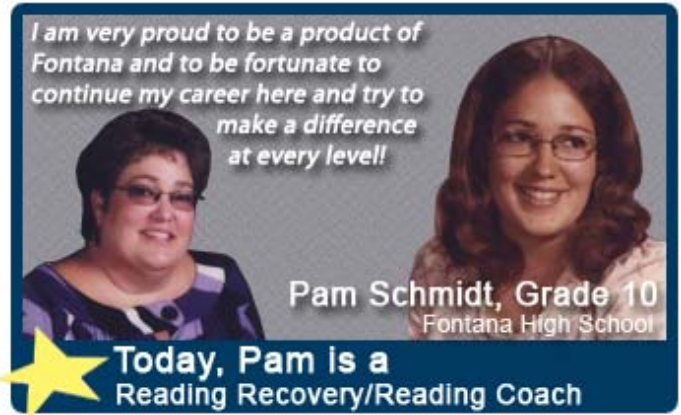


"Fontana Star" is our web series profiling district staff and alumni who are distinguished for their dedication on behalf of students, commitment to excellence and notable accomplishments in service of FUSD.



Fontana STAR

Pam Patterson
shares how she is inspired



Profile in Excellence: Pam Patterson, Reading Recovery/Reading Coach	
FUSD Schools Attended:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maple Elementary School • Alder Jr. High School • Fontana High School
Higher Education:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chaffey Community College • Cal State University, San Bernardino • University of California, Riverside (UCR) • Claremont Graduate School
FUSD Career Experiences:	I began teaching Kindergarten at North Tamarind Elementary School in 1982. I transferred to Locust Elementary when it opened in 1987. I have been at Locust ever since. I taught K-2, then became a Reading Recovery/ Reading Coach in 1998 and have been coaching since.
Who were the FUSD staff that affected you most as a student?	<i>My teachers made a big impression on me from the time I started school. I attended Maple Elementary when they had the open classroom concept. I observed my teachers having fun with each other and loving their jobs. I was inspired to become a teacher! I have always been a good student and loved learning and the school atmosphere. I feel that I have met my calling and I have been fortunate to spend most of my life in Fontana schools!</i>
Since you've joined FUSD as staff, what experience(s) have you been most proud of?	<i>I am so proud when I see progress at the student, parent, community, or at our school and district level! During my 27 years in Fontana, our District has more than doubled in size and has become a leader in the educational community! I am very proud to be a product of Fontana and to be fortunate to continue my career here and try to make a difference at every level!</i>
What keeps you up at night about your work for FUSD?	<i>I agonize when we can't reach a child or make a positive difference. I never give up. I try to be a positive force at school, with my family and in my community.</i>
What do you think is the biggest misconception the public has about our work?	<i>I think the biggest misconception is that we have an 8-3 job with weekends, holidays and off-track time free, or that teachers sit at their desks grading papers. In reality much of a teacher's weekend may be spent grading and planning. Education is a 24/7 job!</i>

What can the community do to strengthen public education?	<i>We can educate our parents about how they can support their local schools and children's educational process. If education is important and honored by the parents, it is more likely to be more important and honored by the students.</i>
What inspires you to give your very best for the students of FUSD?	<i>I give my best because I want the very best for our students. I want them to graduate high school, go to college, and become productive members of society.</i>
What might staff or students be surprised to learn about you?	<i>I don't think my staff or students would be surprised by anything I do. I am predictably unpredictable!</i>

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.