



2024 Chula Vista Elementary School Board Candidate, Seat 4, Questionnaire
Revised: 2.22.24

Part I: Basic Information

Name: Dr. Alexis Aviña

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Occupation: Chief Early Childhood Education Officer

Part II: Candidate Profile

1. Office Sought and Location:

Chula Vista Elementary School Board, Seat 4

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

I registered as a Democrat in 2010. When I first registered to vote, at 18-years old I was a Republican, at the time, I was in college and influenced by my peers. However, as I've grown and learned more about the issues, my perspectives have shifted, leading me to align more closely with the Democratic Party's values, especially when it comes to education and community. I believe my experiences have given me a unique understanding of different perspectives, and I am committed to representing the diverse needs of our community as a school board member.

3. How long have you lived in the district in which you are running?

This district has always been my home for my immediate and extended family. I moved to the district 3-years ago. Prior to settling in this address with my partner and my two children in 2021, I was born and raised in this district from 1981-1999, and attended Tiffany Elementary, Chula Vista Elementary, and Clear View Elementary, and Bonita Vista Middle School, and Bonita Vista High School. My

parents still live in this district and have lived here since 1974. Both sets of my grandparents lived in the San Diego/Imperial Beach, 92154 area since 1951.

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

Yes, absolutely.

5. Have you ever run for office before, and if yes what was result of your campaign?

No, this is my first campaign.

6. What are the primary factors that motivated you to run for the school board?

The primary factors motivating my candidacy for the school board stem from my deep-rooted commitment to our community's well-being. With 23 years of service spanning public health, public services, and education, coupled with my doctoral degree in education and leadership, I possess a comprehensive understanding of the challenges we face. My ability to unite diverse perspectives and navigate complex issues positions me as a catalyst for positive change. I am driven by the urgent need for a fresh perspective and inclusive leadership. Together, we can forge a path toward a more equitable and inclusive school system that serves the needs of all students.

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

With a Master in Public Health and a Doctoral degree in Education and Leadership both from the University of Southern California, I bring unparalleled qualifications to this race. My lifelong dedication to breaking barriers for underserved communities drives my advocacy for public health, human services, and education. By day, I champion early childhood education for underserved children, families and communities. Serving on strategic planning groups and committees for regional initiatives underscores my commitment to advancing health, safety, and education. As a second-generation Chula Vista resident, I am deeply rooted in our community's needs. My diverse experiences uniquely position me to lead effectively on the school board.

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

As a trustee, my top priorities would be:

1) Community Schools Efforts Guided by Engagement: I will develop policies and practices that encourage active engagement with community based organizations and local stakeholders that involve parents and community members in decision-making processes; I will ensure comprehensive solutions and diverse voices at the table.

2) Early Learners: I will evaluate and ensure students are set up for a foundation of lifelong learning, close achievement gaps, improve UTK impacts, and expand school readiness programming.

3) Teacher Career Pathways: I will champion programs offering clear career progression, securing pay in alignment with responsibilities, offering recognizing and rewarding experienced educators with leadership opportunities to encourage retention and recruitment of qualified and committed educators.

4) Equity-Based Funding: I will recommend the allocation of resources based on the specific needs of diverse students, reducing disparities in educational outcomes.

9. What is your view of public education?

My view of public education is that it is the cornerstone of a thriving and equitable society. As a fundamental pillar of democracy, public education should be accessible to all, regardless of background or circumstance. It serves not only to impart knowledge but also to foster critical thinking, social skills, and a sense of community. By investing in public education, we empower individuals to reach their full potential and contribute meaningfully to society. As a candidate aligned with your club's mission, I am committed to advocating for equitable funding, inclusive policies, and quality education for all students.

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

My life experience in advocacy, education and service underscore my unwavering commitment to core Democratic values. With extensive experience in public service and education, I am deeply aligned with the party's platform on issues like public health access, education equity, and community empowerment. My advocacy for underserved communities, championing early childhood education, and collaborative efforts in health and human services mirror Democratic principles. As a proud Latina and parent, I prioritize inclusivity, social justice, and progress. My background, education, and dedication solidify my support for all Democratic values, ensuring I can effectively represent and advance the interests of our community on every front.

11. Which individuals or groups have endorsed your candidacy? Please be specific and include an attachment if necessary.

1. Chula Vista Educators, Chula Vista School District
2. San Diego County Board of Supervisors Chair Nora Vargas,
3. Former Chula Vista Mayor Mary Casillas Salas,
4. Chula Vista Vice Mayor Jose Preciado,
5. Chula Vista City Councilmember Carolina Chavez,
6. Chula Vista City Councilmember Alonso Gonzalez,
7. Chula Vista Elementary School District Board Member Cesar Fernandez,
8. Chula Vista Elementary School Board Member Francisco Tamayo,
9. Sweetwater Union High School District Board President Nick Segura,
10. Sweetwater Union High School District Board Member Elva Lopez-Zepeda,
11. San Ysidro School District Board Member Rudy Lopez,
12. La Mesa Councilmember Colin Parent,
13. California Transportation Commissioner Clarissa Reyes Falcon, and
14. Community Leader Inez González Perezchica, Ed.D.

"by signing and submitting this questionnaire, I hereby request the endorsement of the Imperial Beach Democratic Club. I am a Democrat registered to vote in San Diego County. I verify that the information I have provided here is accurate and true."

Alexis Arina

Candidate's Signature

March 5, 2024

Date

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