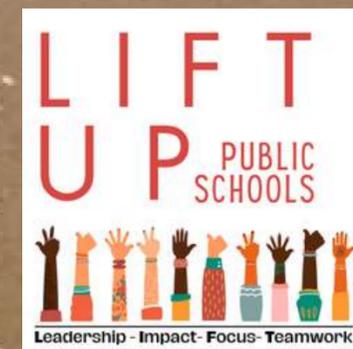


Coalition Building for Greater Community Impact



Starting Point

- Overview
- What brings you here



How LUPS Came to Be

- Grassroots organizations working in parallel
- Recognition that solidarity increases impact
- Shift from siloed advocacy to coalition-building



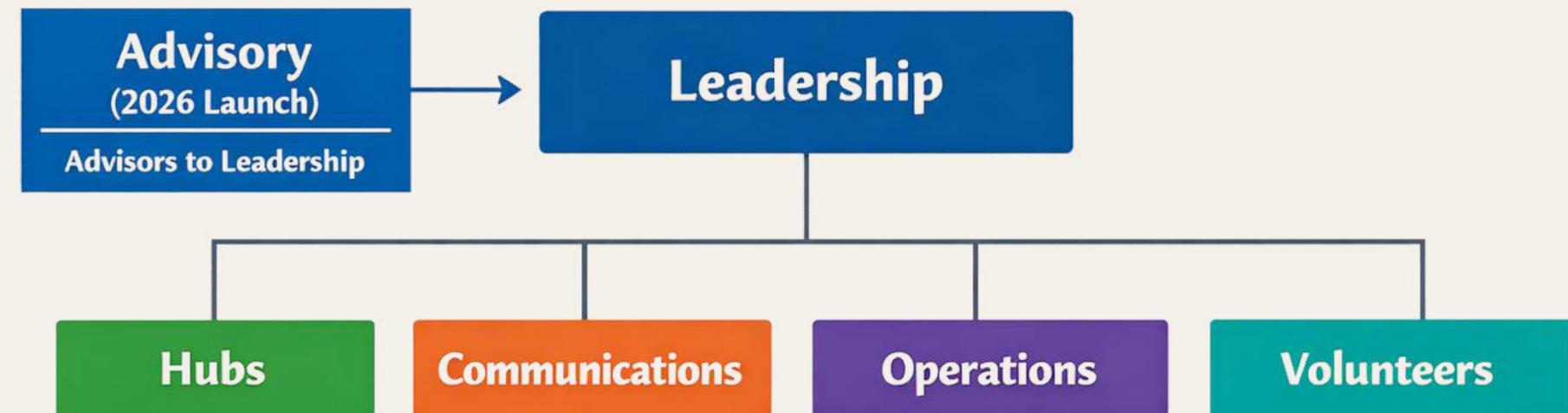
What is LUPS?

An all-volunteer coalition of grassroots groups from Contra Costa and Alameda Counties advocating for excellent public education delivered in settings that are safe and welcoming to all

Mission: To advocate for high-quality public education that values diversity, equity, and inclusion

Vision: A vibrant, democratic society of compassionate, well informed, engaged community members

LUPS Org Chart



Partnerships Are Key



**Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek,
Orinda-Moraga-Lafayette**



MT. DIABLO
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



San Ramon Valley
Unified School District



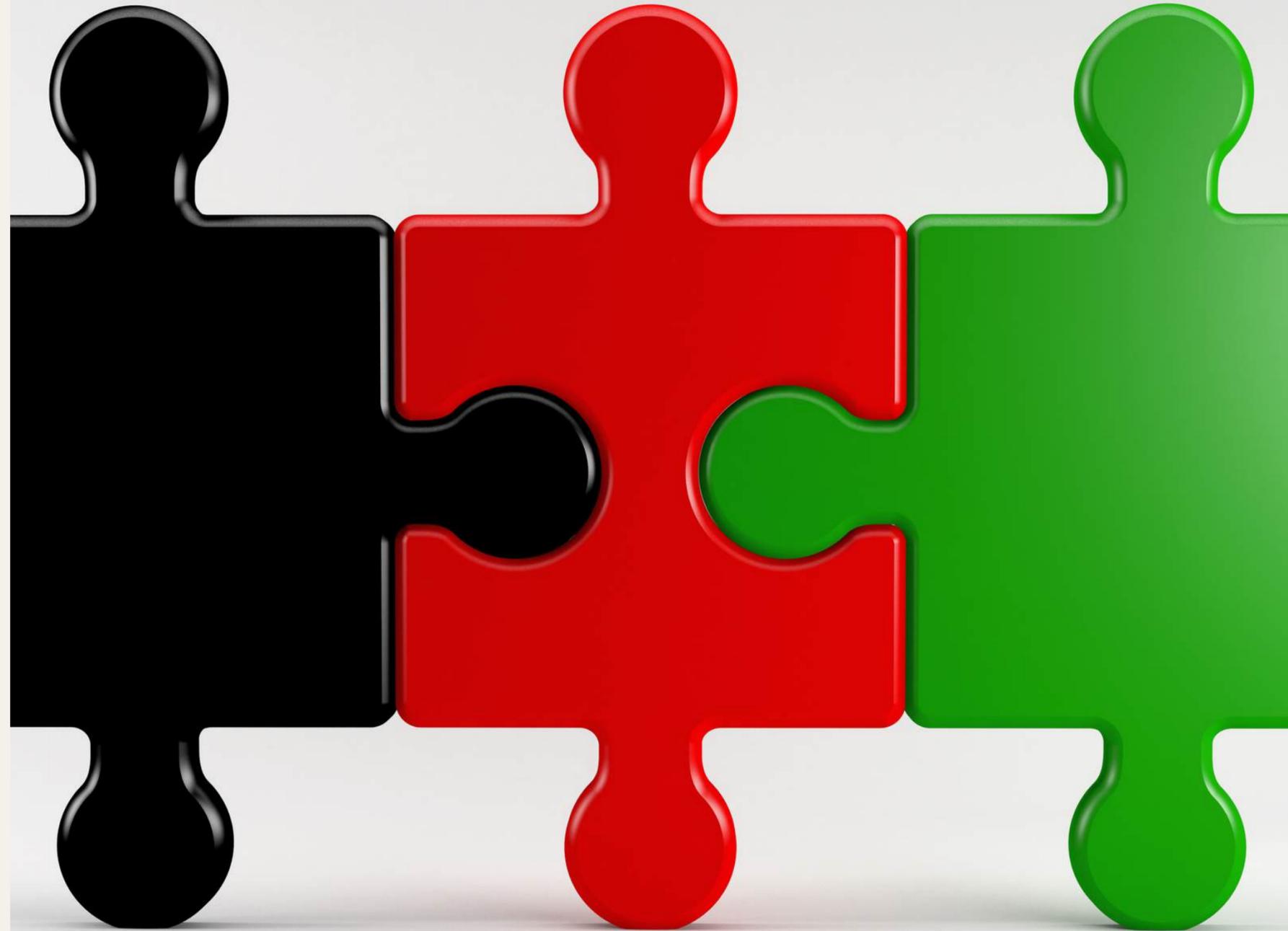
Walnut Creek

Contra Costa & Alameda County

A Sampling of Partnerships

Why Coalitions Work

- The collective power of community
- Greater resilience over time
- Finding common ground
- Building broader community buy-in and trust
- Strengthening advocacy through diverse perspectives
- Sharing resources, expertise, and workload
- Increasing credibility with decision-makers



LUPS Successes

- Coalitions formed or strengthened
- Increased school board monitoring
- Community education and training efforts



Success Stories

CANDIDATE SUPPORT

SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPPORT

GRASSROOTS UPSKILLING

LUPS SUMMIT

LUPS Summit

School Board Panel



Student Participation

Invitation

2024
LIFT UP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SUMMIT

Attend this summit to network across school districts, share challenges and successes in the fight to protect excellent public education, and build the collective impact of our emergent coalition.

SPEAKERS INCLUDE

Liz Mikitarian Founder, Stop Moms For Liberty;
Daniel Gross, Student, Monte Vista High School;
Erin Choin, Sunol Unified School District Board Recall Committee
Dianne Jones, Trustee, Fremont Unified School District Board;
Heidi Gatty, President, Walnut Creek School District Board;
Chad Curran, Parent, Orinda

Plus District Breakouts, Networking, & Resource Area.

Are you ready to make a difference?

Saturday, April 13, 2024
1:30-4:30pm
Location: Walnut Creek, CA

Cost: Complimentary
Register:
<https://tinyurl.com/LUPSsummit2024Reg>

Registration required. Deadline April 10th. Limited Space.

REGISTER TODAY.



Social Media Website




LiftUpPublicSchools.com

Resource Fair



Program Book



1:30-2:00PM REGISTRATION & RESOURCE FAIR

Donner Room

2:00 WELCOME ADDRESS

*Katha Hartley, Democrats of Rossmoor
Rossmoor Summit Welcome*

*Erik Murray, Oak Impact
Introduction*

*Diana Rohini LaVigne, Sunol Recall Committee
Land Acknowledgment + Unveiling of Official Logo*

2:15 KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

*Liz Mikitarian Founder, Stop Moms For Liberty
Chad Curran, Parent, Orinda*

2:45 PANEL DISCUSSION

*Erin Choin, Sunol Unified School District Board Recall Committee
Heidi Gatty, President, Walnut Creek School District Board (Moderator)
Daniel Gross, Student, Monte Vista High School
Dianne Jones, Trustee, Fremont Unified School District Board*

3:15 PM BREAK-OUT SESSIONS

Tahoe Room

4:00 PM RECONVENE & CLOSING

Katha Hartley, Democrats of Rossmoor

4:15PM-4:30PM NETWORKING

Tahoe Room

LUPS Marketing

Instagram



LIFT UP PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Name + LOGO



Website



Facebook

LUPS Challenges

- Volunteer capacity
- Coordination across groups
- Sustaining engagement
- Decisionmaking
- Group norms



Local Hubs in Action

- Who came together
- What actions they took
- What changed because of collaboration

Why Hubs Matter

- District-specific knowledge
- Relationship-based influence
- Impact beyond election cycles





Lift Up Public Schools Presents THE PUBLIC EDUCATION

Webinar Series



School Districts 101: How They Work

From budgets and board meetings to charters, mandates, and local control, school districts shape far more than most people realize. Learn how California school districts function, what's changing across the Bay Area, and why understanding the system matters now more than ever.

FEB
26
2026
7-8:30pm

MAR
26
2026
7-8:30pm

School Board Trustees: Leadership That Serves Everyone

A strong school board trustee understands governance, not just opinions—balancing education, finance, facilities, and student well-being while making decisions that serve the entire community. This webinar breaks down what the role truly requires and how voters can evaluate whether candidates are prepared to lead responsibly.



Why School Boards Matter to Everyone

School boards don't just govern schools—they impact housing markets, local businesses, and the future of our communities. Learn why these often-overlooked elections matter to everyone, and how school board seats frequently serve as stepping stones to higher public office.

APRIL
23
2026
7-8:30pm

Free!

RSVP Now At: <https://bit.ly/4ps82k4>

www.LiftUpPublicSchools.com



SCAN ME!

LUPS 2026 + Beyond

- Preparing for trustee elections
- Supporting local pro-public education leaders
- Outreach: LUPS Public Education Webinar Series
- Media/ Press as partnership
- Support for Local Hubs
- Skill-building and shared learning
- Building out our volunteer base
- Expanding coalition reach
- Ongoing connection

Step One: Change Making

- Small actions add up
- Coalition work is shared work
- Start where you are
- Identify where you live/ Your District
- Local focus increases impact (Pick One)



Step Two: Find Your People

- Reach out to two or three people
- Same district, any background
- Relationships come first
- Attend a board meeting
- Use AAUW CA School Board Project toolkit
- Observe, listen, learn



Step Three: Build Knowledge/Connections

- Who is advocating for public education
- Who sits on the board
- Who is up for election
- Share research
- Align around values
- Support pro-public education candidates together



What Next?

- Leave today with Confidence, Clarity, and Connection
- Support from LUPS, as needed
- Invite discussion
- Sign up to learn more (eg LUPS webinar series)
- Share contact information
- Encourage follow up
- Take one simple step today



LUPS Website QR



Connect

Website

www.LiftUpPublicSchools.com

Email

info@LiftUpPublicSchools.com

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/LiftUpPublicSchools/>

Instagram

[instagram.com/liftuppublicschools](https://www.instagram.com/liftuppublicschools)



LUPS Webinar
Series QR

Q & A



Ogie Strogatz



Diana Rohini