

Agenda Item:
7.1 Approve Resolution No. 3157: Reimagine School Safety & Dismantle
Structural Racism

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting
July 16, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Evan Minton
Comment:	<p>My name is Evan Minton. I fully support SCUSC ending their contract with law enforcement. Raising a growing child of color who has special needs, I am fully aware that he is at the intersection as a target for police violence and harassment. I am fully aware that there is a very well-established, extremely unjust school-to-prison pipeline that disproportionately impacts kids like the one I help raise. I am aware that this sweet boy is getting bigger just about every day and that the color of his skin, his natural tendency to ask many questions, and his slowness to be able to interpret a situation put him at an increased risk of death and violence at the hands of law enforcement. I have also seen him blossom under the care of counselors and caring adults. I ask that you usher out what is not serving all our students equitably and usher in what does. It's past time.</p>

Speaking as: Community Member

Date/time Stamp: 7/14/2020 5:20:58 PM

Agenda Item:
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Board of Education Meeting

July 16, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Ya Cha
Comment:	Police officers on school campuses build strong rapport and engage with students to build a positive image. SROs stay visible to keep criminals off campus and discourage potential mass shooting. SROs are of all colors, so the idea that eliminating police officers stops racism is ludicrous. In gang, crime and drug infested neighborhoods, we need police officers to keep our schools and children safe. They also respond faster to emergency situations in the surrounding neighborhoods to keep people safe. Please keep our police officers, staffs and students need to feel safe in school.

Speaking as: Parent and employee

Date/time Stamp: 7/14/2020 10:09:35 PM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting
July 16, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Justin Leung
Comment:	<p>Greetings School Board Members,</p> <p>My name is Justin Leung, a senior from Rosemont High School, and I sincerely hope that all of you are safe and doing well during this pandemic. We live in a tumultuous time right now and it's important to remember that even though we are fighting to end this outbreak everyday, that does not take away from the importance of lasting reforms within our schools for both families and students.</p> <p>With that in mind, I'd like to bring your to attention as to why I am writing to you today. As I'm sure you are all aware, the proposal in Resolution 3157 currently states that there will only be 1 student from Sacramento among the task force that will be designated to determine where the funds that were cut from the district's contract with the Sacramento Police Department will allocated.</p> <p>Just like how I hope you are taking my voice as a student seriously, I seriously believe that it is incredibly important that we expand the emphasis and influence of student voices within our district. As such, I am proposing an amendment to Resolution 3157 that will allow 3 student representatives, rather than 1, onto the task force. This will allow the students of Sacramento to clearly voice their opinions through the words of multiple representatives, rather than be stifled and limited to a singular student who is supposed to advocate for the entirety of Sacramento's students on our behalf.</p> <p>If you hold the voices and opinions of your students with any regard, then I implore you to consider this amendment to the Resolution and allow for our voices, which I hope you value, to be heard even louder.</p> <p>Like you did with cancelling the contract with the Sacramento Police Department and SROs, I know you can and will make the right decision once again.</p> <p>Best wishes,</p> <p>- Justin Leung</p>

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Name:	Mya Dosch
Comment:	I am strongly in favor of Resolution No. 3157 as a first step to making our schools safer and more equitable. Please approve this resolution as one way to breaking the school-to-prison pipeline in Sacramento. With all of these stakeholders at the table, we can come up with more humane responses that are led by social workers and mental health professionals, not police officers.

Speaking as: Community Member

Date/time Stamp: 7/15/2020 9:41:42 AM

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Board of Education Meeting

July 16, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Erin Mahoney
Comment:	I'm writing in support of Resolution No. 3157. It is unconscionable to have police in schools - it has done nothing to increase safety or prevent tragedy, and instead has criminalized children and created an environment of fear and control that especially victimizes Black and Brown students. These funds should be diverted to efforts that actually support and nurture our children - school counselors, after school programs, and nurses, to name just a few.

Speaking as: Community Member

Date/time Stamp: 7/15/2020 10:30:35 AM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

July 16, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Melanie Saeck
Comment:	<p>I am writing to express my concern with police in schools. I strongly request that police be removed from schools and the the funds be redistributed to programs and services that support the students' health and wellbeing. Police in schools make students less safe. I experienced this myself as a child growing up. The police came after and threatened me instead of my rapist when I was a child. I was less safe as a child as a result of the police. This problem only escalates for students of color and students with disabilities. These students deserve to be safe from police violence. Police presence in schools also contributes to the school to prison pipeline, a major problem across the country that destroys lives and communities. You have the power to stop all of this and create a better local community by removing police from our schools. Thank you.</p>

Speaking as: Community Member

Date/time Stamp: 7/15/2020 11:25:00 AM

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Name:	Timothy Irvine
Comment:	I support removing police from schools and ending all contracts with Sac PD. I hope this is only the start of broader divestment from punitive systems and reinvestment in teachers and students, starting with our most marginalized students.

Speaking as: Community Member

Date/time Stamp: 7/15/2020 1:18:07 PM

Sacramento City Unified School District
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July 16, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Nkauj Iab Yang
Comment:	<p>Thank you President Jessie Ryan and school board members for this resolution. I encourage the board to refine the resolution language by including and explicitly stating the following -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1.) Include student and parent representatives to be part of the task force that reflect SCUSD's overall student population, focusing on vulnerable populations.2.) State that the task force will take part in designing and implementing the Alternative Safety Plan, and have oversight power to assess/audit/evaluate the implementation of the plan.3.) No future contracts with law enforcement.4.) Not allowing the military to recruit SCUSD students, especially targeting low-income students, and instead to increase SCUSD's college going culture. <p>In order to further address the root causes of systemic racism, I urge the school board to conduct training for all staff and faculty including implicit bias and trauma informed training. Thank you for your time.</p>

Speaking as: Community Member

Date/time Stamp: 7/15/2020 3:15:21 PM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting
July 16, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Teresa Flores
Comment:	<p>My name is Teresa Flores and I'm a parent of an incoming 5th grader at John Cabrillo and the Director of Organizing with Sacramento ACT. We are glad that the board is following through on its promise to pass a resolution and develop a task force to reimagine school safety. The cries of the community are finally being heard. However, we believe this resolution should be stronger by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Making it clear that there will be no future contracts with law enforcement. -Explicitly centering this resolution on student-voice and having them at the table; the stakeholders listed misses to truly engage students, parents, and teachers (i.e. OUSD language: "an inclusive, community-driven process – involving parents, students, teachers, school administrators, student support staff, the Black Organizing Project, and other community partners – for completing a revised District safety plan with strategies for enhancing student learning, safety, and wellbeing within the District; and") -The task force should not only provide recommendations, but design and implement the Alternative Safety Plan (centered in student-voice) and have oversight power. -Develop a pathway/plan to ensure the hire of anti-racist teachers, staff, and administrators. -Not allow the army to recruit our students (because low-income and students of color are especially targeted)- in Honor of Vanessa Guillen - and push for 4 year colleges and universities to have a stronger presence in our schools, especially where a larger population of low-income students are in.

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Date/time Stamp: 7/15/2020 5:04:10 PM

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Board of Education Meeting

July 16, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Asialyn Lee
Comment:	<p>I would like to urge the board to refine the resolution language to include and explicitly state the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Include student and parent representatives to be part of the task force that reflect SCUSD's overall student population, focusing on vulnerable populations.- State that the task force will take part in designing and implementing the Alternative Safety Plan, and have oversight power to assess/audit/evaluate the implementation of the plan.- No future contracts with law enforcement.- Not allowing the military to recruit SCUSD students, especially targeting low-income students, and instead to increase SCUSD's college going culture.

Speaking as: Student

Date/time Stamp: 7/15/2020 5:38:04 PM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

July 16, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Alma Lopez
Comment:	<p>Thank you for taking the step in the right direction in addressing systemic racism in our education system, starting with ceasing funding of the previous contract with SacPD.</p> <p>The resolution language, however, can be stronger and the action steps more intentional and explicit. As leaders of our district, I'm holding you to a high standard because we know more can be done.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ceasing funding is not an intentional commitment to no longer contract with law enforcement in the future. This commitment needs to be part of the resolution. (Understand that too much of our city and county budget goes to law enforcement, our education funds should be funneled to that agency).2. This resolution must be explicitly centered on student-voice and ensure students a seat at the table, especially those impacted by the school-to-prison-pipeline. The stakeholders currently listed in the resolution miss to truly engage students, parents, and teachers. The groups listed are reps that are already engaged at the district level in some way, shape, or form and it's convenient to add them to this task force (consider OUSD language i.e.: "an inclusive, community-driven process – involving parents, students, teachers, school administrators, student support staff, the Black Organizing Project, and other community partners – for completing a revised District safety plan with strategies for enhancing student learning, safety, and wellbeing within the District;").3. The task force was supposed to be set by the end of this month (not September).4. The task force should not only provide recommendations, but design and implement the Alternative Safety Plan (centered in student-voice) and have oversight power.5. Include an action step to conduct an equity audit on our district. AND

6. In Honor of Vanessa Guillen, our district should NOT allow the army to recruit our students and instead push for 4 year colleges and universities to have a stronger presence in our schools, especially where a larger population of low-income students are in.

More needs to be done and we are not shying away from the work. We are looking to your bold and courageous leadership. This resolution should not be another piece of paper.

Speaking as: Community Member

Date/time Stamp: 7/15/2020 5:43:24 PM

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Name:	Junior Goris
Comment:	Good evening School Board members, Superintendent Aguilar and Staff, I wanted to say THANK YOU for identifying the need in addressing Structural Racism. The horrific idea of racism has helped to some degree fuel higher suspension rates of brown and black students and assisted in feeding the school to prison pipeline. The parents of MLK applaud your commitment and stand with you as allies. Thank you.

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Date/time Stamp: 7/15/2020 7:44:50 PM

Agenda Item:
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Name:	Alison French-Tubo
Comment:	Thank you Board members, I am looking forward to seeing a new definition of school safety. I would call on all the parents and community members who were so energetic about this \$600,000 SCUSD budget item to now be energized to address city of Sacramento's police department budget of about \$150 MILLION and county of Sacramento's sheriff's office budget of about \$277 MILLION. One source for learning more is "The People's Budget Sacramento" which is active on multiple social media platforms.

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Date/time Stamp: 7/15/2020 10:43:13 PM

Sacramento City Unified School District
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July 16, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Lamaia Coleman
Comment:	<p>I support this resolution as a step towards creating a physically and emotionally safer environment to learn and grow in our district. I commend the board for this step.</p> <p>I also note that it is missing some important concrete actions and specifics in the wider struggle to eliminate racism's harmful effects on our students and staff.</p> <p>First, I call on you to add to the resolution, that there will be no future contracts with law enforcement.</p> <p>Next, the task force needs to be more inclusive and more powerful. Student voice needs to be centered including students who are perceived as "causing trouble". It also needs more teachers, classified staff and parents not already part of a formal district group.</p> <p>The task force also needs to have the power to design and have oversight over the implementation of the Alternative Safety plan, not just make recommendations. The African American Task force made a series of excellent, inter-related recommendations after much work, yet, to my knowledge, few of the recommendations have been carried out except not having SRO's next year which came after significant additional community pressure.</p> <p>Continuing work on the larger problem of racism, classism, and their impacts, the district needs to work to take down barriers to anti-racist staff and to create pathways to both invite in, and help create, anti-racist staff because they are few and far between.</p> <p>My neighbor and retired district nurse, Laurisa Elhai, shared an example of a barrier with me. She trained many interns and encouraged the talented ones who enjoyed working at schools, to become school nurses. They normally were excited until they heard the salary- they felt they couldn't pay off their school loans.</p> <p>One pathway to nudge existing staff towards anti-racism is implementing the unconscious bias training that existing board policy says all educators will take. Another</p>

	way is to require teachers to take anti-racism classes, potentially community lead, during induction, but outside of the school year.
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Speaking as: parent, district sub, SacACT member

Date/time Stamp: 7/16/2020 12:11:43 AM

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July 16, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Courtney Poole
Comment:	Please consider incorporating more restorative justice practices, counseling and wellness centers, and the community schools model

Speaking as: Community Member

Date/time Stamp: 7/16/2020 7:03:27 AM

Sacramento City Unified School District
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Name:	Carl Pinkston
Comment:	<p>The Black Parallel School Board wants to acknowledge the Sacramento City Unified School District first steps to begin the process of decriminalization of Black students by approving Resolution No. 3157: Reimagine School Safety and Work to Dismantle Structural Racism. However, the resolution appears to not fully address the issue of decriminalization in the context of police free school. For example: 1) the resolution doesn't explicitly state no future contracts with law enforcement; 2) the resolution doesn't state an inclusive, community-driven process – involving parents, students, teachers, school administrators, student support staff, the Black Parallel School Board, and other community partners; 3) task force should not only provide recommendations, but design and implement the Alternative Safety Plan (centered in student-voice) and have oversight power; and 4) conduct an equity audit.</p> <p>BPSB clearly understand that decriminalizing school will not end racism in our District, but a total transformation of the District within a 21st Century Education for Liberation environment is our north star. All students have the right to learn and the historical nature of all racist education institutions must be rooted out by policy, practice and education. Today, SCUSD has made a very small step to that end.</p>

Speaking as: Community Member

Date/time Stamp: 7/16/2020 9:07:28 AM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting
July 16, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Amanda Diamond
Comment:	<p>My name is Amanda Diamond and I am a community member who supports Sacramento ACT.</p> <p>While we are glad the board has heard the cries of the community in regard to SROs, we believe this resolution should be stronger by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Making it clear that there will be no future contracts with law enforcement.-Explicitly centering this resolution on student-voice and having them at the table; the stakeholders listed misses to truly engage students, parents, and teachers (i.e. OUSD language: "an inclusive, community-driven process – involving parents, students, teachers, school administrators, student support staff, the Black Organizing Project, and other community partners – for completing a revised District safety plan with strategies for enhancing student learning, safety, and wellbeing within the District; and")-The task force should not only provide recommendations, but design and implement the Alternative Safety Plan (centered in student-voice) and have oversight power.-Develop a pathway/plan to ensure the hire of anti-racist teachers, staff, and administrators.-Not allow the army to recruit our students - in Honor of Vanessa Guillen - and push for 4 year colleges and universities to have a stronger presence in our schools, especially where a larger population of low-income students are in.

Speaking as: Community Member

Date/time Stamp: 7/16/2020 6:24:58 AM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

July 16, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Heather Haight
Comment:	<p>My name is Heather Haight and I'm a member of Sacramento ACT. While we are glad the board has heard the cries of the community in regard to SROs, we believe this resolution should be stronger by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Making it clear that there will be no future contracts with law enforcement. -Explicitly centering this resolution on student-voice and having them at the table; the stakeholders listed misses to truly engage students, parents, and teachers (i.e. OUSD language: "an inclusive, community-driven process – involving parents, students, teachers, school administrators, student support staff, the Black Organizing Project, and other community partners – for completing a revised District safety plan with strategies for enhancing student learning, safety, and wellbeing within the District; and") -The task force should not only provide recommendations, but design and implement the Alternative Safety Plan (centered in student-voice) and have oversight power. -Develop a pathway/plan to ensure the hire of anti-racist teachers, staff, and administrators. -Not allow the army to recruit our students - in Honor of Vanessa Guillen - and push for 4 year colleges and universities to have a stronger presence in our schools, especially where a larger population of low-income students are in. <p>Let's right our history and create a more equitable, inclusive and flourishing experience for each student, family and all staff by making these very important changes.</p>

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Date/time Stamp: 7/16/2020 10:56:54 AM

Sacramento City Unified School District
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Name:	Alina Cervantes
Comment:	<p>I'm glad SCUSD is taking steps to change how we think about safety, but any plans for reimagining school safety must have students involved and must include a plan for recruiting, retaining, and rewarding effective anti-racist teachers.</p> <p>School safety isn't just about being physically safe, it's about feeling safe in the classroom. Our students will never have safety when we continue to handcuff them to racist union policies.</p> <p>We need to make it easier to get rid of teachers that are ineffective and have no desire to learn and adopt anti-racist pedagogy and evidence-based methods of instruction. We teachers deserve due process, but it should not take years of documentation and cost hundreds of thousands of dollars, if it works at all. Many principals don't bother trying. According to former LAUSD Superintendent Dr. John Deasy, they were spending in excess of \$250,000 to \$450,000 per performance-based dismissal — a cost equivalent to hiring up to 6 new teachers. How much is SCUSD spending? How many new, effective, anti-racist teachers could we have hired? Transfers also result in removing poorly performing teachers from high-income or higher-performing schools and placing them in low-income and low-performing schools where there are more vacancies and disproportionate numbers of Black and Latinx students. Union policies like “last-in, first out” force our district to base layoffs on hire dates instead of a teachers’ performance in the classroom. Again, seniority-based layoffs disproportionately impact poor and minority students.</p> <p>Racist policies result in racism. All children have a right to an excellent education. Their zip code or racialized identity shouldn't matter. That's a common campaign slogan, but we are tired of slogans. I will not support any candidate for school board that takes teachers' union money or police union money. All SCUSD children deserve an equal opportunity for learning. Don't just talk about it, be about it.</p>

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Date/time Stamp: 7/16/2020 11:04:40 AM

Agenda Item:
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Name:	Sarah Williams Kingsley
Comment:	Thank you Board Chair Jessie Ryan for offering this resolution to re-imagine safety in our schools. I hope the task force called for in the resolution is able to meet the proposed timeline and fulfills its purpose. Since the Capital of Suspensions report in 2018, many positive changes have been made to our school system. The community has been doing the work, and I am hopeful that the foundational work, including the African American Achievement Taskforce, will allow this next step to be less “starting from scratch” as a revisiting of established priorities to decide next steps. As a parent, I would like to see this review include streamlining behavior and discipline policies at school sites, both in practice and in school site handbooks.

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Date/time Stamp: 7/16/2020 11:26:56 AM

Agenda Item:
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Name:	Nancy Xiong
Comment:	<p>Hmong Innovating Politics is urging the board to refine the resolution language to include and explicitly state the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Include student and parent representatives to be part of the task force that reflect SCUSD's overall student population, focusing on vulnerable populations.- State that the task force will take part in designing and implementing the Alternative Safety Plan, and have oversight power to assess/audit/evaluate the implementation of the plan.- No future contracts with law enforcement.- Not allowing the military to recruit SCUSD students, especially targeting low-income students, and instead to increase SCUSD's college going culture. <p>Thank you.</p>

Speaking as: Community Member

Date/time Stamp: 7/16/2020 11:55:57 AM

Agenda Item:
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Name:	Leana Sanchez
Comment:	<p>To dismantle racism, you must be antiracist. Antiracist districts do not hire racist administrators, teachers, and staff. How do you recognize racism and racist structures already within our system? How do you empower and protect students, families, community members, and staff that speak out against racism? Please have the humility to acknowledge and repair harm. End bystander culture. We need to shift and align district, school, and classroom culture. Reading books about racism and implicit bias training alone will not rid our schools and classrooms of racism in time for the first day of school. Anti racism is a lifelong commitment, not a destination. It requires self and collective-awareness, analysis, action, and accountability. Requiring recommendations be received by December 2020 makes it difficult to take time to be inclusive, encourage democratic and thoughtful decision making, think long-term, and consider consequences. Funding proposals which expect too much for too little compromise the Task Force. You must allocate additional funds to invest beyond the repurposed \$600,000 safety budget to dismantle racism in the district. The Task Force will require systemic and structural support for years to come. What explicit support will the Task Force have to audit present systems and data to establish and assess equitable policies and practices? How will you ensure realistic funding proposals with realistic time frames and be clear about how you will make good decisions? Many well-intentioned people have traumatized students, colleagues, and community members. Our community-majority Task Force must also be reflective of student racial demographics. How will you address gas-lighting “ALL LIVES MATTER” and spiritual by-passing “love, light, peace”? How will you address anti-Blackness in Latinx communities? The Task Force must be supported by trauma-informed specialists as racially-sensitive information is processed and may retraumatize participants. Participants may need counseling support or affinity spaces.</p>

Speaking as: Employee

Date/time Stamp: 7/16/2020 11:57:29 AM