

Central Valley Progressive Political Action
Committee *Endorsement Questionnaire for Educational*
Candidates

Candidate Information:

Candidate Name: Daniel Renteria

Race/Area #: FUSD, Trustee Area 5 (Special Election)

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Campaign Manager/Consultant: Tyler Mackey (559) 349-1287

***Please use no more than 100 words to respond to each of the
following:***

1. Do you support publicly funded universal preschool? Why or Why not?

Many of our youngest learners enter our educational system at a disadvantage because of their socioeconomic status, zip code, or lack of a publicly funded learning alternative. The beginning of a child's education is the most important time for development. Children benefit greatly from an early learning experience as they are more likely to achieve higher test scores, graduate from high school, attend college, vocational and trade programs. Universal Pre-K improves overall student performance, while increasing their ability to become a productive and contributing member of our communities, which is why I will fully support publicly funded universal preschool.

2. What will you do to help ensure adequate funding for music and art programs at all primary and secondary levels?

The positive impact that art and music programs have on the development of students is irrefutable. We must work together to address new funding for programs that have been cut and continue funding for programs that are at risk. As trustee, I will work to provide a culturally and artistically rich student experience that is integrated into all aspects of learning for students. These programs are essential to the social and emotional well-being of our students, particularly in the COVID-19 pandemic. It's critically important to fully fund such programs to increase and contribute to overall student motivation, achievement and success.

3. Please describe how you will improve the quality of education as an elected trustee for FUSD?

For too long, politics has played too large of a role in how our students are taught and how they learn. We must evaluate our curriculum to identify how students learn most effectively by determining how students are progressing in core academic areas, such as: math, science, reading and writing, while expanding and increasing funding for programs that have been cut such as art and music programs. In order to provide world-class instruction and education, FUSD must work in the service of every individual student and provide a student-centered curriculum that is equitable and achieves student academic goals.

4. What is your plan for operating schools during the COVID-19 crisis?

Like so many, I agree our students learn best when they are instructed in person and on campus. This can be accomplished, but it must be done safely and with the cooperation of students, parents, teachers, staff and FUSD leadership. We must continue to provide comprehensive and holistic educational experience to students whether in-person or virtually, while adhering to and following national, state, and local health guidelines. The overall health and safety of everyone in FUSD must continue to be a priority and must be done without compromising the quality and educational experience of our students.

5. Describe how FUSD can provide additional social emotional support at all school campuses?

We must continually adapt our approach to instructing our students. Attending school is more than learning arithmetic, reading, and writing. It's also about learning how to be a productive and contributing member of our community. Which is why it's critically important we begin implementing restorative justice practices to resolve disciplinary problems in a cooperative and constructive way. By doing so creates a climate of mutual respect, inclusion, and a safe place to express ideas and emotions. These preventative, community building measures ensure students, teachers, staff and administrators actively participate in creating a climate of mutual respect, and allows acceptable conflict resolution.

6. Please list your top 5 campaign donors and the amounts contributed.

The initial funding of my campaign is a self-loan of \$5,000.00. Some small dollar donations have recently been received from friends, and community members and those additional donations will be disclosed in the next campaign finance report.

Candidate Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel Renteria". The script is cursive and fluid.

(Use the draw function to sign. Signing confirms candidate's permission to post responses on the CVPPAC Web site.)

Thank you so much for your time and energy in completing this questionnaire. Your responses will be posted on the CVPPAC Website and distributed to CVPPAC members. All completed questionnaire responses are to be submitted to Daren Miller at darenmilleremail@gmail.com by Monday, January 31, 2022 **(without exception).**

The CVPPAC endorsement meeting will be held on **Saturday, February 12, 2022 (possibly via zoom).**

Contact Daren Miller at 559-930-4909 or darenmilleremail@gmail.com with your questions.