

# ASK THE CANDIDATE



As a city council member, how will you work with school districts in your district to increase the opportunities for public school students to attend college?

"...We have talented students and career opportunities but we need to make sure that they are accessible to all. I want to see increased mentorship programs with the local colleges and high schools, as well as bring major corporations like Toyota, TJ Maxx, and Amazon. With the pandemic coming to a close, it is paramount that no one is left behind. I have a progressive campaign that has detailed policies to address these inequities and lift others up."

## MARK VARGAS JR.



**Occupation:** Former college and career counselor  
**Years in San Antonio:** 24 years  
**Campaign Website:** [mark4sa.com](http://mark4sa.com)  
**Social Media:** [f mark4sa](https://www.facebook.com/mark4sa) [t mark4sa](https://twitter.com/mark4sa)

## PHYLLIS VIAGRAN



"One of the biggest issues that the South and Southeast side face is the large gaps of the population without good access to the internet. As City Councilwoman, one of my top priorities is to install broadband infrastructure across the district and get our residents connected to wifi. When you have access to the internet, access to education and good-paying jobs become available."

**Occupation:** Community Outreach Coordinator at Older Adults Technology Services  
**Years in San Antonio:** 48 years  
**Campaign Website:** [electphyllis.com](http://electphyllis.com)  
**Social Media:** [f ElectPhyllis](https://www.facebook.com/ElectPhyllis) [t electphyllisd3](https://twitter.com/electphyllisd3)

"Right now as a running city council member, working with non-profit organizations as well as public grants. Coming from a low-income family I was not able to attend college, however, this made me an advocate to give every student the opportunity to attend."

**Occupation:** Business owner/ entrepreneur  
**Years in San Antonio:** All his life-born and raised in SA.  
**Campaign Website:** [f facebook.com/RudyLopezforSanAntonio/](https://www.facebook.com/RudyLopezforSanAntonio/)  
**Social Media:** [i rudy\\_lopez\\_for\\_san\\_antonio](https://www.instagram.com/rudy_lopez_for_san_antonio)

## RODOLFO "RUDY" LOPEZ



## WALTER MURRAY



"In my opinion, it is imperative to stay in touch with the school counselors in the district. They are in tune with the college admission deadline and requirements. Plus, they understand the type of courses a student should enroll in to prepare them for the college of their choice. There are certain goals that must be accomplished when preparing a student for college while they are in high school. This includes setting up and achieving goals with students on a weekly basis. Maintaining communication with students and understand how they feel about their academic progress is the key to their future."

**Occupation:** Owner of Media Experts Advertising  
**Years in San Antonio:** Five years and six months  
**Campaign Website:** N/A  
**Social Media:** [f WalterMurrayforDistrict3](https://www.facebook.com/WalterMurrayforDistrict3)

"On the southside we have a STEM high school, what they do is they graduate with a high school degree and an associates degree. I want to take that same program but run it throughout San Antonio. I want to have more so we can get one step closer to where St. Phillips is at, so that they will be able to take advantage of the STEM program. By getting an individual into the first part of college it will inspire them to continue their college education."

**Occupation:** Self-employed: Owner of "Corner Coffee and More"  
**Years in San Antonio:** 53 years  
**Campaign Website:** [tomasuresti.com](http://tomasuresti.com)  
**Social Media:** [f tomasurestifordist3](https://www.facebook.com/tomasurestifordist3) [t uresti\\_tomas](https://twitter.com/uresti_tomas)

## TOMAS URESTI



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## ANGELA CARDONA

*The candidate did not respond to The Mesquite by deadline.*



Occupation: Executive assistant/ community relations  
Years in San Antonio: 45 years  
Campaign Website: [voteacd3.com](http://voteacd3.com)  
Social Media: [AngelaforDistrict3](https://www.facebook.com/AngelaforDistrict3)

## DIANA FLORES URIEGAS



*The candidate did not respond to The Mesquite by deadline.*

Occupation: "PSR"  
Years in San Antonio: 61 years  
Campaign Website: N/A  
Social Media: [Diana4TAC](https://www.facebook.com/Diana4TAC)

## KATHERINE HERRERA GARZA

*The candidate did not respond to The Mesquite by deadline.*



Occupation: Business development representative  
Years in San Antonio: Three years  
Campaign Website: [vote4kat.com](http://vote4kat.com)  
Social Media: [Katherine-Herrera-Garza-for-District-3](https://www.facebook.com/Katherine-Herrera-Garza-for-District-3)

## MARCELLO MARTINEZ



*The candidate did not respond to The Mesquite by deadline.*

Occupation: Architect  
Years in San Antonio: 14 years  
Campaign Website: <https://www.marcellomartinez.com/>  
Social Media: [marcellomartinezford3](https://www.facebook.com/marcellomartinezford3)

## RAFAEL C. VELA

*The candidate did not respond to The Mesquite by deadline.*



Occupation: N/A  
Years in San Antonio: Three years  
Campaign Website: N/A  
Social Media: N/A

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## STEPHEN "STEVE" VALDEZ

*The candidate did not respond to The Mesquite by deadline.*



Occupation: Communications  
Years in San Antonio: 27 years  
Campaign Website: [Officeofstevevaldez.com](http://Officeofstevevaldez.com)  
Social Media: [f stevevaldezfordistrict3](https://www.facebook.com/stevevaldezfordistrict3)

## TED GONZALEZ



*The candidate did not respond to The Mesquite by deadline.*

Occupation: Sales Manager  
Years in San Antonio: Four years  
Campaign Website: N/A  
Social Media: N/A

### ELECTION DAY IS MAY 1

MESQUITE GRAPHIC: BELLA LOPEZ AND D'MITRIUS RIOS  
INFORMATION COMPILED BY: BRITTANY TYRA, JORDAN SOSA, SARAH CENTENO, MARY ANDERSON AND CLARISSA MARTINEZ

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