents is of Asian ancestry but are underrepresented in elected office and make-up 28% of all eligible voters in the County overall. Do you believe the legislative body you are seeking to represent has adequately served Asian and Pacific Americans? Why or why not?

We have tried but we can always do more. The two items I mentioned in the previous question were unanimous votes by our board. That speaks loud and clear on where we stand as we stand against Asian hate.

3. One-third of Alameda County residents were born in another country. Do you believe that the needs of immigrants have been adequately addressed by the office you are seeking to represent? What changes are needed to better center their needs?

I think we really do need more representation on our board from the Asian-American community. As we have said, "No decisions about us without us". Right now we have ONE person on our board who represents this community. But more would be better.

4. Please identify the three largest APA ethnicities in your district.

Asian, Filipino, Pacific Islander

5. Please identify the most at-risk APA community in your district and explain why.

Pacific Islander (I think) -- I'm not too sure about this. I just remember from my teaching days having a lot of PI students who were at risk and how exciting it was to help them overcome and succeed.

6. What have you learned about Asian Americans in the past 2 years that you were previously unaware of and how has that impacted you?

I've learned that one in every ten business owners in the U.S. is Asian American. That's huge. I've learned that this demographic is HIGHLY educated with almost 60% holding a bachelor's degree or higher, and almost 90% have a high school diploma.

7. How do you think microaggressions and verbal harassment against Asians and other marginalized community members can be better addressed and what will you commit to doing? If you have intervened in the past, please describe what you did.

This is an issue that needs to stay at the front burner! I'm happy and proud that we did, in fact, pass a resolution in support of our API community and condemning the harassment and aggression toward our students and others, but its one thing to pass a resolution and another thing to see it through to it's implementation. I would look for ways to hold people accountable for their actions. I commit myself to that.

8. What resources (people/organizations) will you tap to increase your knowledge and understanding of the on-going needs of the Asian and Pacific Americans living in your district?

9. Please list any Asian American candidates you have publicly endorsed.

Peter Bufete / Lily Mei / Lanhee Chen / Ro Khanna / Phong La

Thank you for completing our questionnaire.

Please Submit your responses by Sep. 6, 5 pm. We will be holding several zoom endorsement meetings covering all three regions of the County before the end of September, tbd. Only those candidates completing the questionnaire will be on our endorsement ballot. No changes to your responses can be made after it is submitted.

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