

**Candidate and Campaign Information**

Candidate Name: Christopher Charman	
Campaign Address: 105 Logan Street, Santa Cruz CA 95062	Phone: 831-272-4747
Campaign Website: <a href="http://www.Chris4Trustee.com/">http://www.Chris4Trustee.com/</a>	Email: chris@charman.com
Campaign Manager Name/Email/Phone: Self-managed	
Office you seek to be elected to: County Board of Education Trustee	District Number: Area II
Please choose the option best describing your candidacy: <b>Challenger</b> Incumbent Open Seat	
Are you a member of the GLBT Alliance? If so, when did you first join? Not a dues-paying member	
Do you identify as a member of the LGBTQ community? If not, do you identify as an LGBTQ ally? Not LGBTQ personally, definitely an ally.	

**Questionnaire (please answer questions directly and keep responses succinct and brief)**

Please see attached pages.

1. *Please describe your qualifications for the position you seek (include your key issues, priorities if elected, and any key endorsements you'd like to share), plus anything else that you'd like our members to know about you and your candidacy.*

The position I am seeking is on an educational board. The current members of this board have very little connection to the county's educational system, and no current trustees have children in the schools. I am an active, involved parent of two children in Santa Cruz public schools and I believe it is time that parents have a voice.

A full list of endorsements may be found on my website; however, I am most proud of being endorsed by other parents, as well as members of the Santa Cruz City Schools Board of Trustees and the principal of Tierra Pacifica Charter School in Live Oak.

2. *Why are you seeking the endorsement of Santa Cruz County's grassroots LGBTQ political organization, the GLBT Alliance?*

Above all other considerations, I believe in equity. I believe that all of our children, regardless of ethnicity, religion, socioeconomic background, gender identity, sexuality, family or living situation, are entitled to the finest public education possible. Like so many other issues facing the LGBTQ community, equity of education is a civil-rights issue.

3. *Please tell us about any past or current experiences or involvement you've had addressing LGBTQ issues, or working to support the LGBTQ community.*

This is my first foray into politics. While I have donated money to pro-LGBTQ causes and candidates, and have attended a few marches and rallies, my involvement has largely been of personal support for my friends, family and acquaintances who members of the community.

4. *What political or civil rights issues were you aware of, prior to reading the attached informational materials, regarding LGBTQ equality?*

As the son of a physician, I have been aware of and involved the HIV epidemic and research since the Reagan administration. I have followed the assault on LGBTQ rights with regards to workplace protections, so-called "religious freedom" and the bathroom controversy with a mix of incredulity and outrage.

5. *What is your philosophy about working with minority communities of which you are not a member, and how will this manifest in your future work with the LGBTQ community?*

My philosophy about working with minority communities is that, in the context of our schools, we should all be working towards the same goal – a quality education for all, with no impediments or discrimination getting in the way. I look forward to dialog and cooperation with any person or group who shares in that goal.

6. *Please describe any programs you know of that impact the LGBTQ community and that are governed by or funded through the elected office you are running for, and include any suggestions you may have for improvements.*

The County Board of Education is largely and oversight body for the other school districts in Santa Cruz County. There are several student support programs run through the County Office of Education that may impact the LGBTQ community. It is possible that additional funding could be directed to these programs.

7. *If elected, how would you use your position to help further issues of importance to the LGBTQ community?*

I would continue my personal and vocal support for the LGBTQ, and should any issues of relevance come before the Board, I would actively seek out the advice and counsel of the Alliance.

8. *If you receive the GLBT Alliance's endorsement, will you display it in your campaign literature?*

Absolutely and without reservation.