

# 2022 Endorsement Questionnaire- General Election - Special Districts

Email \*

louis@quindlen4peralta.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 \*

Louis Quindlen

City and zip code of residence.

Oakland 94601

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What is your campaign website address?

quindlen4peralta.org

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What is your campaign email address?

louis@quindlen4peralta.org

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What is the office that you are seeking? \*

- AC Transit Board of Directors, Ward 3
- AC Transit Board of Directors, Ward 4
- BART Board, Dist. 6
- Dublin San Ramon, Area 5
- EBMUD, Ward 3
- EBMUD, Ward 7
- East Bay Regional Parks District, Ward 3
- Livermore Area Rec and Parks District
- Fairview Fire Protection District
- Oro Lomo Sanitation District
- Eden Area Healthcare District, Area 3
- Eden Area Healthcare District, Area 5
- Peralta Community College District, Area 3
- Peralta Community College District, Area 5
- Peralta Community College District, Area 7
- AC Transit - At-Large
- 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?

The Peralta District has a large Asian population that is well served in some areas, but a large portion of all our community has difficulty accessing the colleges. Peralta has just started using adult education concurrent enrollment that allows adult education students free classes at the college. The District has refused to use Ability to Benefit program that allows students in GED programs to qualify for financial aid if they are enrolled in career education classes. Peralta has a large number of not only Asian students that need these programs, but other immigrants and local residents. Our enrollment has been on a steady decline for years. Expanding these programs will benefit the District, our communities and local employers that need a skilled workforce.

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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).

Donald Saotome Moore faculty, President Peralta District Academic Senate  
Nicky Gonzalez Yuen Peralta Board of Trustees,  
Karen Weinstein Peralta Board of Trustees (retired),  
Leslie Blackie President Laney College Faculty Senate

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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?

16 years

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

UC Santa Barbara BA Sociology 1976,  
Mare Island Naval Shipyard Machinist Apprenticeship, 1984-1988

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

Laney College Machine Technology Faculty and Department Chair 17 years  
Mare Island Naval Shipyard Machinist 12 years  
United Auto Workers Region 6 Job Developer and Training Coordinator 2.5 years

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

Peralta Community Colleges Foundation  
Alameda County Foodbank

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## 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.

As an instructor I worked hard to make sure all students feel safe in our classrooms. I worked hard to make sure immigrants with language barriers were able to succeed. Our department raised over \$150,000 in scholarships to help students with expenses and buy tools and safety equipment for work. Asian students Today a number of those Asian students are working at EBMUD, SFPUC, Livermore and Berkeley National Laboratories. They have high paying jobs and great careers.

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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?

Peralta Colleges has done some things very well. They work well with community organizations that enroll students in Peralta's ESOL programs. They do not do a good job of newer programs like using concurrent enrollment to provide free classes to all the college.

They have refused to initiate the Ability to Benefit Program that would allow students working on their GED to be eligible for Financial Aid. Refusal to implement this program bars much of our immigrant community and others from being able to attend the Peralta Colleges because of costs.

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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?

Peralta's ESOL Programs do an excellent job of helping immigrants with learning and reading English. For Peralta's own needs to expand enrollments and to serve a significant part of our community we need to expand use of adult education concurrent enrollment and Ability to Benefit. This would create access to Career Education programs and provide the skilled workforce our local companies need.

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

I do not have that information, I searched many sources and was unable to find this information.

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

I do not have that information. Whether I get your endorsement or not, or whether I win the election or not. I would appreciate being educated on this information. As an educator, still committed to the Peralta District and particularly in the area of career education and Workforce Development good plans are impossible to develop without this knowledge.

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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?

Your survey has demonstrated to me how little I know, and how much I have to learn.

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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.

The public campaign is very visible, but from what I see in the news, not that effective. On our Peralta campuses, teach-ins are effective forms of communication. The fact I had a hard time finding out the information you have asked means to me their needs to be better public access to that information

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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?

I am hoping Asian friends and neighbors I have that are politically active will direct me to sources for that information.

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

Alex Lee and other candidates supported by Courage California

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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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