



Questionnaire for candidates for the office of SFUSD School Board
General Election, November 2, 2010

Please return this questionnaire electronically to contact_us@phdemclub.org no later than **Monday, August 30**, to confirm your speaking slot.

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| Candidate name: Omar Khalif |
| Office sought: Member, Board of Education |
| Contact person: Chris Miller or Omar Khalif |
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| Telephone: 415-994-3227 |
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| Web address: Omarisok.org |

Please write a brief response (≤ 150 words) to each question. We will make these questionnaires available to our members before the endorsement meeting.

1. Why are you running for office? *I'm a dedicated parent of children in San Francisco's public schools and I want to bring that same level of dedication to our Board of Education.*

2. What are your qualifications for this position? *I've logged thousands of volunteer hours advocating for the rights of children, parents, teachers and principals. I've honed my skills in leadership and governance as chairman of Parent Advisory Council, vice president of Parents of Public Schools and president of the School Site Council at Carver Elementary School. These positions and serving on the boards of Gateway High and Opportunity Impact have prepared me to be an effective commissioner.*

4. What are the top three challenges facing public education in San Francisco? What will you do to meet these challenges? 1. *The budget, over crowded classrooms,*
2. *Lack of transparency,*
3. *Real community engagement,*
4. *Social engineering.*
What I would do is engage the greater community by Providing guidance and true leadership.

5. If you are an incumbent, please describe your major accomplishments while in office.
N/A

6. How do you propose lessening the achievement gap between students of different backgrounds? *That's the job of the Superintendent and his staff. They are the highly paid professionals my role would be that of providing oversight and accountability to the community.*

7. What are your views on charter schools? *I'm in support of any school that's making the grade for children; it's a parent choice to choose what school their child attends. A charter school parent is a frustrated regular public school parent. If the public school did a better job in it's' customer service department there would be no need for any other schools to enter the market. Besides I have three daughters that have graduated from KIPP and Gateway and are now in college and high school on academic scholarships.*

8. What are your views on the current school assignment system? *The new SAS is the same as the current SAS. It's time we as parents have a true choice in the school selection process and not a chance choice.*

9. How would you address the problem of truancy among high school students? *That decision was made for them in the lower grades. A high school person understands that they have been robbed of a quality education and has decided to exercise their collective vote by walking out.*

Do you support or oppose the following Propositions on the November ballot?

Proposition 19 x support x oppose

Proposition 23 x support x oppose

Proposition 26 x support x oppose

Thank you for your time, and your commitment to the children of San Francisco. We look forward to seeing you on September 7th.