



Neighbors United For Fullerton (NUFF) is a nonpartisan organization committed to maintaining and enhancing the quality of life in the city of Fullerton, CA through political action. NUFF offers public forums which provide information of community interest and opportunities for civic involvement. Membership in NUFF is open to anyone interested in making a difference in the community in which we live and work.

NUFF FULLERTON SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: 11PM PDT on September 25, 2018 to endorsements@nuffpac.org

Note: ONLY electronic submissions will be accepted.

Name: Lauren Klatzker

Running for: Fullerton Joint Union High School District

Trustee Area #: 4

Indicate one of the following by checking the appropriate box:

- I do not plan to request NUFF's endorsement, so I am not responding to the questions.
- I am submitting the questionnaire and would appreciate receiving NUFF's endorsement upon approval of the membership.

If you are seeking NUFF's endorsement, please answer the following questions in your own words. Your responses will be shared with NUFF's membership as the basis for their endorsement vote (space provided is not intended to limit the length of your response; use the space you need).

1. What is your vision for education in the Fullerton schools?

Public education/public school is the cornerstone of the community and of our democracy. This means that Fullerton schools need to be provided with the support and vision necessary to make them the best that they can be. My vision of education in Fullerton is one where students are prepared for college and career. Students are able to collaborate, effectively communicate, be creative and think critically about information and the world around them. These 21st century skills will prepare them for success in a competitive world. Students in my vision of education in Fullerton are taught by teachers who have the resources and training that they need to be as efficient and effective as possible at preparing students for life after high school. This means that classrooms are rigorous, but the whole student is developed so that students are ready to be engaged civically and substantively in their community upon graduation. My vision for education in Fullerton provides a well-rounded education so that all students get exposure to academics and the various programs - the arts, sports, etc. Finally, schools in Fullerton must be safe so that students can learn and teachers can instruct.

2. What do you believe are the top two or three priorities that need to be addressed at the district level?

1. **Increase focus** on the classroom: Students and teachers need to have the appropriate resources to ensure that learning is of the highest quality. This means that students need access to materials and technology in meaningful ways that prepare them for college and career. Teachers need the resources and training necessary to provide students with an education that focuses on 21st century skills (collaboration, creativity, communication, critical thinking, etc.) while utilizing new technology in meaningful ways.
2. **Empower** parents and the community: I will ensure that all voices are represented in district level decision making. As a parent of three boys (one a sophomore, one an 8th grader and one a 3rd grader) all of whom attend public schools here in Fullerton, I am in the position to represent parents on the

board and to help ensure that all community groups are represented when the LCAP is being developed and district needs identified and resources allocated.

3. **Focus** on safety: We live in an ever changing world but our children remain our most precious resources. We must work together with local law enforcement and campus groups to make sure that our campuses and students are safe. This safe environment will allow students to focus on learning and teachers to focus on instruction.

3. What has been your experience in the public school system?

I have over 14 years of experience as an educator in public schools. I have worked as a Special Education Teacher, High School Counselor and as a Special Education Program Specialist. Through these positions I have learned how schools and districts work; how to effect change within the system, and ultimately, I have learned what students need to be successful. Through my current position, I have learned how to bring diverse groups together to come to consensus in order to support student growth and development and to develop programs to help students and teachers.

4. In what ways do you feel you are prepared for the job of a Trustee? What strengths do you bring?

First, I bring my experience as a public educator. Having spent time in the classroom and in various roles at the site and district levels, I have an in depth understanding of how schools and school districts function. Second, as a parent and community member, I am able to help ensure that this voice is represented on the board when decisions are made. My professional experiences have prepared me to jump right into this position ready to work for students and the community.

5. What are two or three current activities or programs in which the district currently excels? How do you believe that you could ensure that these continue?

1. The FJUHSD has a wide variety of rigorous academic classes and programs available to students. The students in our district have the opportunity to be exposed to many honors, AP and IB classes that are not available in all school districts. I will work to ensure that the high academic programs and standards are maintained in the district by making sure that teachers get the resources they need to continue these programs.
2. The FJUHSD has some of the best visual and performing arts programs in the area. These programs draw students from across the district as well as from outside the district. The arts are a way for different types of students and learners to express themselves. I will work with the board to make sure that these programs have the resources that they need so that all learners have an outlet for their creativity and are able to continue to create productions that benefit all students and the community.

6. What is the best measurement for how a district is being successful or unsuccessful in student learning?

When we examine student success, we do not look at a single measure. Traditionally, we have looked at grades, graduation rates/drop out rates, college admission rates and test scores as measures of student success. Now, we can also look at student success through the lens of student engagement. We can look at student participation in campus life and activities, enrollment in Career Technical Education (CTE) pathways, and clubs as a way to measure if schools are successful. Student learning is more than just what occurs in the classroom so we need to make sure that we are looking at more than just test scores when evaluating student success.

7. Do you favor uniqueness in the schools/courses/teaching methods offered, or do you believe that greater consistency is preferable?

It is important that there is consistency in the content that is taught within content areas and at different schools because there needs to be a baseline of achievement that is a consistent standard. The expectation of a student taking 10th grade English should be learning the same content across the 10th^h grade English classes at a site and across the district. However, how a teacher teaches in terms of strategies and methods is up to the individual teacher. Teaching is a skill and we should help guide our teachers to develop their own instructional practices that are the most effective. This may differ from person to person, but ultimately, we need to make sure that teachers are using best teaching practices that we know are effective and utilize skill building in areas identified by the district.

8. What are your views on integration of the Arts at our schools?

The arts are integral in education. For example, research has shown that students who read music can increase their reading scores. Creativity and the arts are integral in educating the whole child and are ways that different types of learners and different types of students can access curriculum and effectively communicate their learning. Arts education is an integral part of learning and must remain on our campuses.

9. Is there anything you would like to add?

I believe that I am the most qualified candidate for the FJUHSD Board in Trustee Area 4. As a parent and as an educator, I can bring the necessary insight and skills to the table to ensure that our students receive the best education in the best environment.