

1. Financially Responsible

FUSD is in financial crisis, our district will be paying of a public debt of \$80.5 million until 2036. Our children, grandchildren and great grandchildren are in debt before they ever get a high school diploma. The district received 137 million dollars last year and they are still asking for \$100 million more this November. As treasurer of a local nonprofit organization and business owner, I custom-designed a financial interface to ensure the bookkeeping inflows and outflows were balanced. This kind of experience is what is needed to help FUSD regain solid footing and transparency in its fiscal obligations and be a careful steward of our hard-earned tax dollars.

2. Back to Basics in Education

It is time to return to the foundations of education: reading, writing, and arithmetic. Test scores in FUSD are abysmal. Even before the school closures of the last two years, our students' comprehensive exam results were lagging. By concentrating education on the basics, we will not only help students, but also the teachers who are burdened with classrooms of students who cannot read or write. Additionally, our schools are in desperate need of historically accurate and principled teachings of History and Civics. In keeping with these goals, school board activities and district curriculum must adhere to Arizona state laws. And, to you the parents and guardians, transparency in curriculum is vital, so that you know what your student is learning.

3. Raising Educational Standards

Student academic success is my top priority. To increase student mastery in learning, we must refer to historical data and implement proven educational models. The curriculum should incorporate a balance of technology and successful teaching methods in order to benefit learning styles. College is a choice for many students, and a robust K-12 education will help prepare for that goal. I want to look at expanding our partnerships with local trades to benefit career-focused education if college is not a good fit. FUSD can help graduates begin earning a distinct skill-set and a living wage, which benefits them and their community.

4. Teacher Support and Retention

Our community will be well-served when the FUSD board establishes and maintains open communication with our teachers. Creating a system for teachers to report their experiences for themselves and their students is an important step in fostering a supportive environment. With greater collaboration, we can expect better retention of excellent teachers, nurturing a foundation of respect between the district, the teachers, and the families.

5. Parent Involvement

Parents must be welcomed back into the classroom. The loss of parental involvement in the classroom setting has burdened the teachers with an unsustainable workload, and has undermined the parents' ability to better advocate for their child. Putting systems in place so students and parents can feel heard and understood promotes positive change without fear of repercussion—all part of a healthy school district. My plan is to reestablish student advisory committees and parent-teacher organizations, so that relationships and connections can be formed and encouraged.