## 2020 Aug 19th Albany Democratic Club Endorsement Candidates Survey - Albany School Board

Questions and responses will be shared with the public. Please type your answers in another document window, eg. Google Docs, and paste them here when ready. Google Docs auto-saves and will tell you the word and character count of selected text when you click Tools/Word Count. Deadline: Monday August 17 @ 10pm.

Your name (as it will appear on the ballot) \*

**Brian Beall** 

Preferred email address \*

Brian@beall4albany.com

Party registration. *
O Democratic Party
O Republican Party
O Green Party
O Libertarian Party
O American Independent Party
O Peace and Freedom Party
O Not registered for a political party
O Other:

Your age as of Election Day Nov 3, 2020. \*

57

During what years have you been a resident of Albany? (eg. someone who left and returned might put 2012-2014, 2017-2020) \*

2006-2020

Your ballot designation as it will appear below your name on the ballot (usually occupation or current office) \*

Software Engineer

List of any prominent endorsers, both organizations and individuals. (It is understood that in the first days of a campaign this list may be very short or nonexistent.) \*

Hilary Crosby, former Controller of California Democratic Party Dana Dean, Solano County Board of Education Trustee David Smith, Mayor Emeritus City of Newark Sabina Zafar, Vice Mayor, City of San Ramon Michael Barnes, Council Member, Albany Gabriel Quinto Council Member, City of El Cerrito Andy Kelley, Alameda County Planning Commissioner Igor Tregub Commissioner, Berkeley Rent Board T Ge Nell Gary, Albany Social and Economic Justice Commissioner, Candidate for Albany City Council Sam Beall, Mathematics Teacher, Alameda Unified School District, Alameda High

List any and all of the following: Website, facebook group, mailing list or other ways voters can reach out to or follow your campaign. (It is understood that in the first days of a campaign these resources may not be fully fleshed out.) \*

brian@beall4albany.com facebook brian.beall.12 (Website and social media sites are under construction.)

Brief description of your campaign organization and finances – names of any consultants or campaign managers you will use, funds you have raised to date, and how much you expect to have to spend to win. \*

Kitchen cabinet is forming and consultants are being considered. I have not yet raised funds, but expect to do so. Recent prior races have involved funds in the neighborhood of \$5,000.00, so it would be reasonable to expect to raise a similar amount.

Brief description of your history of involvement with and support for the Democratic Party and its candidates and ballot measure positions – include Democratic clubs/organizations to which you belong or which you have supported financially. Limit 10 words each item. \*

Former member El Cerrito Democratic Club Many Contributions to Democratic Candidates Since 2014 Charter member and Vice President of Albany Democratic Club Strong Supporter and Full Scholarships Funder for Emerge California Clinton for America 2016

What are your connections to the schools in Albany and what work have you been engaged with to improve the schools? Include years for each. eg. current or past parent of kids in certain schools, PTA, school fundraising groups, schools in and out of the classroom, local non-profits, community groups, etc. Limit 10 words each item. \*

My daughter attended Cornell Elementary, Albany Middle, and Albany High (2006-2017.) Involved in local Chinese Dance Program as parent and participant. Supporter of Albany High Mountain Biking Team Actively lobbied for funding for crossing guards.

Of the work you did in the previous question, pick one item to explain what was your role and how was the Albany community impacted? Limit 100 words. \*

I helped convince council members to spend soda tax money in ways that would benefit the schools immediately. The result is we did not lose any of our crossing guards and we gained water bottle refilling stations in the high school.

What in your background - as a person and in your activities professional and otherwise - do you think will help inform your decision making if elected? Limit 100 words. \*

I have direct experience in Local Emergency Planning through Albany's CERT Program. I know the Albany community and its priorities as demonstrated by my service on the Social and Economic Justice Commission. In addition, I have 30 years of experience in computer technology, which is highly relevant in today's distance learning environment.

Schools in the county are required to do distance learning to start the school year which could stretch on for many months. What would be your priorities for AUSD to help ensure distance learning goes as well as it can for all stakeholders? Limit 100 words. \*

Safety is the top priority. We need to ensure all students have adequate computer, internet, power, and software.

What would you advocate be done in AUSD to address racism and promote inclusion for all in the schools? Limit 100 words. \*

More emphasis on ethnic studies and opportunities to interact with students from other districts.

Action takes place only by the majority will of the Board. What are examples of your ability to work within a small group as a leader and influencer? Limit 100 words. \*

I worked on two subcommittees on the Social and Economic Justice Commission. One was to study ways to use the money from the soda tax. Our recommendations were ultimately adopted.

Public education in California is woefully underfunded. Every dollar that the District spends in one place must be taken from another, while both would likely have positive, verifiable impacts on children if adequately funded. What guiding principles will you use to make difficult budget decisions when there are insufficient funds to cover needs? Limit 100 words. \*

Protect the vulnerable, look for ways to cut waste, emphasize developing new long term revenue streams. Strive to provide job training and other assistance to those displaced by economic changes in the district.

What are your ideas for how best to address the achievement and opportunity gaps in our district? Limit 100 words. \*

We need to ensure all students have adequate infrastructure to learn.

Why should Albany residents elect you to the Albany School Board? Limit 100 words. \*

I am an ethical person who represents the whole community. I'll use my skills in disaster preparedness and computer technology to help address the district's issues.

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