



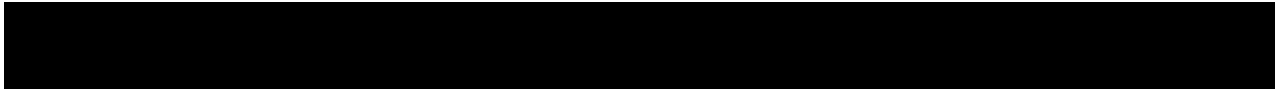
**Albuquerque Public Schools  
Questionnaire for Board of Education Candidates**

The Board of Education is an elected body created according to the laws of the state of New Mexico to serve as the governing board of the school district for the purpose of organizing, maintaining, and locating schools and for providing educational opportunities and services for all citizens residing within the school district.

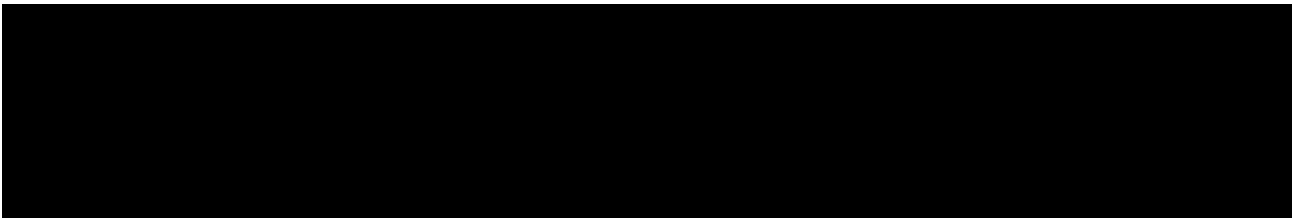
Candidates are requested to return their questionnaire to the Board Services Office, by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 4, 2013. Mailed questionnaires must be **received** by Friday, January 4, 2013. Address to: Board of Education Services Office, 2013 Board Election, Alice and Bruce King Educational Complex, 6400 Uptown Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, N.M. 88110. Questionnaires may also be faxed to 880-2575 by the deadline above. Please call the Board of Education Services Office at 880-3737 to confirm fax arrivals, or for other information.

**Personal Information  
[Please Print, Type or Use Digital Form]**

Name:	<u>Steven</u>	<u>Michael</u>	<u>Quezada</u>
	First	Middle	Last



Length of Residency in School District: **35years**



Occupation: **Actor, Comedian, Writer, Producer, Director**

Employer: **Self Employed**



Do you currently hold other public office?

Yes \_\_\_ No X

If yes, list office: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any affiliations with the Albuquerque Public Schools? Yes \_\_\_ No X

If yes, what are your affiliations? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you available to attend Board meetings the first and third Wednesday nights of the month at 5:00 p.m.? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_

Additionally, there are four board committees that meet twice a month at 7:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. or 5:00 p.m. Are you available to attend committee meetings? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_

If no, please explain why: \_\_\_\_\_

Periodically, the Board must meet during daytime hours for Board meetings, budget hearings, and luncheons. Are you available during daytime hours for these activities?

Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_

If no, please explain why: \_\_\_\_\_

In addition to regularly scheduled meetings, the Board requires approximately ten hours a week in reading, researching, miscellaneous meetings, school visits, telephone calls, and e-mail correspondence. Can your schedule accommodate the extra time involved in serving as a member of the Board of Education? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_

## **Experience**

Answers should be brief and concise.

### **Why do you want to be a board member for Albuquerque Public Schools?**

I want to help APS become successful and find ways to improve the education of our children.

### **What is your interest in education?**

I have been involved with engaging children and inspiring them to continue their education through my work at YDI for over 25 years. Through the years I have seen more and more students fall through the cracks and drop out of school.

### **How would you support the mission of the district?**

I will fully support the accomplishments of the district and will help create alternatives to the things that may need improvements.

### **What is your past and current involvement with Albuquerque Public Schools?**

I am a product of APS and a proud alumna of West Mesa High School. My daughters were enrolled at traditional APS schools. I been active on the Public Academy for the Performing Arts Charter School's Governing Council as the Vice President for the last three years.

### **What do you consider to be the strengths and weaknesses of Albuquerque Public Schools?**

I will have to familiarize myself with the accomplishments and struggles of APS in order to come to a fair conclusion.

### **What is the role of the Board of Education?**

The most important roles of a Board Member is to approve the annual budget and to hire and evaluate the Superintendent. Other roles include, setting policy, providing a vision or direction for each district and to provide accountability and advocate for education in all APS districts.

**What is the role of individual board members?**

Promoting outstanding student performance based on clearly delineated standards is central to the key work of school boards. The next step is to determine how well students are doing in meeting those standards. School boards need information in order to make decisions, not only about how well they are doing, but also about what may be needed in order to ensure that the APS school system goals will be met.

**What should be the relationship between the superintendent and Board of Education?**

The relationship between the Board of Education and the Superintendent of schools has a significant effect on the quality of education their school district provides. Traditionally, the board makes policies and the superintendent implements them. Their ability to work together successfully affects principals, teachers, and students and their families.

**What unique qualities would you bring to the Board of Education?**

I bring a different way of looking at education through the eyes of an artist. I have been very successful with alternative ways of teaching children.

**Other school/community volunteer activities related to the community:**

I have been involved with a wide array of fundraising and public awareness endeavors in my community for over 30 years. Many of these involve scholarships, motivational speaking, mentoring and teaching.

**What do you think is the best way for the district to:**

**Improve academic achievement and close the achievement gap?**

By evaluating where each high school cluster is at academically and by communicating with students, parents, teachers, principals and the community. Student evaluations and feedback are key. We have to be willing to invest in long term solutions.

**Maintain financial accountability and still support student achievement, family and**

**community engagement and a safe school environment?**

We would have to ensure that the majority of funding stays in the classroom. It is our duty to ensure that the district is fiscally responsible. I believe we also need to be equally responsible in ensuring district goals are being met and that our investments lead to strong and safe schools, engaged parents and educated kids.

**Make a safe and supportive climate for learning and working that maximizes student achievement?**

Student, Teacher and Principal evaluations and feedback from each school are key. This will provide us with a better understanding of any challenges our students face whether at home or at school. Community partnerships are also instrumental to help address the nonacademic barriers to help students overcome obstacles that may interfere with their learning.

**Engage families and enhance partnerships in the community to maximize student achievement?**

An open door policy approach from the top down to the classroom is a good start. Family Resource Centers in each school would also be a great way to welcome parent involvement.

By my signature, I affirm that I meet all requirements to become a member of the Board of Education.

