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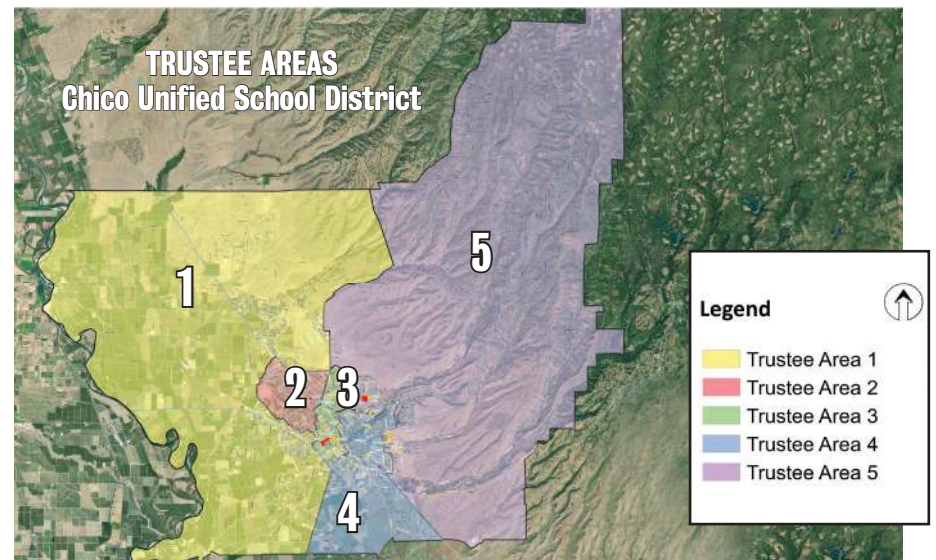
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Rebecca Konkin, Area 1



Scott Thompson, Area 1

a good way. So we should give kids the tools they need to be an informed citizen in the 21st century.”

The “mashed potatoes and gravy” paradigm has yielded, elsewhere, parental protests over CRT, a college-level curriculum not taught at the K-12 level but nonetheless debated by school boards. Robinson, Lando and Thompson (a facilities construction manager for Butte County) relayed concerns about socio-political issues polarizing CUSD along similar lines as COVID policy.

“I thought that the school board was running well for years, up until the pandemic came along,” Thompson said. “We’re seeing the radicalization of school boards ... I’m worried about someone coming onto the board who isn’t somebody like me, who has more extreme views, who is going to make policy and inform the learning experience that my five kids are all going to go through.

“I don’t have an agenda to push,” he added. “I have an agenda of things that I want to see continue or happen, but really be pragmatic and look at information, take it in and make informed decisions.”

Fellow newcomers Konkin, a pediatric nurse practitioner, and Wilson, an agricultural broker, echoed that sentiment.

“When I considered even running for school board, much of my comfort level was, ‘Oh, it’s nonpartisan, this will be fine,’ but I quickly realized it doesn’t seem that way,” Konkin said. “I have never been a particularly politically charged person.... [If elected,] I would uphold the nonpartisan idea; I would not make my decision based upon how another board member makes a decision.”

Said Wilson: “I hate it for a school board to be politicized. It’s a disservice to the kids and to the parents.”