**BOARD COMMUNICATIONS**

**INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT – DR. SARA NOGUCHI**

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**CHIEF ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICER – DR. TERESA CUMMINGS**

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**CHIEF COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER – GABE ROSS**

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Legal counsel has prepared the following information for Board members on political campaigns and laws governing the use of public resources:

There are a number of laws addressing campaigns and the use of public resources. Any Board members who do not want to be found in violation should consult with private counsel. The following are the sections that most frequently arise regarding incumbent board school member campaigns and use of public resources.

First, there is Education Code 7054 (attached) which uniquely applies to all school district candidates. Section 7054(a) states that: "No school district or community college district funds, services, supplies, or equipment shall be used for the purpose of urging the support or defeat of any ballot measure or candidate, including, but not limited to, any candidate for election to the governing board of the district." This legislation was the result of the efforts of Quentin Kopp, the former State Senator and retired San Mateo County Superior Court Judge.

Section 7054 contains broad language intended to create a clear dividing line between campaigns and the use of public resources. Section 7054(c) states that a violation of this section may be punishable as a misdemeanor or a felony. Therefore, it would be prudent for incumbent candidates to conduct their campaigns with these criminal sanctions in mind.

Second, there is the mass mailing rule under the Political Reform Act (PRA) and is described in Title 2 California Code of Regulations section 18901 (attached). It prohibits the featuring of an elected official at public expense if a flyer, or other similar items (as defined in the Regulation), is sent in excess of 200 substantially similar items within a single calendar month. Certain announcements are permitted in (b)(9)(A) but as set forth in (9)(B), any such announcement "...shall not include the elected officer's photograph or signature and may include only a single mention of the elected officer's name except as permitted elsewhere in this regulation." The definition of "Features an elected officer" under 18901(c)(2) is any mailed item that "...includes the elected officer's photograph or signature, or singles out the elected officer by the manner of display of his or her name or office in the layout of the document, such as by headlines, captions, type size, typeface, or type color."
There are narrowly tailored exceptions to the mass mailing rule in the Regulation. It is based on Government Code 89001 which simply states: "No newsletter or other mass mailing shall be sent at public expense." Unlike section 7054, which targets school districts and community colleges, the mass mailing rule applies to any elected officer of an agency.

Approved by:

Sara Noguchi, Ed.D., Interim Superintendent ☒ Date: 2/28/2014
As of February 24, 2014, the referendum to repeal AB1266 or the School Success and Opportunity Act, has failed. As a result, the law which was signed by Governor Jerry Brown on August 12, 2013, and went into effect January 1, 2014, will not be repealed. AB1266, which allows students access to programs, bathroom and locker room facilities and activities based on their gender identity rather than their biological sex at birth, is in line with Sacramento City Unified School District’s recently approved Transgender and Gender Variant Student Policy. For any questions about AB1266, the Transgender and Gender Variant Student Policy or SCUSD’s LGBTQ Support Services, please call Connect Center at 643-7997.
From the Office of the Superintendent

To the Members of the Board of Education

Prepared by: Nichole Wofford

Contact Email: Nichole-Wofford@scusd.ed

Subject: LGBTQ Conference

SAVE THE DATE!

The Sacramento City Unified School District and the Gender Health Center present:

No Time to Lose:
A Professional Conference to Activate Change for LGBTQ Youth

Friday, April 4
8am-5pm
SCUSD Serna Center

This all-day conference on the needs of LGBTQ youth includes more than a dozen presentations on topics such as bullying prevention, gender expression, harm reduction, counseling, school climate and college readiness. The conference also features a youth panel, book fair, resource tables and more. Speakers include West Sacramento Mayor Christopher Cabaldon, CSUS Professors David Nylund and Todd Migliaccio, and spoken word artist Fong Tran. Registration information will be available soon. Stay tuned!

Approved by:

Sara Noguchi, Ed.D., Interim Superintendent

Date: 2/28/2014
From the Office of the Superintendent

To the Members of the Board of Education

Prepared by: Gabe Ross, Chief Communication Officer

Contact Email: Gabe-ross@scusd.edu

Subject: Read Across America Day Event

Please be advised that State Superintendent Tom Torlakson and CTA President Dean Vogel will read to third-grade students at David Lubin Elementary School on Monday, March 3, in celebration of Read Across America Day. Read Across America Day is an annual event sponsored by the National Education Association to promote literacy and honor the birthday of Theodor Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss. Superintendent Torlakson will read “Thank You, Mr. Falker,” written by Patricia Polacco in tribute to an elementary school teacher who inspired and motivated her and in thanks to all teachers. The event begins at 9:30 a.m. and we expect it to be covered by local media.

Approved by:

Sara Noguchi, Ed.D., Interim Superintendent  ☒ Date: 2/28/2014
From the Office of the Superintendent

To the Members of the Board of Education

Prepared by: Gabe Ross, Chief Communications Officer

Contact Email: Gabe-ross@scusd.edu

Subject: Sacramento Bee Story on Pink Slips

The Sacramento Bee is working on a story about area districts and the number of projected certificated pink slips each is anticipating. The story is also focused on whether or not area districts plan on hiring new teachers this year.

You are reminded that we have limited lay-offs this year. Employees receiving pink slips are only those whose funding source for 2014-15 has not been identified.

Approved by:

Sara Noguchi, Ed.D., Interim Superintendent

Date: 2/28/2014