



## Encinitas 4 Equality | 2020 Candidate Questionnaire & Responses

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Responses of **Jodie Williams**, candidate for **Encinitas Union School District School Board**.

1. What policies, goals, or priorities do you support related to housing in Encinitas? What housing policies have you seen enacted elsewhere in California or the US that you would like to replicate here?

***Jodie Williams:** Housing priorities in Encinitas do not directly relate to the position of Trustee. However, ensuring safe housing for all students is a priority, and one that is even more pronounced now, during a distance learning environment (even if in hybrid). I support goals that are aimed towards providing safe and supportive homes and learning environments for all students.*

2. What is your stance on affirmative action in California? Do you support Proposition 16 and the attempt to repeal the ban on affirmative action in California?

***Jodie Williams:** I believe all students should have an opportunity to succeed in their career goals. We must do what we can to remove structural barriers preventing minorities and POC from achieving their goals, including repealing the ban on affirmative action.*

3. The United States Commission on Civil Rights issued a memo on November 15, 2008 that stated “The best available evidence reflects high rates of use of force nationally, and increased likelihood of police use of force against People of Color, people with disabilities, LGBT people, people with mental health concerns, people with low incomes, and those at the intersections of these groups.” Do you believe that police use of force, specifically when interacting with People of Color, people with disabilities, LGBT people, people with mental health concerns, and people with low incomes, is an issue that needs to be addressed by the local government in Encinitas? If not, why not? If so, what reforms would you propose?

**Jodie Williams:** *I think excessive police use of force is an issue in every facet of this country, including Encinitas. We all need to be doing the work to root out unconscious bias and overt racism.*

4. According to the California Department of Education, 62% of San Diego County public school teachers are White while more than 70% of the County's students identify as People of Color. Do you believe it is important to hire teachers, administrators, and counselors that reflect the demographics of the student body they serve? If not, why not? If so, what reforms would you support to promote the hiring of qualified People of Color as administrators, teachers, and counselors?

**Jodie Williams:** *I think it is important that our leadership reflect our student body. Our students will aspire to be what they see, and they need to see more people like them teaching them and in leadership roles within our schools. And, having a more diverse ecosystem will enrich our students' learning.*

5. San Diego Unified and Los Angeles Unified School Districts acknowledged that school closures, online learning, and incomplete access to technology are believed to have caused massive learning losses for many students, particularly low-income students. In light of the recent surge of COVID-19 cases and cancellation of in person classes, what are your proposals to help youth who struggle with absent parents, no internet, lack of meals, and lost job opportunities?

**Jodie Williams:** *Our low-income students, who lack the resources to engage with our school programs and are concerned about where their next meal might come should be our highest priority. We need to be proactively reaching out to these students to understand what they need and how we can better serve them.*