

# William Soland

## Tucson Unified School District No. 1



I am an attorney, a father, and a geek, running for TUSD school board. I am running to dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline, to protect the district's most vulnerable students, and to defend public education.

As an attorney I have dedicated my career to being a champion for the most vulnerable members of our community. I have represented victims of domestic violence, prevented wrongful evictions, and ensured that my clients had access to the benefits they need to survive. Since 2014 I have worked as a public defender, speaking for the voiceless. Many of my clients have been caught in the system since they were children. This cycle disproportionately impacts students of color and students with disabilities. As a member of the TUSD Governing Board, I aim to break the cycle that keeps sending kids from school to prison. We need to decrease our reliance on armed security and build a restorative discipline model that allows

children to thrive.

As a father of two – my oldest is in TUSD, my youngest is still in daycare – I care deeply about how our students are treated. This summer the United States Supreme Court threw away 50 years of legal precedent by overturning *Roe v. Wade*. Now Arizona's Attorney General is working to revive a zombie law from before 1912 that would criminalize anyone who helped in an abortion. Bodily autonomy can no longer be taken for granted in this new legal landscape. We need to ensure that students, teachers, and staff at TUSD schools are safe: We need a district policy that prevents anyone at TUSD from revealing reproductive health details to law enforcement. The privacy and autonomy of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual students, teachers, and staff must also be protected. As a member of the TUSD Governing Board, I would move to ensure all of our students, teachers, and staff are provided with an environment where they can thrive.

As a geek, learning has always been exciting to me. I love new experiences, I seek out new information about our world. Because of this, I believe that our public schools are the foundation of our society. Right now, they are being drained by the Governor and Legislature through a scam that sends public tax dollars to private schools without any accountability. Unlike public schools, private schools may use our tax dollars to discriminate through the admissions process. The con artists pushing this scheme call it "school choice," but Arizona's Department of Education estimates that 75% of the students that benefit were never public school students in the first place. As a member of the TUSD Governing Board I would defend our public schools, and ensure that what little funding we do get is spent to support TUSD students, teachers, and staff.

I am devoted to fighting for TUSD. Learn more at [www.soland4tUSD.com](http://www.soland4tUSD.com).