

I'm Robert Nakahiro -- and I ask for your support on May 19, 2009 -- in voting for me for Los Angeles Community College District -- Board of Trustees -- Seat No. 6.

And I am so honored to ask for your support.

My personal life story is so common to many of those who make up our community colleges. -- My father is of Japanese ancestry -- and my mother is of German descent -- "pero yo creci in East Los Angeles," -- (I grew up in East L.A.) -- and I was raised by my stepfather -- a proud World War II veteran -- who is of Mexican American heritage.

As a former East L.A. Community College Student - - and someone who trusts in the empowerment of diversity - - I believe all things are possible each and every day in our community colleges - - where the opportunities for personal growth -- the realization of dreams and goals -- and personal enrichment -- are boundless.

I will be a strong voice for everyone who desires to improve their lives through a community college education -- I will work hard each and every day -- to ensure that our community colleges have the resources -- and infrastructure -- necessary to ensure all our students have the tools to succeed -- and that the quality of our education -- and variety of vocational training -- are second to none.

Our community colleges directly reflect the strength and diversity of our neighborhoods -- they are a vital link between individual dreams -- and meaningful real life choices that come with economic opportunity -- all of which come together to contribute -- and strengthen -- the economic life -- vibrancy -- and well being of our communities -- our cities -- and our regional economies.

Now -- we all know these are difficult times.

We all agree -- education is even more important today than ever before -- in order to compete -- and to succeed at all levels.

Yet -- as we all know too well -- education is constantly threatened with cutbacks -- and forced sacrifices -- which jeopardize our very ability to invest in our own individual human capital -- which serves as the crucial economic engine that drives local -- and regional economies.

My commitment to you is this -- I will speak in a strong and unifying voice -- not only to protect -- but to enhance the resources that our students -- and our community colleges need to succeed. -- I will be a partner with all stakeholders to make sure their needs are met -- and that all students have the kind of learning and vocational training programs -- that will lead to real and meaningful opportunities - - not only in current and expanding industries -- but also in the new -- and emerging green industries -- that will make up the economy of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

I am honored to be endorsed by the Democratic Party – The Mexican American Bar Association – and over 16 other Democratic groups and organizations stretching from the San Fernando Valley to San Pedro – and from West Hollywood to the San Gabriel Valley – who believe in me – and my vision for empowering individuals through a community college education that is second to none.

Every so often we need new leaders to make emerging visions happen -- I am that new leadership and I tell you the time for leadership is now.

Please visit my website at [robertnakahiro.com](http://robertnakahiro.com) to learn more about my campaign – and my vision for the Los Angeles Community College District.

Thank you