

Please answer the following questions using additional paper if necessary.

1. Why do you want to be a school board member?

I want to serve as a school board member because I am deeply connected to Santa Rosa City Schools as both a graduate and a community member with family currently enrolled in the District. I care about the success of our students and believe strong public schools are essential to the future of our community. I am also committed to public service and believe it is important to help strengthen the connection between schools, families, and the broader community to support student success.

2. What do you see as the basic purpose of the public schools?

The basic purpose of public schools is to ensure that all students have access to a high quality education regardless of their background, income, race, or learning abilities. Public schools exist to provide equitable opportunities so every student has the chance to succeed.

In addition to teaching academic subjects, public schools also help students develop critical thinking, responsibility, collaboration, and social skills.

3. What is the role of the school board in the fulfillment of that purpose?

The School Board ensures that students receive a high-quality education that prepares them for their future by making decisions about curriculum, programs, and academic standards, while also providing strong fiscal oversight to ensure resources are managed responsibly and aligned with student success.

4. How does the board's role differ from that of the Superintendent?

The School Board is responsible for governance, which includes setting the vision, goals, policies, and budget for the District, and providing oversight and accountability. The Superintendent is responsible for management, which includes implementing board policies, carrying out the District's day to day operations, leading staff, and managing programs and services. The Superintendent works for the Board and serves as its chief executive officer, while the Board evaluates the Superintendent's performance and ensures the District is making progress toward its goals.

5. What should be the relationship between the board members and the administration in the handling of school concerns?

Board members and the administration should maintain a professional and collaborative relationship built on trust, respect, and clear roles. Board members focus on listening to concerns of the school community, setting direction, and providing oversight. While the administration is responsible for addressing operational matters and implementing solutions. Together, they should communicate openly, respect the chain of command, and work as partners to support student success.

6. Briefly describe your commitment to public education and our local school district.

I am committed to strengthening our public school system by advocating for high quality education, responsible funding, and programs that support student success. I will continue working to improve our local schools by supporting strong curriculum, equitable opportunities and policies that help all students prepare for college, careers, and life.

7. What do you see as the strengths of the school district?

One of the district's greatest strengths is the diversity of its students and families, which enriches the learning environment and prepares students for a global society. The district also benefits from dedicated teachers and staff who bring strong experience and commitment to student success. Additionally, the wide variety of academic programs, career pathways, and extracurricular opportunities allows students to explore their interests and prepare for college and careers.

8. What do you see as the area(s) most needing improvement in the school district?

Strengthening fiscal sustainability is one of the most important areas for improvement. Given recent staffing reductions and ongoing budget challenges, the District must focus on responsible financial planning, transparency, and prioritizing resources where they have the greatest impact on student learning. Even with limited resources, the District must stay focused on providing high quality educational programs and supporting student success.

9. Do you have prior experience on a governing board, specifically a school district board? *Please list prior experience*

None.

10. Have you worked on any school committees or participated in any school activities recently? *Please list them.*

I am a recent graduate of Maria Carrillo High School (Class of 2024), where I was actively involved in MEChA, a student organization on campus. I served as President, where I developed leadership skills and helped strengthen communication and relationships between students and staff. As a recent graduate of the district, I bring a valuable and current student perspective on the challenges and opportunities our students face, which I believe will help inform thoughtful and student-centered decision making at the board level.

11. Describe any other community, business, or faith-based activities you have participated in. Describe your role, and whether your work was volunteer or employment-related.

I am currently employed at the Roseland Community Clubhouse Boys and Girls Club, where I serve as a Program Coordinator. In this role, I facilitate academic enrichment programs for students in grades 5 through 12 in the Roseland area, supporting their educational growth and development.

I also serve as Secretary for the Sonoma County Lowrider Council, where I record meeting minutes, help organize meetings, create promotional materials for community events, and support community engagement efforts. This role allows me to build strong relationships within the community while contributing to positive youth and cultural initiatives.