

DPCCC Candidate Questionnaire - 2022 General Election

Thank you for seeking the endorsement of the Democratic Party of Contra Costa County (DPCCC).

Please submit your completed questionnaire and remit the endorsement application fee of \$30 no later than 96 hours upon receipt of questionnaire. **Interviews will not be scheduled without both a completed questionnaire and received payment.**

Pay Endorsement Application Fee: <https://contracostadems.com/donate>

1. Click on "Donate"
2. The page will say "2022 Campaign Unity Funds" - Pay fee on this page

Complete questionnaire

IMPORTANT INFO

- Your application fee must be paid before questionnaires will be processed
- Interviews will not be scheduled without both a completed payment and completed questionnaire - You must have submitted your questionnaire and payment **before August 19th at 11:59pm PST** - Your completed questionnaire will be added to the DPCCC website after all interviews are conducted. - The DPCCC membership will vote on endorsements at our meeting on September 1st at 6pm, which you are invited to attend.

Email *

aggies32@gmail.com

Section 1: Candidate Information

Name (First, Last) *

Dante, Ross

Preferred Name (If different than campaign name)

Pronouns *

She/Her/ Hers

He/Him/ His

They/Them/ Theirs

Ze/Zie/ Hir/Hir

Other:

What office are you seeking? *

Liberty Union High School District Board Trustee

CA FPPC ID # *

Do Not Have One

Campaign Address *

1208 Tartarian Court

Campaign Consultant/ Manager *

None

Campaign Phone Number *

925-240-3832

Campaign Website *

None

Campaign Email *

None

Social Media Handles *

@Dante4LUHSD__Schoolboard

1.1 - Why are you running for this office? Give no more than your three top reasons. *

I want to understand the reasons behind decisions especially when it comes to things that impact my family. I have one child in the Liberty Unified School District and another one coming in two years. I care about the decisions that are made about school policies, facilities, staff, teachers, and curriculum. But in addition to my children, I care about the children and families that may not be represented on the board. Children and parents

who may not have the privilege to have their views and opinions heard and represented due to circumstances. Finally, I am running because I am concerned about the bigger picture and the long term impact the boards' decisions have on our high school students.

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1.2 - What is your understanding of the job? *

I understand the board is responsible for making decisions on our high schools' budgets, policies, and curriculum. I must come to meetings prepared for topics on the agenda. I must listen to others. And most of all I must come ready to state my point of view and those of the parents, community members and students who may be underrepresented.

1.3 - What personal and professional qualifications do you believe make you the best candidate? *

I did not voluntarily seek a board position, though it has always been a desire. I was asked by many members of the community and board to run. I have a strong reputation in the community as someone who listens but also someone who is not afraid to voice my opinions even if it is unpopular or against the status quo.

I have no agenda other than truly wanting to be part of the decision-making process for my children, high school students, staff, teachers, and the community.

I started my community work as the Loma Vista Elementary School Parents Club Treasurer and Youth recreational Sports Coach. I joined the Measure B Citizen's Oversight Committee in 2019 and when my daughter entered her freshman year at Liberty High School, I joined the School Site Council. Since then, I served on the interview committee for two principals in the Liberty Union High School District and just started guest teaching in the Brentwood Unified School District a few days a week due to the teacher shortage.

1.4 - What are your top issues? How do you plan on achieving them? *

I do not have any "top issues" per se other than a desire to be part of the decision-making process for our high schools' budgets, policies, and curriculum. I want to use my diverse perspectives to represent my family and my community as a board trustee.

1.5- Please feel free to include any additional information you would like us to consider in evaluating your candidacy.

*

I believe in being part of the solution vs the problem. We often hear many complaints from parents but very few are willing to step up and help make improvements.

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1.6 - This is a 3-Part Question: Why are you seeking our endorsement? How will you use our endorsement? How will you support other endorsed candidates and issues? I plan

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on running a grass roots campaign. I do not plan on getting campaign contributions or create/distribute signage. I hope to get votes through the many people I have built my reputation with in the community and in District 3. However, I understand to be successful I need to get my name out to additional District 3 residents which is why I am seeking your endorsement. After meeting with other endorsed candidates and hearing their platform, I am happy to support their campaign through social media and media interviews during the campaign process should our views align.

Section 2: Democratic History

2.1 - List your previous and current party affiliations. When did you first register as a Democrat and why?

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Democrat. Registered to vote at 18 years old in 1992. Again, if you don't vote you can't complain.

2.2 - I have read and acknowledge the California Democratic Party's current platform (value statement) and will adhere to these values in the performance of my elected position. <https://cadem.org/our-platform/>

*

Yes

No

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2.3 - In your opinion, which elements of the CADEM Platform are most relevant to the position

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you are seeking? If elected, how do you plan to advance them?

This board of trustee position directly aligns to the CADEM issues on Education and Equality of Rights and Opportunity. As a member of the Liberty Unified School District board and active community member I plan on bringing my diverse upbringing to educate, inform and influence my fellow board members to make decisions that do the following in our high schools:

- Close the opportunity gap
- Build restorative policies and practices
- Create equal opportunities for all students
- Establish support and funding to ensure student equity across policies and resources (ex: prioritizing beneficial instruction time, diverse student learning/engagement techniques, and more) - Promote climate literacy
- Support and fund ethnic studies as required

2.4 - If elected, what would you do to advance more equity, diversity, and inclusion? *

In addition to my previous statements, I want to make it clear that my family and I have very strong opinions, practices and values around being an ally, speaking up for those that may need help and educating everyone on what equity truly means.

The best example of this in practice is during my daughter's freshman year she still did not have a cell phone at her disposal like many kids her age. She continued to come home saying she needed her cell phone to complete a class assignment. We told her to go back to her teacher and ask for an alternate way of completing this assignment, one that did not require a cell phone. We explained to her that by her going to her

teacher she was being an ally for some other student in her class or at school that did not have a cell phone. It was about her being an ally and reminding her teacher that other students may not have the same privileges as other classmates. It had less to do with her not having access to a call phone and more to do with her being an ally and educator even to teachers.

2.5 - Have you previously sought the endorsement of the DPCCC? If yes, for what elected office? *

Were you endorsed?

No

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2.6 - Please list offices, positions and date(s), which you hold/held or campaigned for as a candidate. *

Loma Vista Elementary School Treasurer 2016-2019
Measure B Over Site Committee 2019 to present
Liberty Union High School District Interview Panel for Principals April 2021
Liberty High School, School Site Council 2020 to present

2.7 - In what ways have you supported and actively participated in the Democratic Party at the local, state, and national levels? *

Other than my community involvement and voting none.

2.8 - Please list any clubs, boards, commissions, and /or organizations with which you are an active member, including the length of your affiliation and any leadership position you *

hold/held. None other than the ones previously listed.

2.9 - Have you endorsed non-Democrats *

Yes

No

Section 3: References & Club Endorsements

3.1 - Who has endorsed you? *

No one

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3.2 - What other endorsements are you seeking? *

TBD, I just started the process.

Some of the Democratic Clubs use this questionnaire in their endorsement process. If you would like to be considered for Democratic club endorsement(s), please contact the club(s) directly by going to our DPCCC website club's page:

<https://contracostadems.com/clubs/>

In Closing

Reminders:

* After submitting this questionnaire, please go and pay your endorsement application fee at:

<https://contracostadems.com/donate>

* Please direct questions to the Endorsements Committee Co-Chairs Tamela Hawley and Irene Tait at endorsements@contracostadems.com

* The CADEM Code of Conduct: <https://cadem.org/code-of-conduct/>

* The CADEM Party Platform: <https://cadem.org/our-platform/>

If you like, you may submit a biography and/ or resume in the section below. Not required.

Submit Questionnaire

By submitting this questionnaire, I attest that the foregoing is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and to uphold the Code Of Conduct. <https://cadem.org/code-of-conduct/>

Thank you and good luck with your campaign! We will be in touch with you to schedule your interview time.

Interviews will be schedule by District Directors between now and August 21st.

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I have paid my endorsement application fee: <https://contracostadems.com/donate/> *

Yes

No

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Forms

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