

Candidate Information Candidate's Full Name :Bonnie L. Deister

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Website:

District: **Board Member / Redwood Community College Board of Trustees Area 1**

Date of Primary: NA

Date of Election: **November 7, 2017**

Political Affiliation: **Democrat**

General Information

1. What are your key platform issues?

- Co-ordinate with Humboldt State to establish a BSN nursing program with College of the Redwoods..
- Improve academic counseling services at CR by suggesting improvements in making registration and class choices easier for students at CR.
- Improve mental health, social, and addiction services at CR.
- Improve service for veteran students by increasing mentoring and promote programs relevant to their interests.
- Strengthen vocational training programs by adding new ones which will provide jobs and give students a future while keeping education options relevant for our own population and geography.
- Improve dialog between the board, administration, faculty, and students. The board has historically been slow to negotiate in good faith with faculty which has only hurt the school and student population.

What are the most important issues facing your district?

What impacts my district are lack of vocational training programs which can put students into fields which translate into jobs and the ability to support their families. Low enrollment rates need to be reversed as they impact the budget and the ability to start new programs and hire teachers. Decades of service of the existing board members, 16-24 years each, has not produced many changes.

2. What solutions do you offer?

I am committed to advocate for expanding of the health science and other vocational programs, adding certificates that translate into jobs.

I will work with the president to partner with HSU to bring back the BSN nursing program to our community.

It is also my commitment to abstain from the health care & stipend package paid to current board members. I do not need this compensation and the money saved will be better allocated to vital budget items elsewhere.

3. What parts of the NCPA platform (outlined below*) do you feel most closely aligned with?

Healthcare is a human right. We must guarantee healthcare by enacting a single-payer healthcare system, as well as lowering the price for prescription drugs. Furthermore, we must protect reproductive rights.

I completely agree with single payer system and I have felt this way for years. As a nurse reproductive rights and Planned Parenthood clinics are vital to our vulnerable population and working poor.

I am an advocate of providing programs for the war on drugs, mental health treatment centers, and expanding prison extension/education programs.

Unions are critical for teachers, part timers and full time faculty. The part time faculty is 76% of the teachers at CR. Collaboration are important between board, administration, and faculty union. Without excellent, dedicated part time faculty, you do not have student success. Our faculty needs to feel appreciated.

Free, quality public education forms the bedrock of democracy, economic mobility and social justice. We support strong K-12 public schools and free tuition at public universities.

When I first taught at College of the Redwoods, in 1984, the cost was \$5.00 a unit plus books. Having a quality education at a reasonable cost will increase our enrollment and promote less attrition due to cost. It will help students graduate and be successful.

What parts do you disagree with, if any?

I do not disagree with any of the NCPA platform issues as outlined below.

Are there parts you would improve upon and how?

I would not improve on any of the NCPA platform issues as described. My own platform issues for this local race include my "improvements" in how those ideals could be implemented at CR should I win election as a member of the Board of Trustees for Area 1.

4. Do you support collaboration between progressives across party lines?

Yes I do. I always encourage collaboration between participants.

Would you feel comfortable being included on a slate card another candidate for office registered to a different political party than you?

Yes I would. My positions speak for themselves.

5. What in your background qualifies you to be a credible candidate?

- Doctorate in Education and Leadership.
- Registered nurse with background in Urgent Care, Short Stay, Nursing homes, physicians offices, emergency medicine on the ambulance and clinical team for nursing students and Medical Assistants..
- I am a lifelong learner who is familiar with CR issues and history as a previous employee of 17 years.
- 28 years as an educator, both part time and full time tenured faculty at Community Colleges.
- 12 years full time chair of a department which involved Nursing, Medical Assisting, Paramedic, and Nursing Assistant.

- Facilitator and problem solver working with patients for Workers Compensation as a Registered Nurse Case Manager for 11 years..
- Familiar with budgets, hiring, firing, working with community entities and monitoring externships.
- Over 28 years of mentoring students, approximately numbering 900.
- Owned and operated Tahoe Donner Ambulance in Truckee, CA as an EMT-II. Running a small business gave me insight in training staff, equipping and managing a business, payroll, and personal experience working with the public.
- Manager of Paramedic program Lourdes Hospital in Binghamton, NY gave me experience for collaboration with the board, administration, faculty and students of CR.
- Mother of four grown children, 7 grandchildren. Daughter graduated from College of the Redwoods..

Do you currently hold or have you ever held elected office? *No*

What volunteer or professional work have you done that makes our world a better, fairer place?

- I am a volunteer for AARP tax preparation for the elderly...
- I am training to be an Ombudsman for Area 1 on aging...

6. Have you filed as a campaign committee with the Federal Elections Commission and if so, what is your campaign identification number?

I have filed. The campaign identification number is pending.

Do you have a campaign bank account and treasurer?

Yes and yes.

Do you have a campaign website? *Yes*

www.bonnie4cr.com

Platform Information

Below are positions strongly supported by the North Coast People's Alliance. Please indicate your position and explain in the space provided below each statement. In particular, please tell how you might be able to address these issues at a local level.

1. Today, we live in the richest country in the history of the world, but that reality means little because much of that wealth is controlled by a tiny handful of individuals. To address income inequality, we support living wages and insist that the wealthy and large corporations pay their fair share in taxes.

X Agree o Disagree

Tell us more about your position:

2. We must ensure that all Americans are guaranteed an effective right to vote. We must also reject the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in Citizens United and other related cases, and move to firmly establish that money is not speech, and that human beings, not corporations, are persons entitled to constitutional rights.

X Agree o Disagree

Tell us more about your position: Stated in statement above.

3. Healthcare is a human right. We must guarantee healthcare by enacting a single-payer healthcare system, as well as lowering the price for prescription drugs. Furthermore, we must protect reproductive rights.

X Agree o Disagree

Tell us more about your position: Stated in statement above.

4. Humboldt County and California must continue to be leaders in aggressively tackling climate change if we are to keep this planet habitable for our children and grandchildren. We must rebuild our crumbling infrastructure in ways that transform our energy system away from polluting fossil fuels, and towards energy efficiency and sustainability. We must also plan now to adapt to the impacts of climate change locally.

X Agree o Disagree

Tell us more about your position: I feel we need to support all efforts to stop climate warming and be ready for disasters before they happen.

5. We must dismantle the prison industrial complex by demilitarizing our police forces, banning for-profit prisons, turning back from the War on Drugs, eliminating mandatory minimums, and increasing investment in programs that help individuals recover from substance abuse and mental health problems.

X Agree o Disagree

Tell us more about your position: In statement above.

6. Inhumane deportations must be stopped by ending deportation programs, closing down private detention centers, offering humane treatment and asylum to victims of violence and minors fleeing from dangerous circumstances

X Agree o Disagree

Tell us more about your position:

7. We need to support union organizing in both the public and private sectors. We should make it easier for all Americans to join unions and collectively bargain for better wages and benefits. Union jobs provide higher wages, better benefits and a more secure retirement. Increasing union jobs will reduce income and wealth inequality and rebuild the middle class.

X Agree o Disagree

Tell us more about your position: impetus and motivation for running is that the current board has been anti labor, anti faculty, and do not listen to the people doing the work. We will change this. Whole reason this campaign started is because of labor issues which I experienced when I worked for CR.

8. Free, quality public education forms the bedrock of democracy, economic mobility and social justice. We support strong K-12 public schools and free tuition at public universities.

X Agree o Disagree

Tell us more about your position: In statement above.

By typing or signing my name below, I hereby certify that the above statements are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that a false statement may disqualify this application from consideration.

Name: Bonnie L. Deister

Date:9-04-2017

You may email this completed form to hello@NorthCoastPeoplesAlliance.org