



**Diana Schweiger**

shares how she is inspired



Profile in Excellence:	
<b>FUSD Schools Attended:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jurupa Hills Elementary School</li> <li>• Southridge Middle School</li> <li>• Fontana High School (Graduated 1997)</li> </ul>
<b>Higher Education:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cal State Bakersfield, 1997-2000</li> <li>• Cal State San Bernardino, 2003 and 2006 – BA in Biology and BA in Geology</li> <li>• University of Phoenix, 2008 - Masters in Education with emphasis in Instruction and Teaching Credentials</li> </ul>
<b>FUSD Career Experiences:</b>	4 years teaching at Kaiser High School – Earth Science
<b>Who were the FUSD staff that affected you most as a student?</b>	<i>Ms. Young (Chemistry teacher from Fohi) and Ms. Kamper (counselor from Fohi). These ladies had a huge impact on my success as a student. Each inspired me in different ways to be the person I am today. Without their constant support, patience, and love for the education field I would not be where I am at today.</i>
<b>What did you dream of growing-up to be as a child that would lead you to your work with FUSD?</b>	<i>Funny you should ask that. Right out of high school I had dreams of being a nurse. I entered the program at Cal State Bakersfield but found out later that nursing wasn't my interest. I came home and went to Cal State San Bernardino where I finished my degree in Biology. I had always in the back of my mind wanted to teach but wanted to try other things first. I got involved as a research assistance at Cal State San Bernardino doing research on Comets which led me to work for NASA in Houston, Texas for a summer. Although I love doing research and absolutely loved working for NASA I knew deep down that my passion was to teach. From there I went on to finish my second degree in geology and then because I loved education so much I went back to school to get my masters and teaching credentials. I just so happened to run in to a long-time friend who works for FUSD during a substitute meeting at the district. He found out that I had a degree in geology and from there on out I have been teaching ever since. I think it was the best move I could have ever made.</i>
<b>Since you've joined FUSD as staff, what experience(s) have you been most proud of?</b>	<i>This academic year (2009-10) I have joined Key Club as a co-advisor. This group is comprised of students who want to give back to the community. It is an amazing feeling to work with a group of students who are fun, enthusiastic, and loyal. Whenever I have a bad day I can always depend on this group of students to restore my faith in the education field.</i>

<b>What keeps you up at night about your work for FUSD?</b>	<i>I strive to be the best teacher that I can possibly be. I am always looking for new ways to keep the students motivated and engaged in school. I often worry whether I am doing justice to the education field and preparing our students for the real world.</i>
<b>What do you think is the biggest misconception the public has about our work?</b>	<i>Thinking that we as a school district have all the money in the world to support our students. People don't realize that teachers spend a huge amount of our own money on supplies that students need to be successful in the classroom. When our supplies get destroyed or stolen because people take them for granted it hurts. If people would treat the supplies like they do their electronics, clothes or cars, I don't think things would get destroyed as quickly as they do.</i>
<b>What can the community do to strengthen public education?</b>	<i>We as teachers need parent involvement! I had two very dedicated and supportive parents that helped me get through high school. They were involved in everything I did from school, to projects, even down to the after school activities I did growing up. Parents are such a huge asset to the education field. Unfortunately we teachers cannot do everything for the child that must be done which is very frustrating.</i>
<b>What inspires you to give your very best for the students of FUSD?</b>	<i>My students. I enjoy my job because of the students I have. Each day brings challenges but through those challenges my students grow and learn and I in return grow and learn. In my four years that I have been here I have learned quite a bit from my students and I think the greatest lesson I have learned is the meaning of respect.</i>
<b>What might staff or students be surprised to learn about you?</b>	<i>I am a procrastinator. When I was in college I would wait until the day of to write my papers or to complete my work. Luckily, my grades in college were never affected because of my procrastination. Over the years and as I got older my procrastination has slowed down but I do find myself sometimes slipping and I procrastinate on certain items.</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](mailto: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.