

2026-2027 RCCD Student Trustee Candidate Statements

Riverside Community College District students may vote Tuesday, May 19 - Wednesday, May 20, 12pm.

To vote, visit <https://forms.cloud.microsoft.com/Forms/ViewForm.aspx?FormID=1234567890>



My name is Jessica Zenteno, and I am a dedicated student leader, community advocate, and proud representative of Riverside City College. As a non-traditional student who returned to higher education after navigating real-life responsibilities, I understand firsthand the challenges many of our students face, balancing school, work, family, and personal growth. Over the past several years, I have served in multiple leadership roles across RCCD, including as a College Corps Fellow, Program Assistant for the Community Action Leadership Academy (CALA), and Executive Director within student government. Through these experiences, I have contributed over 3,000 hours of service to our campus and surrounding community, working alongside students, faculty, and local organizations to expand access to resources, strengthen community partnerships, and uplift student voices. My leadership is rooted in service, connection, and action. I have helped coordinate large-scale community events, supported student engagement initiatives, and used digital platforms to increase awareness of campus resources, mental health services, and opportunities for student success. I believe that every student deserves to feel seen, supported, and empowered throughout their educational journey. As Student Trustee, I will serve as a strong and intentional voice for students across the district. I am committed to advocating for increased access to mental health and wellness services, expanding support for non-traditional, international as well as student parents, and strengthening pathways j



Hello fellow RCCD students, my name is Adela Gonzales. As a former foster youth I know the importance of compassionate people helping people. Growing up in the foster system, I went hungry, unhoused, and unprotected. This created a passion in me for encouraging and supporting others to thrive. My background as a public servant for RCCD students, includes roles as a Basic Needs & mental health Ambassador, Chief Justice of ASRCC, and current ASRCC Senator- which has prepared me for this opportunity. My public service journey began by bridging gaps in basic needs. Over the years, I've hosted a series of events dedicated to hunger and homelessness awareness and prevention, connecting countless students with vital service organizations. I collected necessary first-hand insights from students. Food was proven to be a huge educational barrier. Identifying this gap meant that something needed to be done. Though peer-to-peer outreach, legislation was developed. On September 28, 2024, AB2033 came to life- requiring CCCs and UCs to accept EBT in a designated zone on campus. I then started my mission to assist the cafeteria in inquiring about an EBT card reader that we received in 2025, and now- after years of advocating, the cafeteria is accepting EBT in 2026! Students should be focusing on their education and campus life, not worrying about housing or their next meal. It's equally essential we continue developing strategies to support RCCD unhoused population. Some students suggest allowing student parking overnight. What are your thoughts on this as a temporary solution? As your Chief Justice, I upheld the integrity of our student government, ensuring that every student's rights were protected under our governing documents. And as your current Student Senator, I have been your voice in the room, advocating for policies and initiatives that put you first. These experiences have given me the opportunity to understand the services RCCD provides for students, student rights, and the many students who do not know they exist. Given this opportunity as Student Trustee, I will continue to represent our students at RCCD by encouraging everyone to express their needs to ensure they have an exceptional college experience with supportive governing documents. As your Student Trustee, I am dedicated to representing our students across RCCD by fostering an environment of hope, where your needs are heard and addressed. Vote Gonzales! I put students first by advocating for initiatives- directly from students, that improve campus life. What would you like to see implemented and or improved on campus? Please don't hesitate to reach out! Visit my website to find out more! www.StudentTrusteeGonzales.com
Cellphone: 9951-889-3081 Email: Honorablegonzales@gmail.com



I'm an active participant in College Corp. I was a former senator of student government and I'm an active member with several different clubs on campus: Law Society, & BLT, Google Developer Club, Aerospace Club, WysCybersecurity Club, and Cybersecurity Club, & Film Club to name a few. Serving as a student trustee is not about holding a title—it is about holding responsibility. It means recognizing that every policy discussed, every budget approved, and every decision made carries real consequences for real students with real struggles, ambitions, and futures. If entrusted with this role, I will lead by listening first. Too often, students feel decisions are made around them rather than with them. I will actively seek out voices that are usually unheard—the students balancing work and school, those navigating financial hardship, those who feel disconnected or overlooked—and make sure their experiences shape the conversation at the highest level. Impact also requires transparency. Students deserve to understand not just what decisions are made, but why they are made. I will work to bridge the gap between governance and the student body by communicating clearly, consistently, and honestly. Trust is built when students feel informed, not excluded. But listening and transparency are only the foundation. Action is what gives them meaning. I will advocate for practical, measurable improvements: expanding access to mental health resources, pushing for affordability and financial support, strengthening academic pathways, and ensuring that campus policies reflect equity, not just intention. Most importantly, I will approach this role with accountability. I will not assume that good intentions are enough—I will measure success by outcomes. Are students better supported? Are barriers being reduced? Are more students able to thrive, not just survive? If the answer is no, then the work is not done. Being impactful as a student trustee is not about speaking the loudest in the room—it is about making sure the right voices are heard and turned into meaningful change. I will carry that responsibility with urgency, humility, and a commitment to leave this institution better than I found it—for every student, not just a few.