



Political Platform

The pandemic intensified and brought to light the deep racial and economic injustices that have impacted our schools for decades. It also revealed that while schools are important places for providing a quality education to young people, they also fill many other important needs. For many families, schools provide their primary access to broadband internet connections, they help address the childcare needs of working families, and they help families address food insecurity by feeding children who would otherwise go hungry.

We, as SDEA union educators, know there are many issues within our schools and communities, and these issues are often tied to larger systemic problems that need addressing at the city, county and state level. In order to address these structural issues, SDEA has been part of the [San Diego Community Schools Coalition](#) and the California Alliance of Community Schools for the last several years.

The California Alliance for Community Schools is a coalition of large urban education unions that are united to win well-resourced, community-centered, anti-racist and democratically-run schools. We believe such schools are necessary to build a more just, equitable, and participatory society. In SDUSD communities, unions are one of the most powerful levers for social change. We, as SDEA, have a duty to use our union's power, amplified when we work together with parent and community allies, to organize and win resources for our students and the communities we serve. Together we are stronger!

The following is our **SDEA Political Platform** that we can unite around, fight for, and win!

Respect Students

- Massively expand [special education \(IDEA\)](#) and Title I funding
- Expand Community Schools
- Lower class sizes and hire more counselors, nurses and social workers
- Foster equity by [strengthening Ethnic Studies](#), wrap-around services, early education and multilingual education
- Provide current, culturally-responsive and student-centered instructional resources and materials
- Replace standardized testing with formative, authentic assessments
- Create safe, welcoming, inclusive, and supportive schools for all students
- Authentic investment in restorative practices
- Advocate for gun laws that protect our students, staff, and communities

Respect Educators

- Provide educators with compensation comparable to other highly educated professionals, with high-quality healthcare and a secure retirement
- Advocate for affordable housing for educators and support staff
- Improve working conditions; trust educator professional discretion over the delivery of instruction, services, and assessment of students

- Allow administrators and educators to work collaboratively to support students, through shared decision making and a true partnership between all school stakeholders
- Educators work with school stakeholders to deploy the full spectrum of supports to promote positive student outcomes

Respect Families & Communities

- Humanize immigrant families, provide a process for legalization and promote the voice of the full diversity of our communities in the democratic processes of our district
- Support movements for economic, racial, gender, LGBTQ, and social justice
- Expand green space and win [free public transportation for students to access schools](#)
- Use the district and our union's combined leverage to win expansion of affordable housing
- Increase family and student decision-making power in our schools and beyond
- [Free municipal broadband internet](#)
- Advocate for economic, social and comprehensive health justice for SDUSD families

Respect Public Schools

- Halt the growth of charter schools and stop co-locations
- Hold all schools to the same standards of transparency and accountability
- Fight the corporate charter industry's influence in politics
- Abolish non-classroom based charter schools that are profiting off of San Diego students