

**SAN DIEGO ALLIANCE *for* ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER AMERICANS
& FILIPINO AMERICAN CAUCUS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY**

2008 CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you for your interest in the San Diego Asian Pacific Islander and Filipino American community.
Please answer each question in 250 words or less. Brief answers are satisfactory.

Please note: your questionnaire will be posted on our website for members to review.

CANDIDATE/CAMPAIGN INFORMATION

1. Candidate name: **Archie McAllister**
2. Campaign address: **1739 Elmhurst Street**
3. Office sought: **Chula Vista Elementary School District Seat #2**
4. Are you the incumbent: **No, I am not the incumbent.**
5. Campaign website: www.archiemcallister.org
6. Campaign email: archismc@aol.com
7. Campaign phone: **619-421-7337**
8. Campaign manager: **NA**

PERSONAL INFORMATION

9. Are you a member of an Asian, Pacific Islander and/or Filipino organization? **No.**
10. If yes, please list our affiliations: **NA**
11. **What makes you the most qualified person for office?**

I have been a member of the District Budget Action Committee for the past two years and President of the Tiffany School Site Council. Two of my grandchildren are students at Tiffany Elementary and I am a member of the Tiffany PTA. I want to make sure that my grandchildren and other children will be prepared for the new standards in Math and English that the State of California will be imposing in the future.

I worked on the Petition Drive to ask the County Board of Education (COE) to place an initiative on the ballot. The initiative was to correct the inconsistency of having designated seat numbers without having geographic boundaries in both Chula Vista and Sweetwater School Districts. We wanted the citizens of South San Diego to vote and correct this political chicanerany.

History reveals that in 1991, State Senator Steve Peace introduced urgent legislation to *quote* save Sweetwater District from being taken over by the *religious right* as happened in Vista. By designating the board seats with numbers, the incumbents never had to run against each other as they did in an Open Seating election. Open Seating is where candidates getting the most votes win the seats. In 1993, Chula Vista District followed. There are only three School Districts in the State that have designated seat numbers without boundaries, Sweetwater, Chula Vista and Santee Elementary. The County Office of Education voted 3/2 not to place the Initiative on the November ballot.

I spent 28 years on active duty with the U. S. Navy. I earned scholarship to the University of Southern California and graduated with a B. A. I have spent the past 14 years as a Substitute Teacher in Sweetwater District. I know administrators, teachers, students, parents and issues on a first hand basis.

12. Why seek support from the Asian Pacific Islander and Filipino community?

I am asking for your support because 10% of the students in CVESD are Filipino and 4% are Pacific Islanders. You are the people I want to represent.

13. If elected, what are your top priorities during your term?

Priorities when elected include:

- a. Restore program lost to budget cuts
- b. Increase student achievement
- c. Keep parents better involved.

14. What distinguishes your priorities and goals from the other candidates?

I have a plan to accomplish my priorities. For instance, I will champion new Project Head Start programs especially on the District's West Side. I will personally visit each and every school site and make my self readily available to parents and teacher to hear their ideas and suggestions.

15. How have you in the past and how will you in the future used your position to expand the presence and influence of Asian Pacific Islanders and Filipinos in public policy and politics?

I will encourage any and all Pacific Islanders and Filipinos to get involved in the election process. I am a firm believer in term limits and I would like to see the establishment of geographic boundaries for each seat in District elections.

16. What have you done that demonstrates your commitment to and effectiveness in promoting Asian Pacific Islander and Filipino interests (and if you have not contributed, please discuss any area(s) you may have made a contribution &/or improve the current condition)?

I served a wonderful three-year tour of duty in the Philippines and gained great respect not only for Filipinos but Pacific Islanders.

17. Due to periods of drought, the impending water shortages will have a drastic affect on playing fields and landscaping in our schools. What are your plans to help meet the demand for water resources?

I will encourage the use of recycled water in landscape irrigation to conserve our precious resource water. I will also encourage use of xeroscape landscaping whenever possible and the use of artificial turf whenever possible.

18. A new research report released by the Regional Educational Laboratory West at West Ed states that San Diego County will need to hire more than 5,500 teachers in the next seven years. What strategies will you implement to ensure teachers will reflect the student population that they serve? Most importantly once hired, that teachers receive the on-going training and support needed to meet the demands of their classrooms?

As a retired Navy Officer, I would seek out newly retirees and those leaving active-duty toward a career in education. It has certainly been a good second career for me.

19. Have you failed to vote in any national, state, legislative general elections or statewide ballot proposition elections in the past five years? If yes, why?

No, I have not failed to vote since I could not vote for JFK because I was not 21 at the time. I was 20 and could not vote.

20. Do you have plans to seek higher office? If so, what office and when do you plan to run?

No, I do not have any other political aspirations.

Please list any endorsements you have received:

I have been endorsed by the Republican Party of San Diego County.