



Fontana STAR

Catherine Jauregui-Husung

shares how she is inspired



Profile in Excellence:

FUSD Schools Attended:

- Live Oak Elementary
- Sequoia Junior High
- Fontana High School

Higher Education:

- San Bernardino Valley College - Registered Nursing License
- Cal State San Bernardino - Bachelor's of Science in Nursing
- Loma Linda University - Master's of Science
- Azusa Pacific University - Post-Master's Family Nurse Practitioner

FUSD Career Experiences:

School Nurse from 1992 to present

Who were the FUSD staff that affected you most as a student?

I have fond memories of my elementary and junior high school teachers. I remember my parents getting a call from Mr. Hill, my 7th grade science teacher, at dinnertime. He was calling not with a bad report but to tell them I was a pleasure to have in class. That was such a nice surprise (and relief) that I will never forget it and I try to make an effort to share positive things with parents about their children. I was also affected by my mom, Pat Jauregui. She was an example of the type of employee I want to be. She worked for the district for 36 years in the positions of teacher, principal, and coordinator. She was dedicated to her Fontana students and staff. It's almost been nine years since her death and I still come in contact with people she worked with or students she taught and they share caring stories about her and how they admired her.

What did you dream of growing-up to be as a child that would lead you to your work with FUSD?

As a little girl, I wanted to be Jaclyn Smith from Charlie's Angels - she was beautiful, smart and had great clothes. I did end up driving a mustang like the one on the TV series but that is where the similarities ended. Because of my love of math and science I decided to become a nurse. I worked for a couple of years in the hospital setting but I wanted something more. Growing up I would hear my mother talk about school and the joy she got from working with children and I wanted that opportunity.

Since you've joined FUSD as staff, what experience(s) have you been most proud of?

I love the daily interaction I get to have with our students. It makes me proud when I see a student that I identified through screening as having a vision problem and they come to the health office to show off their new glasses—elementary, by middle school they are "too cool" for glasses. I hope I am making a difference in their lives. It also feels great when I run into a student with their family at the store and they say, "That's my school nurse, she helped me." I am proud of the programs we have implemented

to benefit our students. Two years ago the school nurses administered the flu mist vaccine free of charge to our elementary and middle school students. Starting last year the school nurses provided fluoride varnish at the elementary level that has the potential to save families approximately \$100 a year per child.

What keeps you up at night about your work for FUSD?

The sheer number of students I am responsible for and their health care needs is at times daunting. This school year my assignment is three elementary schools and one middle school that is over 3300 students on four separate sites. I worry that I am not giving each student or site enough.

What do you think is the biggest misconception the public has about our work?

I know that the majority of the public and even some staff are not aware that school nurses are "real" registered nurses most with advanced degrees. There is a misconception that we just hand out band-aids and check temperatures. In reality we perform the state mandates such as vision and hearing screening, provide staff inservices, administer staff immunizations and TB tests, present educational materials in the classroom, develop plans for our special needs students, provide specialized procedures like ventilator assistance and catheterizations, supervise the school health offices, monitor state compliance with immunization and physical requirements, administer fluoride varnish, respond to emergency calls, mentor university student nurses and provide first aid.

What can the community do to strengthen public education?

Public involvement is so vital. On occasion I have heard negative stories about Fontana and its students. If they were to spend time on any of my campuses they would discover how warm and wonderful our students are. They would learn about the great programs and services we have to offer. They could meet the fantastic people I get to work with everyday.

What inspires you to give your very best for the students of FUSD?

I had such a wonderful experience growing up in Fontana and being educated in our system. I want the students I work with to have a positive experience also. I am inspired to provide a safe, caring environment and maybe I will inspire the next generation of students to become nurses and return to Fontana and give back to the community.

What might staff or students be surprised to learn about you?

It might be surprising that really I am shy. I get butterflies in my stomach when I present to large groups. Some other quirky things about me are that I only wear digital watches and I cannot parallel park to save my life. I love a good joke. Maybe in my next life I will be a comedian.

Few people know that I met my husband on a blind date and we hit it off right away. We share the same dry wit and sense of humor and we both are devoted to our families. Last September we were blessed with our son Thomas. He is the light of our lives.

If you know of a "Fontana Star," particularly one who was an FUSD alumnus, you can nominate him or her to be featured by emailing webmaster@fUSD.net. Please provide your name, the name of the individual being nominated, contact information for both of you and a brief description as to why you think the individual qualifies as a Fontana Star.