



September 10, 2025

Dear FSD Family,

I was first elected to Trustee Area One in 2018, and at the end of this month, September 2025, I will be stepping down from my role as a School Board Trustee. It has been the greatest honor of my life and most exciting professional endeavor to serve in this role for the past seven years.

As many of you know, I started kindergarten at Orangethorpe Elementary, promoted from sixth grade to Nicolas Jr. High; and later, I attended Sunny Hills High School, where I met my amazing wife, Pamela.

Our older son, Kailash, started at Fisler and then attended Raymond Elementary, where our younger son, Akash, was part of the inaugural Spanish Dual Language Academy class. Both of our sons later attended Ladera Vista Junior High School of the Arts, and they currently attend Troy High School.

If I have been successful in my life, it is due in large part to the lessons, guidance, and support that I received while I was a student in the Fullerton School District. My teachers, such as Mr. Bock, Mrs. Cogdill, and Mrs. Hollenbeck taught me to work hard and dream big.

For me, dreaming big meant moving back to Fullerton after college at UCLA and law school in San Diego to serve the community that raised me.

I'm so incredibly proud of the work we have done as a district since my service began. At that time, my colleagues and I added mental health, nutrition, and student safety as board goals. With the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic, we were able to implement learning plans and funding to improve and address our students' health, safety, and well-being. A testament to our FSD team's hard work, care, and commitment to students and families, we were able to reopen our doors sooner than many other districts, helping to mitigate learning loss safely.

Most recently, we passed a school bond to build and repair our facilities. I'm deeply grateful to the voters of Fullerton for the passage of Measure N. I am also thankful for the addition of Trustees Ruthi Hanchett, Vanesa Estrella, and James Cho to our board, as well as the enduring leadership

of Trustee Beverly Berryman as the district moves forward into the changes, challenges, and opportunities ahead.

I want to thank my parents for choosing Fullerton and my siblings for being such wonderful examples to me. I give my deepest thanks to my wife, Pamela, for being a brilliant partner and for supporting me in my public service endeavours.

I am, and always will be, a proud Fullertonian. While I will no longer be serving as a trustee, I am grateful that my family and I will continue to be active members of our Fullerton community.

Thanks to every dedicated administrator, classified staff member, teacher, and all who serve our FSD family, I know our district's best days are still ahead of us.

With love and gratitude,

Trustee Aaruni Thakur
Fullerton School District - Trustee Area One

District Superintendent, Dr. Robert Pletka, Ed.

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Trustees: Beverly Berryman, Ruthi Hanchett, Aaruni Thakur, James Cho, Vanesa Estrella

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