

Candidate Name: Val Cuevas



**West Contra Costa Unified School District Board of Education**  
Candidate Questionnaire, Policies and Issues

**Please return all questionnaires via email in word format by Friday, July 6th.**  
**Questionnaires will not be accepted in pdf format as they need to be translated.**

Section 1: For each of the following statements, please rank your level of agreement on the following scale:

Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree
1	2	3	4

At the conclusion of this section, you will have a total of 250 words to expand upon any of your responses.

**NOTE: These statements do not necessarily align with the policy positions of GO Public Schools West Contra Costa and should not be represented as such. In fact, some statements are in direct contradiction to the values and opinions of our network.** This exercise will help our network better understand your positions on a wide range of issues.

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<b>Statement</b>	<b>Level of Agreement (Rank from 1-4)</b>
<b>College Readiness</b>	
We need to ensure that every student leaves our high schools prepared for college.	4
A WCCUSD high school diploma should mean that a student is eligible to apply for admission to University of California and California State University schools.	4
As a board member, I will prioritize partnership with community organizations to address barriers to college eligibility and readiness our students currently face.	4
<b>Data In Action</b>	
As a school board member, I will refuse to vote on items if I am not presented with adequate data, including student impact, financial impact, and intended outcomes and metrics.	4
The district website, school dashboards, board-level reports, and communication collateral must be regularly updated and reflect exemplary use of data.	4
If elected, I will ensure that WCCUSD increases their investment in their data staff and infrastructure in the 2019-20 budget.	4
<b>Talent/Partnership</b>	
Parent representatives should always have input in hiring the principals at their school sites.	4
Quality school leadership is essential for teacher retention and improved student outcomes.	4
Coaching, mentoring, and evaluation of all school site and district office staff should be frequent, consistent, and monitored.	4
As a board member, it is essential that I offer authentic partnership to the Superintendent.	4
<b>Finances</b>	
If elected, I will support making the West Contra Costa Unified budget and school site budgets fully transparent through an accessible, online portal.	4
I would give more funding to support students from high-poverty backgrounds, in excess of Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) supplemental and concentration grants.	4

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School Sites	
I support a system for evaluating the quality of our schools that includes multiple measures such as student achievement data, indicators of school culture, and survey feedback from students, families, and educators.	4
In partnership with their community and staff, school sites should be able to create a unique theory of action based on their community's needs as well as their own budgets, hire new staff, select curriculum, and develop calendars.	4

**Response (OPTIONAL):** In 250 words or fewer, expand on any of your responses to the statements above. You might use this section to add nuance to one of your positions or to provide additional context on your opinions. You may address as many statements from the above section as you would like, so long as your response falls within the 250-word limit.

As School Board President and a member of the Board over the past 3 ½ years, I have worked hard on a number of the district and school improvement issues presented above. Whether hiring a new Superintendent focused on teaching and learning, working to send more funding directly to school sites or creating protocols so more parents and community organizations can seek membership to the District LCAP committee to forming authentic partnerships with local community members and organizations in support of students, I am proud to be a consistent voice for students, families, and schools. From pushing for a comprehensive Positive School Climate policy to introducing our sanctuary resolution in support of Undocumented Students to serving on the Board sub-committee to name Greenwood Academy after beloved African-American teacher, principal and administrator in the West Contra Costa Unified School District Sylvester Greenwood so our kids can see themselves represented in their schools, I know we have made strides toward providing a quality education to all yet know we have so much more work to do together. We need to improve our district's data infrastructure and we need to ensure all of students are meeting A-G requirements as a condition of graduation.