

May Patel, Mt. Diablo Unified School District/Area 5 – CANDIDATE STATEMENT

As a proud MDUSD parent, community volunteer, and resident of the area for over two decades, I'm ready to use this perspective to ensure our school district is anchored in responsible decision-making, transparency, and most importantly, prioritizes our students.

Growing up as an English language learner and first-generation college graduate, I often felt isolated in our public education system. My husband and I moved to Concord in 2002 to raise our three children, all of whom attended schools in our area (Mountain View Elementary, El Dorado Middle School, and Concord High School). In many ways, this district helped me raise my children. The schools were a second home and the teachers were second parents.

Outside of my career managing small businesses, I helped establish and operate a local non-profit that provided scholarships and school supplies to disadvantaged MDUSD students, since 2011. I have also spent thousands of hours volunteering in our schools. Through my countless interactions and conversations with parents, teachers, staff, and students—I am developing a pulse on the needs of our district.

My priorities are: 1. Welcoming Schools: where every student and family feels accepted and engaged. 2. Mental Health & Wellbeing: for students, teachers, and staff. 3. Enhanced Career Pathways: to local apprenticeships and higher education.

I'm grateful to have the support of a wide range of teachers, staff, parents and community members who live in our area. Visit www.may4mdusd.com to learn more.

I humbly ask for your vote.