

OREB Endorsement 2024-6

This is part of the OREB endorsement process. Please complete this form. Questions 7 through 40 require a **SHORT** (no more than 800 characters) explanation as part of your answer. Click the button below to start. There are 13 sections. After launching, please click the "NEXT" button at lower left to go to the next section. If you have concerns, please contact Carol Coyote or Michael Cheng.

Email *

jencorn4berkeleyschools@gmail.com

I. Campaign information

1. Name

Jen Corn

2. Preferred Pronouns

she/her

3. Position Running For

Berkeley School Board

4. Email Address

jencorn4berkeleyschools@gmail.com

5. Phone number

510-367-2788

6. Campaign website

jencorn.org

II. Campaign finances and support

7. Who has contributed to your campaign?

individual donors (max donation = \$60), plus \$25,000 public financing from the City of Berkeley

8. Other than individual donations, who do and will you receive donations from? List all groups, unions, businesses (especially those doing business with the entity in which you seek to hold office).

BFT and BCCE will likely make independent expenditures on my behalf

9. Please list persons and organizations who have endorsed you.

see list here: <https://www.jencorn.org/endorsement>

10. Please list PACs, Super PACs, and independent expenditure committees supporting you.

Just BFT/BCCE

11. List any/all industries, organizations and people that you will decline donations and endorsements from, please be inclusive.

I will decline corporate endorsements, as well as endorsements from pro-Israel groups.

III. Crime and law enforcement

12. What do you think about the use of force by police? What and when is appropriate and what is not?

Police should avoid using force except under rare circumstances, and they should avoid deadly force. Police presence in schools must be minimized.

13. Do you support banning private prisons? Please explain.

Yes, I support banning private prisons. There should not be financial incentives to expand the carceral state.

14. Do you support abolishing cash bail? Please explain.

Cash bail is an inequitable system that punishes people for being poor, and it should be eliminated.

15. Do you support decriminalizing (and/or legalizing) all drugs? Please explain.

Yes, I support decriminalization of drugs. We need drug policies that offer help and support instead of more stigma and punishment.

16. Do you oppose the use of capital punishment? Please explain.

I oppose capital punishment. It is cruel and inhumane.

17. Should convicted felons and prison inmates be granted the right to vote? Please explain your view.

Formerly incarcerated individuals who have served their sentence should have their voting rights restored.

IV. Immigration

18. What is your view on immigrants and immigration? What new legislation is needed? And what laws should be removed?

We are a nation of immigrants and the contributions of immigrants have been central to the economic success of our country. I have been a proud bilingual educator, serving many immigrant children and families who are vital members of our Berkeley community. We need new legislation that provides a pathway to citizenship and renews protections for DREAMers.

V. Infrastructure issues

19. What kind of health care insurance system do you support? And why?

I support single-payer healthcare because healthcare is a human right.

20. Do you support public banking? Why or why not?

Yes, I support public banking. Unlike private banks, which maximize profits for shareholders, public banks can return profits and interest to the community through various means, such as lower fees for banking services, lower interest rates on loans, or funding for community projects.

21. Do you think public transit should be free?

Yes, I think public transit should be free.

VI. Labor

22. What do you think the minimum wage should be in California? Nationwide? What does a “living wage” mean to you?

A living wage is a wage that allows an adult to support a family--food, housing, childcare, transportation, medical care, etc. Unfortunately, given the high cost of living in CA, a living wage for a single adult supporting two children would be more than \$60/hour. The federal minimum wage should set a floor, aligned to the cost of living in lower cost states, and each state should set a minimum wage aligned to the actual cost of living.

23. How would you protect workers not covered by the National Labor Relations Act?

Agricultural laborers, domestic workers, family members, and independent contractors are not covered. These workers can be better protected by passing legislation that prevents misclassification, and prohibiting employers from retaliating against workers for exercising their workplace rights.

24. Would you propose to tax the companies that rely upon contract workers? And how?

Yes, I would support taxes on companies that rely upon contract workers.

VII. Housing

25. What are the causes of the housing crisis in California and the Bay Area?

Skyrocketing costs, inadequate supply of affordable housing, and zoning policies.

26. What do you propose to protect renters? Please comment on laws/acts, such as Costa Hawkins and others, to be repealed, and added/legislated?

I support rent control and eviction bans. I believe Costa Hawkins should be repealed.

27. Do you support the repeal of all laws that criminalize or punish homeless persons? What will you do to protect our unhoused communities?

Yes, I support the repeal of laws that criminalize homeless persons. As a school board member I will work to ensure that unhoused children and families have access to necessary supports and services, and that we consistently implement the McKinney-Vento Act.

28. How do we provide/develop more affordable and low-cost housings?

I believe that Berkeley needs more housing, particularly low cost housing. I also support the construction of ADUs to provide additional rental units.

29. Do you support social housing? How do you propose to create it?

Yes, I support social housing including transit hubs.

VIII. Education

30. What is your opinion about charter schools?

Charter schools drain resources from school districts, often without providing a demonstrably different or more innovative educational program.

31. What is your opinion about no cost public college and university?

All our young people should have access to no cost public college or university.

32. Do you support the cancellation of all student debt?

Yes, I support the cancellation of student debt.

33. How do you propose to make universal public pre-K free?

Federal and state tax dollars should be allocated to fund universal preK programs.

34. Do you support “strengthening” Title IX?

The long-awaited April 2024 new Title IX regulations that restore earlier protections for students who experience sexual harassment or assault are a step in the right direction. Title IX protections must cover not only students' experiences in the school building, but also online and out-of-school experiences that impact the learning environment. Additionally, transgender students need protections under Title IX.

IX. Environmental

35. What do you think, broadly, a “Green New Deal” should contain?

A Green New Deal should be a jobs and infrastructure program that builds new, green technologies and trains workers for the green jobs of the future.

36. Do you support banning fracking?

Yes.

X. Election

37. Do you support public financing of elections?

Yes, and I am proudly participating in Berkeley's public financing program.

38. Do you support ranked choice voting for your office, and in general?

Yes, I support ranked choice voting.

XI. US foreign policy

39. Do you support the international campaign of BDS (Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions)? And what should the US policy be on Palestine/Israel?

Yes, I support the BDS campaign. I believe the US should withhold arms from Israel, given Israel's disproportionate response to the Hamas attack on October 7. The US needs to more actively pressure Israel in order to bring about an end to the war in Gaza.

XII. Anything else?

40. And if you have chosen not to answer some questions, please explain why.

Thank you for your consideration.

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