



# Fontana Unified School District

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## PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Fontana Unified Board Passes Board Policy Strengthening Student Safety

**FONTANA, CA** – The Fontana Unified School District Board of Education on Sept. 14 unanimously adopted as board policy a longstanding practice that bans convicted sex offenders from entering school grounds, further ensuring the safety and well-being of Fontana Unified students and the community.

The action was taken in response to community and District concerns over a state law that attempted to address penal code requirements around convicted sex offenders who want to volunteer in schools. The Board's action prohibits any access at any time by any convicted sex offender to Fontana Unified schools.

"Student safety is the most important priority for our board, with every decision we make being based on what is best for our Fontana Unified students," Board President Lorena Corona said. "We listen and work diligently to develop policies that are truly aligned with our community's concerns and will continue to work on cultivating a safe environment for all."

Fontana Unified imposes one of the most stringent policies in the state with regard to protecting students from convicted criminals, sex offenders or otherwise. Employees and volunteers undergo a background check and receive training on appropriate conduct.

The District will utilize a vetting process on similar issues in the future that will include input and feedback from parent and school community groups.

"Fontana's policies are tough and practiced in a manner that puts student safety first," FUSD Interim Superintendent Randal Bassett said. "This action was a demonstration of the deep commitment by the District and Board of Education to protecting our students, listening to the concerns of our parents and community, and setting a high bar for what is and is not acceptable within our schools."

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