CUPERTINO UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT



BOARD CANDIDATE

Information Session

CITIZEN OVERSIGHT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT IS THE CORNERSTONE OF DEMOCRACY IN THE UNITED STATES.

School board members are locally elected public officials entrusted with governing a community's public schools. The role of the school board is to ensure that school districts are responsive to the values, beliefs, and priorities of their communities.

- California School Boards Association



This is CUSD



13,500 STUDENTS
approximate

1,800 EMPLOYEES
approximate

SERVING 6 CITIES
- Cupertino
- Sunnyvale
- San Jose
- Saratoga
- Los Altos
- Santa Clara

23 SCHOOLS
- 14 Elementary Schools
- Five Middle Schools
- One TK - 8th Grade Alternative School
- Three Alternative Elementary Schools

DIVERSE
- 15+ nationalities
- 45+ languages

3,800 VOLUNTEERS
approximate

Eight CUSD Elementary Schools Listed in the Top 100 Best CA Elementary Schools by U.S. News & World Report (Two CUSD Schools Tied for #1)
Published 2025

All five CUSD Middle Schools Listed in the Top 100 Best CA Middle Schools by U.S. News & World Report
Published 2025

Students Meet or Exceed Standard in ELA & Math
based on 2024-25 Smarter Balanced summative assessments for English language arts/literacy (ELA) and mathematics: 82.73% of CUSD students Met or Exceeded Standard for ELA & 84.47% of CUSD students Met or Exceeded Standard for Math

ABOUT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

The District is governed by a five-member Board of Education.

Each Board Member is elected by the community at large and serves a four-year term.

FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD

Individual Board Members have no authority to act independently in the name of the Board; action may be taken only when the Board is in formal session with a majority of its members present.

Primary function: act as the policy-making body for the District.

1

Charged with ensuring a quality educational program for students in grades TK-8 in accordance with state law and community input.

2

Establishes the District's goals and policies.

3

Engages in a number of oversight roles, such as approving all District expenditures.

4

Delegates the administration of the District to a professional administrative staff lead by the Superintendent.

TIME COMMITMENT

Meetings & School Visits

- Board Meetings: twice a month
- Board Office Hour: once a quarter
- Board Committee Meetings
- School Visits

Public Events

- Major District Events
- Professional Organization Events
- Civic Events

Conferences

- CSBA Annual Education Conference

STANDING MEETINGS AND COMMITTEE WORK

- Pre-Board 45-minute appointments the week of each Board Meeting with the Superintendent to ask questions about the posted board agenda.
- Each Board Member may have some but not all of the following assigned committees:
  - Budget Advisory (quarterly)
  - Facility Planning
  - Wellness (bi-monthy)
  - Strategic Partnership Cupertino
  - Strategic Partnership Los Altos/Sunnyvale
  - Strategic Partnership Saratoga

SCHOOL VISITS

Each year, Board Members are assigned up to five schools (ex: four elementary, one middle).







Board Members work with the principal to arrange site visits.

Review each assigned school's Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) and School Safety Plans.

Board Members also have access to (1) the calendar of school events and (2) site visit opportunities at all other schools.

BOARD MEMBERS

- Serve all students – leave personal relationships at the door
- Make difficult decisions – community pressure can be intense
- Committed to doing the homework and coming to meetings prepared
- Maintain confidentiality - even when it's not easy
- Willing to compromise to keep the peace, and still do the right thing for all students
- Stay out of the weeds; the Board's job is to define the "what" – it is the staff's job to manage the "how"

Candidate Nomination Period:

July 13 - August 7, 2026

Election Calendar and Candidate Guide: Available from SCCROV

KEY DATES

