

PUSD SCHOOL BOARD

2018 Candidates Survey Results



	GINGER COUVRETTE	KIM GARNIER	KEVIN JUZA
Personal/ professional background	Resident of PUSD for 25 years. My three children all started in Preschool at Chaparral, attended Twin Peaks and graduated (Kelly-sophomore) from Poway High School. I was a credentialed high school science teacher and coached many sports. I currently own Halcyon Real Estate in the Poway Business Park. I raised \$60,000 for Special Needs with Jack-O-Smash, room mother 17 times, organize Chaparral Thanksgiving Baskets, 6th grade Olympics Chair, Pres of PSA, Science Olympiad, Grad Night, Rugby Pres	I proudly attended Poway Unified K-12, as did my husband. Our 3 children currently attend Painted Rock and Twin Peaks. I participated extensively as a student (dance team, basketball statistician, special education aide) and as a parent (PTA, volunteer, and as an advocate for military and minority families and families with special needs. I called out a corrupt superintendent and financial mismanagement at PUSD while also working as a logistics manager for an international company.	I have 2 daughters attending Twin Peaks Middle School (They were at Turtleback Elementary School TK-5). I have a Masters in Human Resources Organizational Development and a Bachelors in Business Administration and Marketing. I am currently a Retention Manager at a technology company. I have been on the RB Planning Board, PUSD Site Council, PUSD District Advisory Council, President of the Turtleback Education Foundation, and I am currently on the PUSD Safety Committee and Twin Peaks Foundation.
Why are you seeking this office?	Now that we are districts, we need the best representative for District B. As past chairman of the City of Poway's Budget Review and Parks and Recreations Committees, I have a solid working relationship with the Council. With our many joint use agreements, we need proven coordinated success. I worked with the council and PUSD to turf and light Valley, Meadowbrook and lights at Arbolitos. I champion Career and Technical Training and have community members and the Chamber ready to contribute.	After witnessing gross mismanagement of our budget (to include the Billion Dollar Bond) and self-serving district leaders put their needs ahead of the students, I felt compelled to serve. PUSD has rested on its laurels and we must set our expectations higher. From an ethical and responsible budget, to advancing our educational goals, to school safety, we can do better. My reputation for fighting for what is right, not what is easy, demonstrates I will diligently work for the PUSD community.	I have always had an interest in helping my community and now is a great time. When my daughters attended Turtleback, I was an involved parent. I was asked to step up and lead the foundation and served as its president for two years. I wanted to see how I could take that experience and help my community in other ways. When the school board approved a districting map and my neighborhood was within an open area with no current board members, I thought it was an opportunity to serve my community.
What do you think the relationship between the School Board and the Superintendent should be?	The School Board must hold the Superintendent accountable for establishing procedures and protocols for safety, services, management, and curriculum. We must have an ear to the needs of the community and research and address issues. With a budget near \$400 Million, we are trusted with the tax money of the community and must be fiscally responsible so every dollar is used to its highest potential. That said, we must support her as she works to improve the educational experience of every student	The Board must set policy and procedure, manage a \$400 million budget and assure the success of the district through the hiring of a capable and outstanding Superintendent. Board Members are elected to serve the students, parents, teachers and taxpayers and must lead with strength and integrity. The Board of Education has an obligation to hold the Superintendent accountable as the Board is ultimately elected by the people to oversee the Superintendent's job performance.	The relationship between the School Board and Superintendent should be collegial and complimentary. I say that, because with a new Superintendent, a new cabinet and both labor unions with new leadership, we have a fresh start from the past. We now need to focus our efforts on the future. As a School Board member, I see myself responsible for overseeing the finances and ensuring that policies are in place to best position the district to serve all the students of PUSD.
Is the Poway school district becoming too large to manage effectively? Explain your answer.	No. The problem has been that each school was left on its own to manage. This is wonderful for culture but not for optimizing resources. From the top we need streamlined administration and accounting, adoption of best practices regarding safety, technology, curriculum and services. With a specific plan in these areas, we should save money without replicating efforts. With districting I believe representation will help all school needs to be addressed. We are fortunate to have a diverse district	No. PUSD is the 21st largest school district in CA and is capable of being managed effectively. Any lack of efficiency at PUSD is not due to size, rather inadequate leadership. Our former Superintendent concealed problems and wasted precious resources while employing incompetent managers. Since his departure as well as his cabinets' departure, the district has made strides toward progress and success in many areas. Still, we can and we must do better and I am dedicated to restoring prestige to PUSD.	No. I don't think the school district is too large to manage. I do believe the Poway School District has just been through a lot of turmoil and change. I do believe brighter days are ahead of us. With all the new leadership, great kids, and a supportive community we will come through this better than ever. The board needs to serve the children and the community first and reestablish trust and confidence in the school district, so our teachers can focus on the best way to educate our students.
List your top priorities as a PUSD School Board Member:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishing consistent and clear safety procedures so all students and parents are confident. 2. Increase cooperation and coordination with students, teachers, staff, community members, City of Poway, and Chamber of Commerce 3. Fiscal responsibility and adoption of software bringing our systems into the 21st century for accurate reporting and accountability 4. Pathways for success, CTE so all students are excited with relevant content to ensure success after graduation. 	<p>My priorities are a reflection of my vow to put students first:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Accountability through integrity and transparency. 2. Fiscal responsibility, no more Billion Dollar Bonds! 3. Restore world-class education at PUSD through updated classrooms, technology, libraries, busing, arts, athletics and inclusion. 4. Overhaul our approach to Dyslexia and Special Education while empowering parents and their children. 5. School safety to include physical as well as psychological security. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide direction on ensuring an equitable educational opportunity for all students no matter what school they attend. 2. Ensure there is improved support for special needs and low-income students to enable all students to be successful. 3. Financially we need to have a balanced budget in years 1, 2 & 3 to ensure we gain back the trust of the community. 4. Being visible in the schools to ensure that policies and budgets are properly being implemented. 5. To be innovative.