



APPLICANT
FOR
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
PROVISIONAL APPOINTMENT TO DISTRICT 4 TRUSTEE SEAT FOR THE TERM
ENDING JANUARY 5, 2015

NON-ELIGIBLE CANDIDATE
(Not Resident/Registered Voter – District 4 – As of May 17, 2013)



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OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
PROVISIONAL APPOINTMENT TO DISTRICT 4 TRUSTEE SEAT FOR THE TERM
ENDING JANUARY 5, 2015

CARMONA, CARLOS O.

(Not Resident/Registered Voter – District 4 – As of May 17, 2013)

Carlos Carmona

Name (Please print)

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
APPLICATION TO FILL BOARD OF EDUCATION VACANCY
DISTRICT 4 FOR THE TERM ENDING JANUARY 5, 2015
DEADLINE: FRIDAY MAY 17, 2013 AT 5:00 P.M.

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2013 MAY 16 P 3:53

(Please Print Name & Address)

Name: Carmona Carlos O.
(Last) (First) (Initial)

Business Address: N/A

City: N/A State: N/A Zip: N/A Phone: N/A

Home Address: 1803 Rosedale Avenue

City: Oakland State: CA Zip: 94601 Phone: 510-866-6322

Email: carmonaoc@gmail.com

Occupation & Employer: Sings and Logo Installment. Oakland Truck Signs

Number of Years Residing in Oakland: 13

Number of Years Residing in District 4: 13

Do you have children in the District's schools? Yes No

If yes, which schools: _____

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: (Voluntary; Not Required)

High School College/University	State	Degree/Units	Year Issued	Major/Minor
Fremont High School, Oakland	CA	H.S. Diploma	2003	General Education
Berkeley City College	CA	Associates of Arts	2011	General Education
U.C. Berkeley	CA	Bachelors in Arts	2013	Political Economy

LANGUAGE COMPETENCIES:

List language competencies, other than English: Spanish

(Please Use Additional Paper, If Needed)

Carlos Carmona
Name (Please print)

1. Why do you want to be a school Board Member?

I want to contribute to the already improving school system by looking into new ways to raise funds for the children of Oakland. This may include marketing to attract potential pupils among other alternatives. A former pupil and high school graduate of the Oakland Unified School District, I understand the challenges and the felicity that come with being part Oakland's diverse school community. Despite recent improvements, our community can benefit from a financial bolster. After participating in the labor market and graduating from the University of California, Berkeley, I feel a strong urge to give back to my community. Most importantly, I want to ensure that the children of Oakland continue to benefit from a more improved school through better programs and extracurricular activities.

2. Please discuss your interest in and commitment to the Oakland Unified School District.

This may be an abstract concept, but I see myself in the children and people of Oakland. I have worked hard to improve my life in order to improve the life of those alike myself. I feel a deep sense of accomplishment when I can make a positive contribution, particularly to folks who have similar backgrounds as me. Additionally, having had the opportunity to live in numerous other places, I have chosen to stay in Oakland because I understand that people who are familiar with Oakland have the strongest potential to implement changes that will benefit our demographics. My primary purpose in life is to be of service to those closer to me. In light of this, my family and community fall first in line to receive my attention and assistance. As such, improving the academic achievements of the children of Oakland is a priority on my list.

3. Identify the most significant issues confronting public education, in general, and the Oakland Unified School District, in particular, and include your position on each. Please also discuss the ways you feel the District should respond to these issues.

The biggest challenge facing public education in California is financial instability, namely budget cuts. As far as the OUSD is concerned, I would say it is also a financial problem that has historically held back the education of the children of Oakland. Such was the case in 2003 when the district found itself insolvent and was coerced to go under state receivership. A significant part of the reason for low pupil performance is less qualified teachers, less extracurricular activities and a higher ratio of students per teacher among other reasons. All of the issues just listed boil down to cuts on education as a result of lack of funds. I suspect that being less dependent on state funding and creating new ways to increase local funding will provide greater financial stability, thus enhancing the educational system. Such ways would include new marketing strategies, community fund raising in areas outside of Oakland and a partnership with higher education institutions.

4. Please describe any positions you have held as a volunteer, employee, former employee or consultant for the Oakland Unified School District.

As a first generation Mexican-American of low income background I have spent much of the last decade working to support my mother and brother while going to school to improve our lives. As a consequence, I have not had the privilege to participate on many activities hosted by the OUSD.

Carlos Carmora

Name (Please print)

5. What do you see as the major responsibilities of a Board Member?

My major responsibility as a Board Member will be to work hand in hand with my colleagues to improve the academic achievement of the children of Oakland. Remaining teachable in areas where my knowledge may be limited and being willing to take advice and suggestions, while retaining my creativity and uniqueness will also be an integral part of creating a better place for Oakland's children. Part of ensuring a better place for children to learn includes working with teachers and administrative staff to promote a rich learning environment. Also, being sensitive to the requests of teachers, parents and the community as a whole is a responsibility I would take serious.

6. How does the Board's role differ from that of the Superintendent?

The Superintendent is the Chief Administrative Officer of the School District. He or she is responsible for the faithful executions of the policies implemented by the governing board, or School Board Members.

7. Please identify and discuss the areas of knowledge or expertise that you would bring to the Board.

I am fluent in English and Spanish and will use my ability to communicate with our Spanish-speaking community to enhance the education of our children. I also have done extensive research on State Financial Takeovers of Local Districts and have analyzed a variety of alternatives to this. I have found that other states such as Colorado and Alabama are taking a closer look into capacity-building through financial training for Board Memebers and managerial staff of their districts. The results they have been getting from engaging in such activities have given their districts positive results. I will use my refined techniques for research and development to improve areas of the district that may need attention.

8. Have you worked on any school committees or participated in any school activities recently? Please list them.

As mentioned in my answer to question 4 I have not participated in many OUSD hosted events. However, I have interned for governmental organizations that have worked hand in hand the OUSD such as the Office of Congresswoman Barbara Lee and the Office of former Assemblymember Sandre Swanson.

Carlos Carmora
Name (Please print)

9. Describe any other community or business activities in which you have participated. Describe your role, and whether your work was as a volunteer or employee.

I have participated as coordinator for Stiles Hall, a non-profit organization dedicated to increasing the number of underrepresented groups in institutions of higher education. It was my pleasure to have served for a year and a half. My role was to guide low income students through the process of applying to U.C. Berkeley. I provided information and resources that were essential to applying as well as helped with the drafting of their personal statement. For example, last semester I worked with a case of 8 students, out of which 5 were accepted to U.C. Berkeley. The rest were accepted to other UCs.

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION:

Have you ever been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor?

Yes

No

If yes, please describe the offense(s):

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION: If you answer **no** to any of the following questions, you are not eligible to serve as a Board Member.

Yes

No

I am 18 years of age or older.

I am a resident of the City of Oakland.

I reside in District 4.

I am a registered voter.

I am not disqualified to hold this office because of a conviction of any of the crimes listed on pages 5-6 of this application nor am I otherwise disqualified under the California Constitution or statutes from holding public office.

Carlos Carmona
Name (Please print)

CERTIFICATION OF QUALIFICATIONS AND WORK COMMITMENT

I understand that upon appointment I would be required to file a Conflict of Interest Statement and take an Oath of Office.

I certify that I am 18 years of age or older, a registered voter and that I reside within the City of Oakland and in District 4.

I certify I am not disqualified to hold this office because of a conviction of any of the crimes listed on pages 5-6, and further certify I am not otherwise disqualified under the California Constitution or statutes from holding public office.

I understand a Board Member's responsibility requires attendance at: (1) twice monthly regular Board meetings; (2) frequent special meetings or study sessions; and (3) numerous school events. I understand that I will be required to read my Board packet and be prepared to make decisions on complex educational issues.

I understand that this application may be made available to the public in accordance with the Public Records Act.

I understand that my failure to complete this application and return it by May 17, 2013 by 5:00 pm will result in my ineligibility to be a candidate for provisional appointment by the Board.

I certify that the foregoing information is true and correct under penalty of perjury.

Carlos Carmona
Signature

5/16/13

Date

The following is a list of crimes, conviction of which disqualifies a person from holding public office in the State of California.

- *Bribery to procure election or appointment (California Constitution Article VII, § 8 (a))*
- *Conviction of bribery, perjury, forgery, malfeasance in office, or other high crimes (California Constitution Article VII, §8 (b))*
- *Bribing executive officer (Penal Code § 67)*
- *Officer asking for or receiving bribes (Penal Code §§ 68, 88)*
- *Receiving gratuity for appointment to office (Penal Code § 74)*
- *Judicial Officer who has asked for or received emoluments, gratuities, rewards, or the fee of a stenographer (Penal Code § 94)*
- *Officers committing bribery or corruption crimes (Penal Code § 98)*
- *Giving or offering bribe to Councilman or Supervisor (Penal Code § 165)*
- *Misappropriation of public funds (Penal Code § 424)*
- *Interference with work or discipline of, or giving certain articles to prisoners (Penal Code § 2772)*

Carlos Carmora
Name (Please print)

- *Interference with or giving certain articles to convicts (Penal Code § 2790)*
- *Officer making contracts in which her or she is interested (Government Code § 1097)*
- *Members of the Legislature convicted of any crime (Government Code § 9055)*
- *Legislator convicted of misdemeanor for contempt of Legislature (Government Code § 9412)*
- *Corrupting the voting process (Election Code § 18501)*

Please note that in addition to the above restrictions, Government Code § 1126 prohibits any local agency official from engaging "in any employment, activity, or enterprise for compensation which is inconsistent, incompatible, in conflict with, or inimical to his or her duties as a local agency officer or employee or with the duties, functions, or responsibilities of his or her appointing power or the agency by which he or she is employed."

See also Board Bylaw 9270 ("Conflict of Interest/Incompatible Activities") and Annual Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) required by the Political Reform Act, California Government Code §§ 87200 et seq.