



Wing Ho:

Why I am a Candidate for Alhambra USD School Board District 1

“Educational K-12 excellence, equity and unity are the essential engines for the future of our children and our community.” — Wing Ho

Equity • Inclusion • Celebrating Diversity • Safety-First • Student + Staff Well-being • Academic Excellence • Building Culture of Belonging + Connection • Fact-Based • Transparent Leadership
• Bridge to Chinese Community

SUMMARY OF SERVICE:

Through a school fire, a global pandemic, the near-constant retooling for distance education and equity, a child hunger epidemic amid an economic crisis, a vital diversity and inclusion upheaval, mushrooming family poverty, the worst California school budget crisis in 100 years, monster wildfires all around us, and the 2020 Census, I have been on the scene at our schools talking to teachers, students and parents to learn what they need through this seismic shift in education and in life in 2020 and acting to meet those needs.

I have deep roots in our community: I have been educated, lived, worked, raised a family and been a civic volunteer in the City of Alhambra in the San Gabriel Valley for the last two decades.

WHY I AM RUNNING FOR AUSD BOARD OF EDUCATION:

I am running for AUSD Board of Education because I am deeply committed to our children’s future, to the 21st century educational innovation we must embrace to ensure they can succeed and to building a culture of unity in our schools and in our community.

Now in my 20th year as a resident of the City of Alhambra, I am a first-generation Chinese immigrant, a husband and AUSD Park School parent, a locally educated architect, design and construction professional, a longtime public servant and community volunteer.

In January 2019, through a rigorous process of open solicitation, interviews, selection, and vote by the AUSD Board of Education. I was appointed to the Alhambra Unified School Board to fill the Board District 1 seat vacancy.

As a Board Member for the last 22 months, I have become recognized, respected, and depended upon for my results-driven, truth-telling, fact-based dedication to all Alhambra Unified students, parents and employees.



In nearly 2000 hours spent on the ground during my current 22-month Board term, I have visited our high schools and elementary schools; actively engaged with and listened to students, teachers, and staff; participated in parent, district, and Board forums and workshops; and am continually involved in volunteering at events throughout San Gabriel Valley communities.

It is through these many encounters that I seek to understand what my constituents need, worry about, and hope for — so together we can work to creatively problem-solve our current challenges, develop pioneering educational policies and programs of excellence to empower our children and to create harmony.

Though I listen more than I speak, I also honestly and effectively communicate about how the district is supporting all stakeholders in our children’s education — through my many virtual and safely distant in-person activities or on multiple social media platforms.

As a first-generation Chinese immigrant, I understand the cultural diversity within our school district, and use my cultural experience and bilingual abilities as a bridge to bring the district and our Chinese community together. Over 70% of AUSD students speak a home language other than English.

One example of my unique contribution to the AUSD Board was during the early dawn fire that broke out on January 2, 2020, at Alhambra High School (AHS). I immediately visited AHS along with the Superintendent and Cabinet to assess the damage and to report back to the Board. My professional expertise in architecture, design and construction allows me to bring fresh ideas, perspectives, and solutions to the board and to the District.

FOR MY NEXT 4 YEARS TERM, I WILL CONTINUE TO:

- ❖ Provide social and emotional support to all students, parents, teachers impacted by distance learning.
- ❖ Evaluate the impact of distance learning and Improve student achievement.
- ❖ Improve school safety for students and staff
- ❖ Monitor on-going modernization projects
- ❖ Develop a short-term and long-term vision to promote favorable school climate, including inclusion and acceptance of everyone in the schools
- ❖ Develop/maintain policies and organizational structures to support educational goals.



IN THE PAST 22 MONTHS AS BOARD MEMBER, I HAVE ACCOMPLISHED THE FOLLOWINGS:

- ✓ Dedicated more than 20 hours a week to my work as Board Member
- ✓ Completed California School Boards Association Master-in-Governance trainings within the first year
- ✓ Attended over 28 school events to meet with students, teachers and parents
- ✓ Attended over 13 parent workshops including LCAP meeting and parent advisory workshops
- ✓ Attended more than 28 school events to meet with students, teachers and parents.
- ✓ Attended over 17 school district events and represented the school board
- ✓ Proactively addressed and acted on every single parent distance learning question on social media
- ✓ Initiated AUSD information booth at Alhambra Farmers Market, attending weekly to inform parents and community of the latest AUSD news
- ✓ Constantly provide the latest and the greatest AUSD information on social media to keep all parents informed.
- ✓ Volunteered to pick up and deliver food donation from the community and local businesses for ATA. Personally donated and picked up over 400 bottles of water for volunteers at the August 29th Feed Alhambra Food Drive and participated as volunteer at the event.
- ✓ Visited all AUSD high schools and many elementary schools, including Fremont, Park, Emery Park, Brightwood, Marguerita and Monterey Highlands.
- ✓ When fire broke out at Alhambra High School on Jan 2, 2020, I immediately visited the site and assessed the damage with Superintendent and other district administrators.
- ✓ When an incident happened at AHS this year, I immediately contacted the Superintendent, and began working on the solutions. Within a few weeks, all the facts of the incident were gathered and appropriate follow-up taken.

MY PASSION AS AN AUSD SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER: EDUCATION IS THE ENGINE OF THE OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE

- ❖ Use my professional expertise in design and construction for the on-going District modernization projects. Improve campus safety
- ❖ Contribute to AUSD Career Technical Education program with my professional architecture training, background and experience
- ❖ Build a communication bridge between parents and the school district. Connect with parents with diversity of experiences, viewpoints and background
- ❖ Act as a personal resource to help our Chinese speaking parents and students

- ❖ Advocate for public education and the school district in our community

MY OTHER COMMUNITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Served as Planning Commissioner for City of Alhambra (2018-2019)
- Served as Design Review Board Commissioner for City of Alhambra (2011-2018)
- Volunteer and member of the Board of Directors for Los Angeles Chinatown Firecracker Run Committee - a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to the promotion of health and fitness, and cultural awareness through community events (2005-present)
- Served on the Los Angeles Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA/LA) and the Chinatown Community Advisory Committee (CCAC), represented local community organizations appointed by the former Los Angeles City Council (2008-2012)



PHOTO CAPTION: Alhambra Unified Board Member, Wing Ho, center second row, joins the Alhambra High School cast and crew of "The High School Musical," and AHS director of Dramatic Arts, Rachel Snow, far right second row, at the last rehearsal before their live April 2019 performance. "I love this photo," says Ho. "It was so inspiring to see the students putting their hearts, souls, and all their energy into this uplifting musical. Arts education makes such a difference to our students, helping them develop skills they will need in their futures: a spirit of collaboration, a commitment to practice, tenacity, and focus."



PHOTO CAPTION: At dawn on January 2, 2020, hours after the triumphant Alhambra Unified All District Marching Band performed in the 2020 Rose Parade, a fire broke out at Alhambra High School. AUSD Board Member, Wing Ho, who is an architect, design and construction professional, arrived on the scene early to assess the destruction. With Mr. Ho's help and the hard work of many at AHS and throughout the District, the school was able to open in time for the spring semester classes to begin on January 6, 2020, despite the fire damage.



PHOTO CAPTION: Alhambra Unified Board Member, Wing Ho, center leaning toward speaker, engages with group of students at a January 2020 AUSD Student Parent Forum to hear directly from parents and students about their experience, needs and hopes in order to develop Board policies that factor in student voice. Also participating in this informal Friday evening dinner and discussion were AUSD Cabinet members, Board of Education members, and ATA President Tammy Scorcia.