

My name is Lydia Gutierrez, candidate for the LAUSD School Board.

Are you satisfied with the direction LAUSD is going in meeting the academic needs of our children? I'm not and parents aren't either. 69% of students are failing in Math while 59% are failing in English. In fact, LAUSD has lost 100,000 students in less than 10 years.

Do you remember when demonstrators demanded that police departments be defunded? Well, LAUSD School Board listened and decided in 2021 to dramatically reduce their school police department by \$25 million, cutting 133 positions on the force to hire counselors and social workers to help prevent crime. It was outrageous and irresponsible! It jeopardized the safety of our kids. That year there were 108 assaults, 16 requiring hospitalization, 44 weapons recovered, including 5 handguns and 32 knives. Officers were not allowed on school campuses. I will push to reinstate their funding to make our campuses safer because our children deserve it.

Do you believe that teachers have the right to introduce sexual content starting in kindergarten to plant ideals that their students could choose their sex and pronouns because of the way they feel? The LAUSD School Board does but I don't. Every teacher should respect family values and not indoctrinate their students with their personal views. Teachers should focus on reading, writing and math.

I have seen a lot of changes in public education in my 30 years of teaching and I can say LAUSD school board is definitely moving in the wrong direction.

We need to first respect parental rights and not hide information about their child. Second, make sure funds are being used for the child's academic needs and their physical safety. Third, do a complete review at the primary and secondary grade levels to ensure that Academic Standards and Curricula are age-appropriate, working towards academic excellence for all, including special needs children. And finally, ensure that schools develop and maintain well-rounded Academic and Vocational Programs that prepare our youth for today's global market because only 35% of the jobs require a college degree, while 65% require a trade skill.

We need experienced and trusted leadership.

Respectfully, I ask for your vote for Lydia A. Gutierrez before or on March 5th.

Thank you.