

# Imperial Beach Democratic Club School Board Candidate Questionnaire

Thank you for seeking the endorsement of the Imperial Beach Democratic Club.

We would like to know a little more about you and your positions on some of the important issues facing the School District and Imperial Beach. Please respond to the questions below and submit your completed form by 12 NOON on AUGUST 3, 2022. You will receive a confirmation message that your email has been submitted. If you do not receive the message, please make sure that you have answered every question and hit the submit button.

Email \*

marthaemerald@yahoo.com

Name, address, phone number \*

Martí Emerald, 607 Thorn St , IB 91932, 619-453-2775

Occupation \*

Former Journalist, Consumer Advocate, and San Diego City Councilmember

Office Sought and Location or District \*

Sweetwater Union High School Dist Trustee #5

Are you a lifelong Democrat? If not, what was your prior registration and when did you register as a Democrat? \*

Yes

How long have you lived in the district in which you are running? \*

Six years

If elected, would you consider qualified Democrats as your first choice for appointments to advisory committees? \*

Yes

Have you ever run for office before, and if yes, which office and what was result of your campaign? \*

Yes. Two campaigns for SD City Council. Won both. Served 8 years, Chaired Public Safety Committee, served as President-Pro Tem of Council.

What are the primary factors that motivated you to run for the school board? \*

Public education is under great pressure politically, socially, economically. I want to help strengthen and build community support for our schools, and repair damage caused by previous administrations. Our students and community deserve nothing less.

What are your qualifications? (include education, community involvement and/or special strengths.) \*

30 years as investigative journalist, consumer advocate, 8 years serving my 175,000 constituents, diligently guiding investments of taxpayer dollars in citywide investments, and building stronger, more responsive public safety agencies.

8. If elected, what three things would you try to accomplish? \*

Restore public confidence in the district, continue progress of recent years to invest wisely in student resources, facilities, and offer broader range of vocational training.

What is your view of public education and school choice? \*

Used to be "school choice" used to allow students an opportunity to try different schools and programs within their school district. Now, I believe "School Choice" has become a catch phrase for businesses looking to profit at the expense of public education. Unless our state and local districts set tougher standards on so-called charter schools, public education could be depleted of money and ability to serve our children and communities.

What is your stand on affirmative action and teaching diversity in public schools? \*

I believe when our children of all races, cultures, and ethnicities go to school they should encounter, learn with and from, people who look like them and reflect the cultural diversity in their communities,

What is your stand on school prayer and teaching creation in public schools? \*

Prayer and religious beliefs are personal and should not be hoisted upon children by schools or other government entity. If the concept of creationism is taught in public schools, it should be presented as theory only and perhaps included as part of a course on comparative religions and how they have impacted societies. Not exactly age appropriate material for elementary school.

On core Democratic issues, which, if any might you differ from the Party's platform? \*

Inclusion, respect, democratic values, privacy and human rights. These are fundamentals among Democrats. I take exception at times to Dems on the extremes. But that's how we learn about issues important to some, and opportunities to reconsider old "dogma".

What other endorsements have you received and what others are you seeking? \*

Thank you Paula Hall for your endorsement and support. I will be seeking the Dem Party and a wide range of labor endorsements. Many of the same organizations that endorsed and campaigned with and for me in my City Council races.

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.

Google Forms