

Sunol Glen Unified School District Community-

I have been interested in contributing to our Sunol Glen School since we moved to the area from Fremont in 2016. I began my term in December 2021 after being appointed by the board to serve for the remaining three years of an open position. While schools are not to replace families in their primary and noble responsibility to teach and raise children, they are an important part of teaching children and supporting the community. I feel and recognize the weight of this responsibility entrusted to the board.

My wife of 16 years, Rachel, is an elementary and special education teacher who taught for several years in the Bay Area. We have 5 sons, and have had children attending this school since 2017. Being natives to the Bay Area and having attended public schools here, we appreciate the valuable resource they are to individuals and communities. After going out of state for a degree in Biology, I returned to attend dental school at UCSF. I am currently a dentist practicing in Fremont for over 11 years. In that career I have a unique opportunity to interact with thousands in the community at regular intervals. I enjoy being involved in the community and getting to know many on a more personal level, and look forward to doing that more in this school. We want to support the resource that this school is. It is a renewable resource that is increased as more join and engage in the school community. Education is what you make of it. As one of the many maxims I teach to my children: you get out of something what you put into it. I would like to be a part of helping people grow and thrive in this school community.

This special school district is small and nimble as it has only one school and can tailor its efforts and focus on the specific needs of this small group of students. It is a school with about 3/4 inter-district transfer students, so it is a school of children/families that *want* to be here. When educators and students are together in an environment of people that want to be there, the educational focus is strong, positive and noticeable. The longevity and positivity of the staff is encouraging to the community and students. It is the staff, teachers, and especially every involved and caring family of this Sunol Glen school that makes it exceptional. I would like to see this school become even more exceptional through bringing in the funds to maintain facilities and rewarding the talent that keeps it special. These teachers and administrators are then able to equip the future generations with a life-long love of learning, social skills, feeling of success, academic improvement and to provide that to every student equally and equitably. This school must be a safe place for children to explore and grow. It will be one more tool to help kids and community members think critically and act ethically. We have a responsibility as a community to ensure that improvement and the bringing up of youth. Public schools have been established to aid in this purpose. They are entrusted by the community to deliver on that purpose and to use the funds and resources from the community as responsible stewards.

We plan to live here in this district for many years to come and look forward to years of our children attending this unique, distinctive school. I would love to help make this exceptional school even more impressive by safeguarding it and building it up. We care greatly about the trajectory of the schooling and education in our community and for our children.

-Ryan W. Jergensen, DDS