

Ray C. Zulueta Jr- Candidate
Stockton Unified School District Board of Trustees Area 4

Education and Qualifications

I am Ray C. Zulueta Jr, father of three, husband, educator and community builder. I am the descendant of Indigenous Americans, Phillipino, Mexican, Irish and English heritages. In my 30 years I have committed myself to family, education, and community. I am a fourth generation Stocktonian and a product of Stockton Unified School District. My siblings and I all attended Nightingale Elementary, Hamilton Middle and Franklin High Schools. My mother and grandmother were both employed by SUSD. My commitment to the success of our community is deep.

I attended University of the Pacific, and worked many jobs before realizing my passion for education. I now own an educational support services business that serves our community. In meetings with administrators, teachers, parents and students, I asked everyone I met the same question. They all had the same response when asked, “what is going on within our community?” “We are not feeling heard or connected.”

I promise to hear and connect you!

I support college readiness and scholarship opportunities. We need to promote technical education and craftsmanship in schools more widely. Bringing back classes like woodshop, engineering, agriculture and others will connect us to many students whose aim is not college. Additional resources are needed to support the expression of cultural identity. Our students need counselors, interventions and spaces to form positive relationships where the expression of who they are can be nurtured and grow.

I do not support “Defund SUSD Police.” They protect our employees and facilities. We need community policing and outreach that supports building positive relationships with students and families. Restorative Justice informed practices can inform campus monitors and other staff on culturally supportive best practices. These positive interactions help save lives once our students go beyond SUSD.

I will make my time and attention available to listen to our families, union members and local experts. We need upgrades to our windows, air conditioning and internet connectivity in many schools. Frequent sanitation of common areas like classrooms, lunchroom and restrooms has become a basic necessity that requires additional funding. I am against continuing to vote for new charter school developments when we have outstanding needs that must be addressed within our infrastructure.

I am supporting our community, while never forgetting the investments that have been made in me. Every student within SUSD deserves that same investments and more.