

2024 Central Committee Questionnaire

We expect the responses to be based on each candidate's individual lived experience.

Email *

reginachagolla@yahoo.com

Basic Information

Endorsement Questionnaire



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. Caucus members attending our Endorsement meeting on January 13 will be provided a ballot to vote. Only candidates who have submitted their completed questionnaire will be listed on the ballot. Questionnaires must be submitted by December 28 at 5 PM.

Personal Information

Candidate Name *

Regina Chagolla

City and zip code of residence. *

Emeryville 94608

What is your campaign website address?

pending

What is your campaign email address? *

reginachagolla@yahoo.com

What is the office that you are seeking? *

- Central Committee AD 14
- Central Committee AD 16
- Central Committee AD 18
- Central Committee AD 20
- Central Committee AD 24

Are you an incumbent? *

- Yes
- No

Are you a registered Democrat? *

Yes

No

Are you on a slate? If so, please identify. *

Unified Voices for Democracy

Are you an APA Caucus member? *

Yes

No

Why are you seeking the Caucus's endorsement? *

I am seeking this Caucus's endorsement because I teach in AD 14, Berkeley Unified which has about 10% students of Asian or Pacific heritage and I would like to serve AD 18, which demographics include about 20% neighbors of Asian or Pacific heritage. I was born and raised in Los Angeles and attended public schools that served a majority of Asian Americans (Korean Americans and Philipino Americans). I studied at the University of Madison, Wisconsin and taught in Madison public schools, which serves the third largest Hmong population. My spouse is Chinese and Peruvian American and I am Mexican American. I have first hand experience seeking participation in the political process and being perceived as "other" or "foreigner." Our political environment in the last 8 years has made situations worse and as an educator who works directly with vulnerable communities in public school settings, I believe I can engage with those who have difference of opinions while bringing in the perspectives of my family and neighbors of Asian or Pacific heritage.

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

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

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

My district lines changed. I lived in Emeryville since 2014. Before I lived in Oakland between 2010-2013.

Please list what experiences most qualify you to serve on the Central Committee (e.g., education, work, volunteer, life experiences, political campaigns) *

I earned my Master's in Education at Cal Berkeley, taught in Berkeley Unified since 2014 and served as co-facilitator of the Teacher of Color Network. I am an Emery Unified School Board Trustee since 2020, Vice President of Berkeley Federation of Teachers since 2021, Vice President of California Federation of Teachers ECE/TK-12 since 2022 and a Delegate of the Alameda Labor Council. I currently volunteer as the co-chair of the 2024 Berkeley public school parcel tax committee, I volunteer for Kathryn Lybarger's campaign for State Senate, and I have volunteered for Sheng Thao's Mayor campaign in 2022. I have a record of working in teams and serving the public and I can do just that as a member of the Central Committee.

CANDIDATE QUESTIONS - Central Committee

1. What percentage of the district in which you are running are of APA heritage? And what are top three Asian ethnic groups? *

About 20% of AD 18 are of APA heritage. The top three Asian ethnic groups in Chinese, Vietnamese and Filipino.

2. Asian Americans are the fastest growing population in Alameda County and are in the majority in three cities. While the majority are Democrats, a growing number are registering as No Party Preference. How can the Central Committee be more relevant to these communities? *

In the last eight years a growing number of Asian American candidates ran for elected office at all levels of governments, from AC Transits, School Board to State Controller. The Central Committee can be more relevant to Asian American communities by putting issues that affect this fast growing population on the forefront from small business development, healthcare, inflation and access to higher education. The Central Committee needs to have Asian American representation, hear their opinions and provide more opportunities for Asian American local leaders to step up.

3. List three ways in which you could help the CC promote a greater awareness of issues of concern to the A/PA communities and support greater representation on elected bodies. *

- (1) Reach out to high school students and community college students targeting local Asian American populations engage with GOTV actions and advocacy.
- (2) Increase party outreach to local Asian American communities through lobby days.
- (3) Lead training program to teach local Asian American staffers leadership and management skills.

4. Please name local Asian American candidates the Central Committee has endorsed in the past 10 years. *

Jenny Wong, David Chu, Phil Ting, Rashi Kesarwani, Sheng Tao, Fiona Ma, Ron Bonta, Mike Eng, Betty Yee , Richard Pan

5. Proposing and adopting resolutions is one of the main functions of the CC. Some of the resolutions over the past several years impacted members of the APA communities. Please comment on what you think of those resolutions. *

* Incumbents - response is required.

N/A

6. Do you believe that the vetting process for Resolutions is adequate? Please explain your response. *

I currently do not serve on the committee and do not know what is the process. As the Vice President of a teacher union, we recently had a process in which the resolutions are sent to members a week prior, on the day of the executive board meeting we allow authors of the resolutions to speak for 2 minutes. Then we open for comments from both executive board and the general members to speak on a resolution for 1 minute, then we take a vote. I would hope the vetting process for results includes something for transparency and allows for set times.

7. How impactful have the past resolutions been on the quality of life for low-income Alameda County residents? *

I believe the resolutions that support minimum wage increase, stop privatized on medicare, remedy discrimination of homeless shelters, full public funding higher education has been impactful on the quality of life for low-income Alameda County residents because the resolutions allow united voices to be heard, aim for change and put pressure on our government representative to listen to our demands as a committee.

Thank you for completing our questionnaire.

Please submit your responses by Dec. 28, 5 pm. Our Zoom Endorsement Meeting is scheduled for January 13 beginning at 10 am. 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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