



*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](mailto:endorsements@nuffpac.org)**

*Note: ONLY electronic submissions will be accepted.*

**Name: Regina Cuadra**

**Running for: FJUHSD**

**Trustee Area #: 1**

*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?

My vision is maintaining strong quality education that enriches the whole student. We may not know what jobs may emerge for our students in this increasingly technological age. We want, however, well rounded students capable of exemplifying the 4 C's: collaboration, communication, creativity and critical thinking. Creating a strong foundation for our students can help them move forward and adapt to an ever shifting job market.

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

A significant amount of time is sometimes spent bringing students up to speed when discovering gaps in knowledge once they reach the high school level. One of the main priorities of the district should be the meaningful scaffolding and bridging of programs between itself and all of its feeder schools. By ensuring that elementary and middle school instruction is laying down a solid foundation of skills through a rigorous curriculum, a better prepared student will enter more confidently into the high school setting and be ready to benefit from the instruction and programs offered.

In addition to supporting curriculum across various grade levels, the district should also foster the tools and skills necessary to ensure that programs like Pathways has a foundation. This will, for example, help students transition more smoothly into a project based learning setting if they have already been exposed to this learning style in the earlier stages of their academic life. By building a cooperation between elementary school districts and the high school district, synergy will benefit our students.

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

My children are enrolled in a Spanish Dual Immersion program through the La Habra public schools. One of the main reason we decided to enroll in that public school is because of the unique program offered. The district has been amazing in working with the community and the families to ensure a quality program. All

stakeholders can bring their voice to the table. I have been an active participant in my children's education and the growth of the program they are enrolled in at the public school.

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

I bring a unique skill set and parent perspective forged by a combination of professional experience and community involvement. My experience within the classroom and at the district level has prepared me for the job of Trustee. I have experience working in classrooms from early child education through high school level in both the public and private sectors. I have been part of school site committees and possess the leadership skills and experience to hold our district accountable for present and future challenges.

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?

The Fullerton Joint Union High School District is very unique in that it offers an Open Enrollment District, meaning students can choose any of the 6 high schools within the district. This gives parents and students alike an opportunity to research and explore programs that are best suited for present needs and geared toward future aspirations. This type of voice and choice in program selection is rare but very important in fostering agency and taking responsibility for one's own education.

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

Graduating students need to be college and career ready when they leave the high schools of this district. Tracking how alumni perform in different settings beyond the K-12 experience and getting feedback about what they feel they were prepared for as well as what might be challenging, will help shape and guide programs offered by the district. By meaningfully reflecting on the data gathered the district can strengthen existing programs and develop new courses of action as well.

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

There has to be a strong consistency of quality throughout the district, yet each campus should have a unique priority for the school and the community that it serves. Allowing for differing pathways to success will encourage strong teacher commitment and grow competitive programs for students to enroll in. Not all students are alike, therefore a variety of options grounded in consistent quality will help students and families to decide on the best focus for them.

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

A successful student is a well-rounded student. The arts are not as distinct from core subject matter as some might think. In fact, the arts are core subjects in action. Music, for example, offers a student not only a creative outlet, but also delivers a very practical math and science application. Everything from the counting of beats to the physics behind how an instrument transmits sound allows textbook information to leap off the page and into life.

9. Is there anything you would like to add?

Thank you for your time and consideration. I am running for this position because I sincerely believe in our public education system. I also believe that strong community support is an essential component of a successful public education system.