



**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.*

Candidate name: Kim-Shree Maufas
Office sought: Member, Board of Education
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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?

As a current San Francisco School Board Commissioner, past President (2009), and Vice-President (2008) - I've created policies and support programs that will change the future landscape of how we educate children in San Francisco's Public Schools. I've focused on addressing the deepest of social justice issues and equity disparities to help level life's uneven landscape at it's core, which is within our public schools.

I'm running for re-election to the San Francisco Board of Education because I want to 1) Embed the Social Justice policies I've created, 2) Advance strong School Sites via promoting a Master Principal Leadership model, like the recently passed 2008 Prop A: Recruitment & Retention of highly Qualified Teachers, and by 3) Thoroughly

reviewing our SFUSD reading literacy curriculum and standardized testing models in the early education spectrum that capitalizing on individualized learning styles and proven culturally-relevant teaching methods to address the remediation issues occurring at the High school, Community College, and University levels.

2. What are your qualifications for this position?

SAN FRANCISCO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION (BoE) **San Francisco, CA**
President & Vice President **2009 & 2008**
Commissioner **2006-2010 (4-year term)**

Elected city-wide in Nov 2006 to a four-year term; then by Board Peers to Vice Presidency-2008 & Presidency-2009

- ♣ *Recruit and hired San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) Superintendent of Schools in 2007;*
- ♣ *Create District-wide Strategic Plan using “Balance Score Card” model as an academic vehicle to disrupt the “predictive power of demographics” for the diverse population of SFUSD students and their families;*
- ♣ *Developed SFUSD Mission: Purpose 1) Access and Equity: Make social justice a reality; 2) Student Achievement: Engage high achieving and joyful learners; 3) Accountability: Keep our promises to students and families.*

Parent Advisory Council to the Board of Education Member

Aug 2003 – Jun 2005

- ♣ *Monitor the “Revised” MOU between SFUSD’s BOE/District and Police Commission/Office of Citizen’s Complaints;*
- ♣ *Focus on school policy and implementation issues, particularly school safety and educational equity.*

Thurgood Marshall Academic High School Parent-Teacher-Student Association President

Jun 2002 – Jun 2003

- ♣ *Developed alliances among Police Dept., Fire Dept. other city personnel, and SFUSD Board Members;*
- ♣ *Facilitated associations with other San Francisco high schools to establish channels of communication;*

Thurgood Marshall Academic High School Parent Liaison

Jan 2002 – Jun 2002

- ♣ *Track Coach coaching varsity track & field team; nurture student-athletes through intense college prep program.*
- ♣ *Design pilot program for at risk/failing students with parent support; coaching and train varsity team to city finals.*

HOLLY GROVE CHILDREN’S HOME SOCIETY

Los Angeles, CA

Residential Counselor/Infirmary, LAUSD Instructional Asst

Oct 1986 – Feb 1998

- ♣ *Worked in all capacities with residents of orphanage for physically, sexually, mentally, and emotionally abused children ages 0-18 years (particularly w/girls and young women); Tutor on-site for LAUSD*

AFFILIATIONS

(Descriptions/Organizations)

- *Delegate, California School Board Association (CSBA) – Region V (Since 2007)*
- *Delegate, National School Board Association (NSBA) – Pacific Region (Since 2007)*
- *Delegate/Nominating Committee, Council of Urban Boards of Education (CUBE Since 2007)*

- *Certified Level 1 Coach, United States of America Track & Field – Pacific Region (Since 1997)*
- *Track & Field Coach, International Special Olympics Association – Northern CA (Since 2005)*

4. What are the top three challenges facing public education in San Francisco? What will you do to meet these challenges?

*Many challenges face public school in San Francisco and its difficult to name just 3 that are my top 3 but these are amongst the many - **A)** Underperforming schools, **B)** Funding, and **C)** Addressing our ability to educate students to that they don't have to repeat courses.*

***A)** By furthering my work on the Board that consists of making strategic choices and honestly articulating why I've made those choices for the district that help and validate teachers in the classroom to allow their expertise to come to fruition via collaborations with other teachers. This has directly impacted and exponentially increasing learning for our kids. I understand that it is core curriculum connected to relevant programs offered to students and families that encourages participation in schools and then challenges children's minds so schools are interesting and meaningful place to be during the day. Further, I know that there must be school site mentors who help our children to feel good about themselves when they are in school - emotionally, socially, and academically. **B)** We have been charged with doing more work and performing many more services for our staff and families but without the appropriate resources to accomplish this work. However with strategic choices, the I have worked hard as a Board member to negotiate with our teacher's union to provide multi-year compromises that will help us sustain through the toughest of budgetary times for a couple of years. I would have never offered up teacher/paraprofessional lay offs as a means to help balance the budget. I would select areas that absolutely are not imperative to connecting with children and school sites. Additionally, I will continue to do as I've been doing seek out grant opportunities that can support the programs in SFUSD that help keep schools whole. SFUSD has been successful in acquiring grants to do the work that we're support to do. It is imperative that we not wait for the federal government to assist us because the compromises that we must make are too great and stray too far from our core beliefs to accept Race to the Top funding. **C)** By focusing on our youngest students and how they learn how to read, decode words, and comprehend language. Strive to create life-longer learners at the earliest ages, particularly with our immigrant and mono-lingual populations.*

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

Through my leadership - Restorative Justice is making fairness a reality for all children & staff (and SFUSD is receiving additional funding \$450,000 in grants to do this work), Ethnic Studies is going to be available for SFUSD High Schoolers in partnership with SF State University (which was recently approved by the University of California as a "G" elective graduation requirement plus will help us pay for it), and I'm working with Community on a comprehensive plan ensuring that "A-G" Course requirements are the bottom-line for all of our graduates to be UC/CSU eligible. My policies are aligned with our new SFUSD philosophy and further I'm the champion that has:

- ⊞ *Saved hundreds of teacher/para jobs from lay-offs in 10-11 school year!*
- ⊞ *Successfully to narrowing the Achievement gap for African American, Latino and Pacific Islander students last two years in row!*
- ⊞ *Made Advanced Placement and Honors programs accessible to all students*
- ⊞ *Developed district policies ensuring that all students graduate with a pathway to college or career!*
- ⊞ *District enrollment has increased during my first term after years of declining enrolling in the SFUSD!*

6. How do you propose lessening the achievement gap between students of different backgrounds?

*By continuing to create policies that address opportunity/achievement gap, e.g. Restorative Justice is making fairness a reality for all children & staff, Ethnic Studies is going to be available for SFUSD High Schoolers in partnership with SF State University (which was recently approved by the University of California as a "G" elective graduation requirement) and eventually should be available for all students, worked with my colleagues and Data Experts to redesign the Student Assignment System with options restoring diversity in the classroom, and working with Community on a comprehensive implementation plan ensuring that "A-G" Course requirements are the bottom-line for all of our graduates to be UC/CSU eligible, opening up Advanced Placement & Honors Courses for all to access - - - **every single one of these initiatives have contributed to lessening the achievement gap right now!! Not a proposing but in real time, today!** The policies that I've put on paper, helped create an implementation plan, and directed funding towards has help narrow that achievement gap in SFUSD for the last two years!*

7. What are your views on charter schools?

I support small schools. I do not charter schools, support vouchers or any other proposals as tools, attempting to privatize public education! I support our SFUSD Small Schools Initiative and the breaking up of large comprehensive schools in to smaller academies within a school, which we've done. I believe that SF has had some successful charters that have affectively served kids who had either dropped out, were not receiving and/or denied the school services that they needed to be successful in school (such as Gateway or KIPP Academies). I also know how the district in the past has forced school communities down the "charter" path because of the unwillingness to listen to the needs of that school's community to offer the kind of education opportunities the parents had wanted for their children. For this reason, I continue to support small schools have the anonymity that they need to do the work to educate our children and if there are issues that we can work together to solve them.

8. What are your views on the current school assignment system?

After 2 years of work with the entire Board of Education, 5 Executive level staff, 1 Special Assistant to the Superintendent, 6 Experts from Harvard, MIT, Stanford (including none other than Dr. Linda Darling-Hammond), 3 attorneys on special assignment, plus monitoring the process was lead attorney from the NAACP on the SFUSD Consent Decree verdict, Peter Cohen and Kendra Fox from SF Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights – I can say that I like it. It is simple and will restore diversity to schools and the classroom with careful monitoring from the District and

Board of Education. Additionally, I am absolutely committed to changing the student assignment process if it continues to segregate our schools.

9. How would you address the problem of truancy among high school students?

Working with Commissioner Norman Yee, who is leading SFUSD with his comprehensive Early Chronic Truancy Initiative (Resolution No. 106-8A2 Early Chronic School Absence Prevention) that was vetted in our Board Committee's and recently passed by the Board of Education on August 24, 2010. I'd like to see us apply those very same principles to some of our high school aged students because I believe that many of the concerns are similar.

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

Proposition 19 support oppose

Proposition 23 support oppose

Proposition 26 support oppose

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