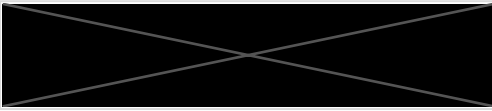


SF League of Pissed Off Voters 2026 Questionnaire

Hello candidates! Thank you for filling out the League's questionnaire. Please complete the questionnaire **by 5pm on Friday, August 7th** if you wish to be considered for the League's endorsement. Please use this form rather than formatting it into a Word document or PDF. If you have any questions, you can contact us at TheLeagueSF@gmail.com.

Email *

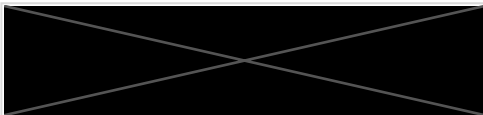
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Name

Leah LaCroix

Campaign Contact

Phone Number

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Website

Motivation

Why are you running for *this* office?

Because City College is a vital institution for San Francisco residents and we need to protect it. The College Board of Trustees needs to 'right the ship', rebuild trust with students and the SF community, and provide a long-term plan to ensure its existence for decades to come rather than operating in perpetual crisis mode.

For so long the common sentiment around CCSF has been that "it's a mess." Unfortunately, not much has been done to undo this perception amongst the community. While CCSF has faced seemingly insurmountable challenges in the past, the college is currently on an upward trajectory - enrollment is steadily rising, accreditation struggles are behind us, Free City continues to benefit our students in achieving their academic goals, and the Trustee Board received praise following its most recent audit.

Moreover, one thing that has never been questioned is the quality of education at CCSF. Our educators have demonstrated fierce commitment to the campus community - even in the face of layoffs, cuts, and forgoing raises in these financially challenging times.

So many of us love CCSF. It's the heart of San Francisco and one of our best assets. One thing we cannot afford is a stagnant college, worse yet a CCSF that no longer exists.

I'm not running for the 'next office,' I'm running to defend and rebuild City College, and prepare this valuable institution for its next chapter.

What are your values, and how did you get them?

Having arrived in San Francisco at only two months old, this city raised me and remains my forever home. My core political identity was forged here, rooted in the progressive spirit of our community and the profound discussions - about everything from affordability to the importance of education - shared with my mother and sisters at our family dinner table. Growing up in San Francisco developed my deep love of community and dedication to our "San Francisco values" of care and compassion for one another. Additionally, my time on the San Francisco Youth Commission helped me learn the language of Government and the strategies for advocacy. These formative experiences and values are fundamental to who I am and continue to guide my vision for our city.

What communities do you represent, and how do they hold you accountable?

As a native San Franciscan and a young Black woman born to immigrant parents from Trinidad & Tobago, and Panama, my political identity is inseparable from the intersecting communities that raised me. My journey is anchored in the progressive values of youth empowerment, grassroots organizing, and active democratic engagement. I remain deeply accountable to these roots by proactively soliciting community feedback and prioritizing their guidance to inform every decision I've made while on the DCCC, as a CA Democratic Party Delegate, and the ones I will make as Trustee. I remain receptive to the critical direction from those I serve.

What three endorsements are you most proud of?

Anita Martinez, Trustee City College Board of Trustees
Aaron Peskin, Former Supervisor, District 3
Gordon Mar, Former Supervisor, District 4

What are the top three issues you will work on, and what is your plan for achieving your goals?

First and foremost, I will protect what is still here at City College. Whether it be fiercely advocating against cuts or pushing to reopen the downtown campus, I will be on the front-line demanding answers. Secondly, adding classes back to the schedule. Third, rebuild trust in CCSF and flip the narrative sentiment surrounding the college. This happens when we show consistency and continue to build on the recent wins.

As a Trustee I will regularly meet with and engage with stakeholders on their positions, incorporate their ideas and perspectives in meeting discussions, and consider their priorities as items come before the board.

I am no stranger to making difficult public decisions or asking difficult and uncomfortable questions. I have learned that maintaining strong communication - in this instance with stakeholders, the administration, and Chancellor - is the key to a strong institution and governance. Opening the lines of communication, allowing for public input and oversight in important decisions, and being transparent is the cornerstone of protecting the college and its reputation long term.

What local and state commissions or policy bodies have you served on?

San Francisco Youth Commission
Geneva Harney Bus Rapid Transit Feasibility Study Citizens Advisory Committee (SFCTA)

What political organizations are you a member of (e.g., democratic clubs)?

San Francisco District 11 Democratic Club - (Current President, former PAC Chair)
CA Democratic Party/ Democratic State Central Committee (CADEM/CDP)

What for-profit or non-profit boards have you served on, including political organizations?

Black Young Democrats of San Francisco
California Young Democrats Black Caucus
Mama G's Street Dinners (Board of Directors)
CA Democratic Party Executive Board (CADEM/CDP)
CA Democratic Party Credential Committee (CADEM/CDP)
CA Democratic Party Rules Committee (CADEM/CDP)
San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee (DCCC)
.....

What campaigns have you worked on?

My own DCCC campaigns alongside our progressive slatemates (2016, 2020, and 2024). I was hired as the Field Director for Sharon Lai's District 3 Supervisor race in 2024. I have volunteered on a number of campaigns over the years - Jane Kim, Gordon Mar, Sandra Lee Fewer, and Connie Chan among them.
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What recent candidates and ballot measures have you supported financially?

This election cycle I have donated to Michael Nguyen for District 8 Supervisor to help him qualify for public financing. We ran together on the Labor and Working Families slate for DCCC in 2024, and I wanted to help a progressive candidate be able to financially compete with the growing corporate money flooding SF Politics.
That said, as a young professional with deep family obligations, my contributions to any campaign or ballot measure are primarily my personal time either making calls or door-knocking, and supporting overall GOTV efforts.
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What is one concrete thing about the League of Pissed Off Voters (for example, something we have done, said, or published) that you appreciate and that would make you proud to have our endorsement?

In my family and circle of friends, the League guides have always been the go-to during election seasons. I value the thorough review of candidates and ballot measures the League puts into their analysis. Growing up in San Francisco, I would notice these little folded pamphlets with League of "Pissed Off Voters" boldly typed across the front, scattered across town on bus seats and in local laundromats well before I could vote. As a candidate all these years later, being endorsed by the League means the world to me both politically and personally.

The League guides have helped shape my politics from a young age, and continues to be a touchstone for San Francisco's progressive values. Earning the League endorsement in 2016 when I first ran for DCCC is still a major highlight for me. I wear it with a badge of honor as I did when I was endorsed by the League again in 2020 and 2024. I sincerely hope to earn your endorsement once again for my candidacy for City College Board of Trustees.

College Board

What experience do you have with City College or Community Colleges in general?

I attended CCSF from 2007-09 (my Junior and Senior Year of High School). This experience prepared me for college academically as well as interpersonally. I attended San Francisco State University as a freshman in the Fall of 2009 with the academic standing of sophomore largely in part to being concurrently enrolled at my high school and CCSF. The courses I took included US History, Public Speaking, English, Music Theory, Beginning Voice and Afro-Latino Music History.

Moreover, CCSF Ocean/Main campus is within walking distance of my home, as well as the K-12 school I attended. Both of my older sisters also attended classes at CCSF along with countless friends over the years. In so many ways, City College has always been a part of my life.

I began my Youth Advocacy/Organizing experience in 2008-09. While Chair of the San Francisco Youth Commission, I became aware of the accreditation issues CCSF was soon to face head on in 2011-12. Knowing how much CCSF had helped me, as well as my friends who were attending CCSF at the time, I knew firsthand how City College was a vital institution San Francisco couldn't afford to lose.

Speaking out at community meetings on the matter, I stood up not only for myself but as a representative of San Francisco's younger generation. Since then I have maintained interest in the ongoing issues CCSF faces. I have been a major supporter of Free City College since its inception for all the same reasons provided, and have advocated on its behalf over the years whenever opportunities arose.

I was elected twice to the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee. Serving as the first Vice chair and Parliamentarian during my tenure, I learned how to navigate the local political landscape and build consensus across perceived divides. Additionally, I am/was the youngest person in an elected role in San Francisco.

I am the legislative architect and champion of Free Muni for Youth - ensuring permanent funding in SFMTA's budget for free monthly transportation for San Francisco's young people. I'm also a Delegate to the California State Central Committee (CA Democratic Party) and have been since 2012. Lastly, I am honored to be the current President of SF District 11 Democratic Club.

My love for City College runs deep. My years of community advocacy, legislative accomplishments, and commitment to public service have prepared me for a time such as this - I am the fierce guardian the college needs as we prepare the college for the next chapter.

Did you support the City College Parcel Tax on the November 2022 ballot?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Given that many of the policy and funding decisions for City College are made by other entities, what is your vision for fully funding City College, and what actions can the Board of Trustees take to that end?

First and foremost, I would fiercely protect existing City College funding and push back against any additional cuts to the Free City MOU commitment. Second, the college should be offering more courses for students - increasing enrollment will in turn generate more revenue for the college. Trustees should require public hearings and demand community impact assessments before any program cuts can be finalized. Decisions affecting students and their ability to plan for their education should not happen quietly.

Growing the college's enrollment to pre-pandemic levels NEEDS to be our first priority. Offering more of the courses students need in order to transfer will help build back trust with the institution - courses such as English, Math, Science, etc. How can we expect degree-seeking students to plan their education through CCSF if they can't rely on whether the courses they need will even be offered?

Yes, fiscal responsibility is essential. That includes making smart investments in our students and prioritizing their needs. This posture will generate revenue for the college in the long-run. As we consistently center our students and their needs, we'll regain their trust. Trust in City College as an institution will in turn bring students back, which will result in enrollment that aligns with the State's funding formula.

Additionally, we need to make Free City permanent. San Francisco voters overwhelmingly approved the funding structure for this important program, and I see my position as a Trustee and life-long San Franciscan to advocate alongside the community to ensure the program remains. This way students can enroll in the college with a sense of certainty.

What strategies would you support for growing enrollment, the college's main revenue source?

Once again, we absolutely have to offer the courses students need to meet their academic goals, and must offer them consistently. If we have the courses, our students will stay. The Trustees will need to lean on the Chancellor to make this a priority.

Additionally, again, we need to make Free City permanent. San Francisco voters overwhelmingly approved the funding structure for this important program, and I see my position as a Trustee and life-long San Franciscan to advocate alongside the community to ensure the program remains. This way students can enroll in the college with a sense of certainty.

I would also promote the High School concurrent enrollment program. This will help our SFUSD students gain an advantage in their academic careers and bring more students into CCSF classrooms.

How do you plan to close the opportunity gap for students of color?

This question is especially close to my heart, and goes to the core of why I am running for CCSF Trustee. As Trustee, I aim to:

- Re-establish trust in the college by ensuring courses students need are offered
- Improve transparency through public-input and oversight
- Bring stability and a long-term plan to the Board
- Right-the-ship – prepare for the next chapter
- Grow enrollment strategically and sustainably

CCSF needs to rebuild trust with our students and the community, this is especially true for students of color who get the short end of the stick when courses are cut or waitlisted. I'd start by engaging with student leaders and community stakeholders to discuss what gaps they see in our programming, courses, and services and how CCSF can evolve to best serve them in achieving their academic goals.

Additionally, I would partner with SFUSD to promote the High School concurrent enrollment program. This will help our SFUSD students, especially our students of color, gain an advantage in their academic careers. I know this firsthand.

CCSF also has to recognize that San Francisco's educational needs are just as varied as our residents and the students the college serves. Meeting our students where they are is essential for recruitment and retention. This includes every language, interest, and educational path.

Growing enrollment to pre-pandemic levels is a strong first step to rebuilding the reputation of the college. Offering more classes so students can trust that the courses they need actually are available there is paramount - so we stop losing students to neighboring colleges.

We need to treat higher education as a public good, not a corporation. CCSF has to provide students from all backgrounds—immigrants, low-income families, people of color, LGBTQ students, and people with disabilities—access to resources designed to help them succeed. Investing in programs to help students overcome academic and financial barriers would demonstrate that we value and support all learners while also increasing enrollment.

CCSF is one of our most powerful tools for economic justice, and it is continually undervalued. We need to work with the City and County of San Francisco, SFUSD, and local employers to align Career & Technical Education programs with high-demand fields in tech, healthcare, and other sectors, so students are trained for jobs that are actually available and growing.

CCSF has strong transfer and completion rates compared to other community colleges in the state, performing well on key measures like transfers to four-year universities, English and ESL completion, and serving students who are initially unprepared for college-level work.

I believe we need to make higher education affordable and accessible for anyone who wants to pursue it—whether that's a 2-year community college program, a 4-year university, a trade school, or a professional certificate.

What specific qualities would you look for in a new chancellor?

I believe the role of the CCSF Board of Trustees is to set the long-term vision for the college and guide the Chancellor and administration in executing said vision.

Trustees are the guardians of the college - ensuring the mission remains at the forefront of all decisions. They must be willing and able to ask the uncomfortable questions and come up with innovative solutions. The Chancellor, in part, is responsible for executing the mission and long-term vision for the college.

The qualities I would look for in a new Chancellor include (but are not limited to);

--A demonstrated commitment to being student-centered

--Transparency - A firm commitment to open communication, public-input, and community oversight

--Community awareness - someone who wants to build lasting partnerships with the CCSF and San Francisco community.

What metrics would you use to determine your success as Board Trustee?

Ideally, success to me would be no further cuts to classes or student resources during my tenure on the Board of Trustees. I'd also like to ensure we reach a place where the college can offer a full catalog of courses every semester. Our enrollment numbers would not only increase, but students will once again trust they can achieve their academic goals at CCSF. Additionally, I would measure success by having clear lines of communication and transparency with all my colleagues on the Board, the Chancellor, college stakeholders, and especially our students and faculty - I aim to be a Trustee that is responsive to the community and not beholden to any special and/or monied interests.

Endorsements and Support - November 2026

Who will you support in the November 2026 election?

Supervisor, District 2

no position

Supervisor, District 4

no position

Supervisor, District 6

no position

Supervisor, District 8

Gary McCoy

Supervisor, District 10

Theo Ellington, DJ Brookter

SFUSD School Board

Alida Fisher, Virginia Cheung, Reina Tello

Community College Board

Leah LaCroix, Mei Ling Hui, Anita Martinez, Jeremy Lee

Past Endorsements

What candidates have you supported in past elections?

November 2024 Supervisor, District 1

Connie Chan

November 2024 Supervisor, District 3

Sharon Lai

November 2024 Supervisor, District 5

Dean Preston

November 2024 Supervisor, District 7

Myrna Melgar

November 2024 Supervisor, District 9

Jackie Fielder

November 2024 Supervisor, District 11

Chyanne Chen, Earnest EJ Jones

November 2024 Mayor

Aaron Peskin

November 2024 District Attorney

Ryan Khojasteh

November 2024 State Assembly, District 19

Catherine Stefani

November 2024 School Board

Matt Alexander, Virginia Cheung

November 2024 City College Board

Aliya Chisti

Past Props

How did you vote on specific ballot measures in past elections?

June 2026 Prop D: Increase Business Tax

☒ Yes

☐ No

Nov 2024 Prop C: Inspector General

☒ Yes

☐ No

Nov 2024 Prop D: Mayoral Commission Reform

☐ Yes

☒ No

Nov 2024 Prop 32: Raise Minimum Wage

☒ Yes

☐ No

Nov 2024 Prop 33: Allow Local Rent Control / Repeal Costa Hawkins

☒ Yes

☐ No

Nov 2024 Prop 36: Treat Misdemeanors as Felonies

☐ Yes

☒ No

Mar 2024 Prop E: Surveillance Tools for Police

☐ Yes

☒ No

Mar 2024 Prop F: Forced Drug Screening for the Poor

☐ Yes

☒ No

Nov 2022 Prop M: Empty Homes Tax

☒ Yes

☐ No

Jun 2022 Prop H: Recall District Attorney Chesa Boudin

☐ Yes

☒ No

In Closing

What is your favorite branch of the SF Public Library and what is the last thing you checked out from there?

The Main library has a special place in my heart. This is the branch my mom took me to growing up - I remember taking the incredibly tall staircase to the children's area on the second floor where my sister and I would play Oregon Train. The Summer Read Challenge and promise of Round Table pizza for completing 10 whole hours of reading made my childhood heart sore! My love for books and reading was truly fostered at the Main library. A close second is Ingleside, my neighborhood branch. The last thing I physically checked out was a Civil Service Exam practice book and I'm currently listening to The Afrominimalist's Guide to Living with Less by Christine Platt via Libby. For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Politics by Donna Brazile, Yolanda Caraway, Leah Daughtry, and Minyon Moore is next on my Libby list.

Is there anything else you want to tell us?

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