

Questionnaire for Candidates for Peralta Community College District Area 3

BASIC CANDIDATE INFORMATION

1. Name as it will appear on the ballot: **Linda Handy**
2. Office sought (include office, jurisdiction, position/district number) **Peralta Community College District Trustee, Area 3**
3. What is your current occupation or elected office? **Outreach/Community liaison Coordinator for a behavioral health services clinic**
4. Are you the incumbent? **Yes**
5. How long have you resided in this district and city? **Born in Oakland, raised in Area 3; resided in current location for over 15 years.**

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name:	Friends of Linda Handy 2010
Address:	484 Lake Park Ave. #493
City, State, Zip:	Oakland, CA 94610
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OUR ISSUES (18-35 year olds)

Please answer the first four questions in 250 words or less

1. This past July, the Alameda County Grand Jury issued a report concerning the Peralta Community College District. The report described trustees using district credit cards and collecting reimbursements for thousands of dollars in travel and "home office" expenses with little or no oversight. It also exposed poor record-keeping policies and serious conflicts of interest. What is your reaction to this report? What steps would you take to address the litany of problems discussed by the report?

As the, often lone, trustee advocating for more accountability and transparency, I agree with many of the Grand Jury report conclusions. The report also stated "Clearly, some board members have acted responsibly...some board members barely traveled or used credit cards". I am one of those trustees. I advocated for and eventually prevailed in bringing on an Inspector General and pushed for filling the Internal Auditor position. As a result of these and other actions, the need for better reporting and more clearly defined policies have been addressed with new Board policies and the adoption of the Cal card system rather than use of District Credit cards.

1. The Grand Jury report also detailed issues involving the former Chancellor's benefits and a conflict of interest, and the district is in the process of hiring a new chancellor. What qualities and areas of expertise do you think are most important for the next chancellor? What actions will you take as a trustee to restore public confidence in the Peralta district?

Confidence in Peralta's fiscal management is already being restored as evidenced by our recent A++ bond rating bestowed by Standard and Poor. We have also received numerous public awards related to implementation of our Measure A bond program. In terms of the new chancellor, it is important that we hire someone who has demonstrated success in running a multi-function, educationally-related public organization; including demonstrated business management skills.

3. What are your top three priorities if you are elected to the Community College District?

A. Quality education – Better technology, improved facilities. More coordinated efforts to support the Associated Students of the four colleges.

B. Responsible oversight of financial resources – Better planning and increased public discussion & input. As Trustee, I advocated for the hiring of an Inspector General and Internal Auditor to address fiscal oversight.

C. Employee empowerment – Scheduled evaluations for reward for excellent service as well as identifying problem employees and employee issues. These are not currently in place. Better articulated and structured approach to shared governance.

4. Sustainable Peralta is working towards creating a sustainable environment for the whole district. How would you work with Sustainable Peralta to further increase the district's sustainability efforts?

Sustainable Peralta arose out of a Board driven policy that I wholeheartedly support. I will continue to promote policies and specific actions that go above and beyond promoting sustainability. Currently, our greatest opportunity to promote sustainability is through our Measure A bond program. I support the requirement that all new construction be LEED certified and will look to approve projects meeting that standard.

2. Have you collaborated with young adults in your community work in the past (list specific examples)? How are young adults involved in your campaign? How will you continue to involve young activists in your work after you are elected? Please be specific.

As the Trustee with the most direct contact with students, I've mentored Student leaders and Student Trustees since coming to the District. Annually, I've raised money to take student leaders to Washington DC to the Legislative Black Caucus. This experience has benefited a diverse group of young adults who have since moved on to continue their leadership at Universities. I have young adults working on my campaign in every capacity. I will continue with my high level of involvement with student leaders to development district wide policies for the academic senates of the 4 campuses to enhance student life experiences for all of our students. I am also active in my communities serving on Boards to develop programs and strategies for at risk youth, young minority males seeking an education as a means to turn their lives around.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Please describe in detail at least three of your accomplishments that have improved the lives of young adults. These examples should illustrate skills and capabilities that apply to the office you are seeking. These accomplishments may have occurred at any time in your personal, professional, or public life.

Developed the first Teen Pregnancy Program for Girls Inc. in San Leandro. This program continues to sustain the organization and serve hundreds of young ladies and their children annually. I have also served as the Assistant Director of the Minority Career Awareness Program, preparing first generation college attendees for employment after graduation. I was the Orientation Coordinator and Work Study Coordinator for Case Western Reserve University working to acclimate young adults to their new lives as college students. All of these programs were designed to serve young adults.

EXPERIENCE

Please list or describe your current and past activities in the community in which you have acquired skills that relate to the office you seek. Include your role in the activity and the year(s) in which you were involved. Involvement consists of many areas such as family, neighborhood, community, employment, or public life. Please explain how your experience would make you an effective advocate for young adults as an office holder. You may also list endorsements here.

I have 8 years of experience in community college governance and graduated from one of the campuses I represent. My dedication to Peralta is my gift for the education and opportunities it afforded me. I have been instrumental in bringing millions of dollars to Peralta for education through collaborations with outside funders and our government. I am currently working as the chair of Student Services on the project to open our first health clinic. As previously mentioned, I have over 25 years of experience with young adults in academic settings. My involvement with students helps me to understand the relevancy of programming to the needs of the population we serve.