

***SAN DIEGO ALLIANCE for ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER AMERICANS
& FILIPINO AMERICAN CAUCUS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY***

2008 CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you for your interest in the San Diego Asian Pacific Islander and Filipino American community. Please answer each question in 250 words or less. Brief answers are satisfactory.

Please note: your questionnaire will be posted on our website for members to review.

CANDIDATE/CAMPAIGN INFORMATION

- 1.) Candidate name: **Russell Coronado**
- 2.) Campaign address: **1052 Via Sinuoso**
- 3.) Office sought: **Chula Vista Elementary School Board, Seat #4**

Legislative district, if appropriate:
- 4.) Are you the incumbent: No
- 5.) Campaign website: www.RussellCoronado.com
- 6.) Campaign email: coronado4cvschoolboard@cox.net
- 7.) Campaign phone: 619-994-1372
- 8.) Campaign manager: Russell and Alice Coronado

PERSONAL INFORMATION

- 9.) Are you a member of an Asian, Pacific Islander and/or Filipino organization? No
- 10.) If yes, please list your affiliations:

Please limit your answers to no more than 250 words:

- 11.) What makes you the most qualified person for office?

THE ONLY CANDIDATE with Children Attending a Chula Vista Elementary School (Caden and Kailey at

Casillas Elementary, 2nd & 4th Grades)

EDUCATION LEADER -- COMMUNITY LEADER:

- ❑ Vast Experience in many organizations, committees and board memberships, Promoting the social and academic well being of children throughout the Chula Vista area and San Diego County
- ❑ STRONGEST CANDIDATE: Russell won roughly 34% of Vote in School Board Election two years ago, even without endorsements from any major affiliation and no major funding (The 34% was among 4 candidates for the same board seat...the incumbent at that time won with only 49% of the vote...there are no run-off elections in this school board election system)
- ❑ Russell LED the grassroots petition effort to establish EQUAL REPRESENTATION via Geographic Trustee Areas within the Chula Vista Elementary School District, that would have guaranteed future School Board Seats for Residents in the East, West, North and South areas of our HUGE DISTRICT
 - ❑ Petition was endorsed by Congressman Bob Filner, The South Bay Forum, 79th District Republican Caucus, Eastlake-Bonita Democratic Club, State Senator Denise Moreno Ducheny, the League of Women Voters, and supported by Nick Aguilar of the County Board of Education, Filipino American Community Empowerment, as well as other civic leaders and thousands of ordinary citizens!

RUSSELL CORONADO'S CAREER SUMMARY:

- ❑ Working for Chula Vista Area students for past 11 years, serving as a Bilingual School Psychologist, Lead Psychologist and School Director during Prior 9-Year Employment with the Chula Vista Elementary School District
- ❑ 2 Years, Special Education Coordinator for the San Diego County Office of Education South County SELPA
- ❑ 6 Years, Core Adjunct Instructor of School Psychology at National University

12.) Why seek support from the Asian Pacific Islander and Filipino community?

I have been a voice for children for the past sixteen years. My commitment to all children has never wavered. My philosophy is to provide strong leadership so that my service delivery is not seen as representing a specific group but rather as having an impact on all I serve.

13.) If elected, what are your top priorities during your term?

1. Closing the Achievement Gap
2. Disproportionality of Latino and African American Children in Special Education Classes (Learning Disabilities, Emotionally Disturbed, Special Day Classes, etc.) –
3. Barriers to parental involvement in the schools –
4. Children's Mental Health

14.) What distinguishes your priorities and goals from the other candidates?

I do not know what the priorities and goals of the other candidates. I can say that the incumbent has had 20 years to deal with the current issues that have been present for a very long time.

15.) How have you in the past and how will you in the future used your position to expand the presence and influence of Asian Pacific Islanders and Filipinos in public policy and politics?

Currently the district has a school-community ad-hoc committee. I believe that any forum that promotes communication between agencies and stakeholders should be respected for what it can contribute to the social and academic well being of children. If the Filipino community of the Chula Vista School District wishes to form a taskforce to address the needs and concerns of the community, I would support the movement. On the same note, I would encourage the Filipino Community to continue to be part of the larger Ad-hoc Committee in order for their voice to be heard on a larger scale.

16.) What have you done that demonstrates your commitment to and effectiveness in promoting Asian Pacific Islander and Filipino interests (and if you have not contributed, please discuss any area(s) you may have made a contribution &/or improve the current condition)?

In the past sixteen years, in my various capacities, I have worked with children from many different communities and cultural backgrounds. My commitment is to all children and their families. I value their cultures, their languages and their communities. I have worked with the Filipino community in various ways throughout my seventeen years in education, either directly with students and staff, or indirectly by my recruitment and hiring efforts of educators (teachers, instructional assistants, school psychologists).

17.) Due to periods of drought, the impending water shortages will have a drastic affect on playing fields and landscaping in our schools. What are your plans to help meet the demand for water resources?

I would make sure that our landscaping department is utilizing the most water conservation technology that is available. In addition, I would want them to consult with the water authority to make sure we are doing everything possible to conserve water without disrupting the learning environment. I would also make sure that our school facilities our using the most efficient water saving devices, such as the water free technology provided by the Falcon water frees systems

18.) A new research report released by the Regional Educational Laboratory West at West Ed states that San Diego County will need to hire more than 5,500 teachers in the next seven years. What strategies will you implement to ensure teachers will reflect the student population that they serve? Most importantly once hired, that teachers receive the on-going training and support needed to meet the demands of their classrooms?

Focus on recruitment through organizations that provide access to teachers who reflect the population of the Chula Vista School District. In addition I would pursue the the development of Culturally Responsive Educational Systems by partnering with The National Center for Culturally Responsive Educational Systems (NCCRESt) . NCCRESt works with state and local systems to address ingrained school practices that contribute to perpetuating disparities in access to learning. They provide technical assistance and professional development to schools and their communities, including resources for early intervention, universal screening, progress monitoring, and culturally-responsive response to intervention. The purpose of this technical assistance and professional development is to close the achievement gap between students from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and their peers, and reduce inappropriate referrals to special education. Their work cuts across three interrelated domains: policies, practices, and people. Policies include those guidelines enacted at federal, state, district, and school levels that influence funding, resource allocation, accountability, and other key aspects of schooling. They use the notion of practice in two ways, in the instrumental sense of daily

practices that all cultural beings engage in to navigate and survive their worlds, and also in a technical sense to describe the procedures and strategies devised for the purpose of maximizing students' learning outcomes. People include all those in the broad educational system: administrators, teacher educators, teachers, community members, families, and the children whose opportunities that schools wish to improve.

19.) Have you failed to vote in any national, state, legislative general elections or statewide ballot proposition elections in the past five years? If yes, why?

No

20.) Do you have plans to seek higher office? If so, what office and when do you plan to run?

No

Please list any endorsements you have received:

Bob Filner - Congressman, 51st Congressional District

Arturo and Colleen Moreno - Parents

Mike Esslinger – Teacher

Sofia Salgado - Parent

Martha Soto - Parent

Ellen Estrada – Parent/Teacher

Rudy Ramirez - Chula Vista City Councilman

Nick Aguilar - SD County Board of Education/Community Member

Dr. Rebecca Sapien Melchor – Educator

Dr. Susan Eldred – Chair, National University Department of School Psychology

Linda Hildabrand – Parent

Julie Nudelstejer - Parent

Patrice Whitaker - Community Member

Melinda White - Parent/Teacher

Eric Green - Parent

Zachary Schlagel - Community Member

Jill Galvez – Parent/Community Member

Marissa Acierto - Community Member

Linda Hutchison - Teacher/Parent
Pat Moriarty - Community Member
Tiveeda Stovall – Parent/Educator
Lisa Jones - Parent/Educator
Jessica Glover - Parent
Frank and Tamara Arce - Parents
Dan and Marcy Coronado - Parents
Robert Brown - Principal
Robert Naranjo - Community Member
Adoree Ching - Parent
Marie Miehl - Community Member
Nedy Lao - Parent
Cosette Barnwell - Parent
Patricia Aguilar - Community Member
Rey and Marites Balagtas - Parents
BettyLou Martin - Grandparent
Mindy Hill - Parent
Pat Moriarty - Community Member/Parent
Leah Imbat - Parent
Sara Hack – Parent
Melanie Brown – Teacher
Reid Burns - Teacher
Kuyanda Nathan - Parent
Jim Robitaille - Parent
Donna Jugar - Parent

Judy Kai - Grandparent

Rosie Jimenez - Parent

Enrique C. and Kelly A. Luna - Parents

Debra Munoz - Speech Language Pathologist

Sean and Nancy Van Der Ziel - Parents

Jesus Estrada – Parent/Teacher

Luis and Monica Ventura - Parents

David Danciu - Civic Association Representative

Peter and Susan Watry - Community Members

Bruce Smith – Educator/Parent

(Partial List)

Deadline for responses: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2008, 9PM.

Please email your response to:

linda_alliance@yahoo.com AND joann.fields@gmail.com.

THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO COMPLETE OUR QUESTIONNAIRE!