

MATTHEW VAN HOOK**AGE: 45**

Educator

High school education should be grounded on a distinctive purpose, transparent and meaningful goals, and real accountability and responsibility to the parents, students, and citizens of the district it serves. After over 20 years as a military officer, instructor/evaluator pilot, and US Air Force Academy professor, I returned to my native land of Orange County to serve my community. My wife, four children, and I reside in Fullerton. I have deep ties to our schools. My oldest son graduated from Sunny Hills High School in 2022 where my second son is a sophomore. My great-uncle Don Lent and my father Kris Van Hook coached football across OC and basketball at Wilshire Ave. My mother taught art. She and my aunt graduated from Troy. My paternal aunt and uncle are Fullerton Union alumni.

True local education issues, not large special interests, should guide the FJUHS Board of Trustees' agenda. I will listen closely to the voices of our parents, citizens, teachers, and administrators in public forums and ensure their voices are respected at every board meeting. It is time to return our education priorities to first principles and reject the politicization of our local schools.

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