

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

October 7, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	10/6/2021 8:30:17 PM Kelly
Comment:	I am writing to encourage you to support our most vulnerable students and refuse to allow yet another inequitable and discriminatory action to be taken against them. Please prevent our Special Day Classes from being closed. This is a traumatic experience

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian
Email 10/6/2021 8:30:17 PM
Tel: 10/6/2021 8:30:17 PM
Date/time Stamp: 10/6/2021 8:30:17 PM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

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Name:	10/7/2021 7:23:21 AM Hassan
Comment:	Please reconsider not closing special classes at A.M. Winn. Such of short notice you give to those families. It's not healthy for the kids. Thanks for your time

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email 10/7/2021 7:23:21 AM

Tel: 10/7/2021 7:23:21 AM

Date/time Stamp: 10/7/2021 7:23:21 AM

From:
Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2021 2:45 PM
To: SCUSD Public Comment
Subject: SCUSD direction under our Superintendent

Warning! This message originates from OUTSIDE the District's email system. Please verify the sender and contents before opening attachments or clicking any links. Contact the Technology Services Help Desk at 916-643-9445 with any questions.

Superintendent Aguilar and Distinguished Board Members- As a person who is where he is as a result of hard work, my own education, good luck, not giving up when I have made big mistakes in my life and certainly also due to the privilege of my birth I want to commend the Superintendent for his continued commitment to equity and urge the Board to continue to support him. SCUSD exists as it's mission to serve the entire community. That means supporting more than just the kids that are easy to support who will make it on their own but also the kids who are struggling. Imagine for a moment being in one of two families by an accident of birth. The first family is a married couple who are well educated, financially secure and have two children who attend SCUSD in an affluent neighborhood where the parents can afford to make sure their kids can participate in sports or other activities. The second family is a single parent with multiple low wage jobs just to keep her two kids fed and a roof over their head. She had to drop out of school to work to help support her Mother and siblings. She can't have time to help her kids with school and if she did she would lose one of her jobs or not be able to feed her family. There is no extra money from her or the other parents in her neighborhood to help the kids get from place to place at their school to support their children being in sports or other activities. Which children have the advantage out of the two families? We need to serve those children with the greatest challenges and make sure they have our support and opportunities. Thank you again to Superintendent Aguilar and the Board.-Alan Daurie, Business Agent, proud parent and grandparent and representing the two Teamster bargaining groups,



Teamsters Local 150

Alan Daurie
Business Agent

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www.teamsters15u.org

From: Keri Cavin
Sent: Thursday, October 7, 2021 11:17 AM
To: SCUSD Public Comment
Subject: Requesting public comment

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I have submitted my written thoughts pertaining to the dissolve of the Special Day Class at A.M. Winn.

I would also like to speak on this agenda topic. I am unsure if the item number.

Respectfully,
Keri Cavin

From: Keri Cavin
Sent: Thursday, October 7, 2021 11:05 AM
To: SCUSD Public Comment
Subject: Public comment request for this evenings BoT meeting

Warning! This message originates from OUTSIDE the District's email system. Please verify the sender and contents before opening attachments or clicking any links. Contact the Technology Services Help Desk at 916-643-9445 with any questions.

It is with a heavy heart, tremendous disappointment, and extreme disgust at the district that I am writing to you all.

My name is Keri Cavin. My sons Aulin and Felix have begun their journey at A.M. Winn this fall in the 1st and 3rd grades. They are thriving. They are afforded this opportunity to join the Winn community because their father, Taylor Cavin, has been the SDC teacher 1-3 for the past five years. This year we transferred our boys from their private Waldorf education in El Dorado County to the Winn community for many reasons. Inclusiveness and diversity are two of the main reasons. I have been a private Waldorf teacher since 2007. I am currently enrolled in CalState Teach to obtain my California credential. The end goal was to join the staff at A.M. Winn and take my years of experience and education to a new level. With this recent decision and blatant disregard for NOT putting students first, I now have little desire to work for a district like yours.

Our SDC students have a school community that reaches beyond the walls of the SDC classroom. These students have their Speech Pathologist, Ms. Alyssa, who has been with many of them for their entire time at AM Winn, who is critical to their IEP team. Many of them have an OT provider that is a part of their services at Winn. Our SDC students are deeply connected to their Music teacher, Ms. Yeti, and their Movement teacher, Ms. Allesandri. Our SDC students are also engaged with general education classes that they are included in and to their neighboring Intermediate SDC class. Lastly, they are deeply connected to their teacher Mr. Cavin, and one another. If the district's plan is allowed to go through, our students will lose every one of these connections they have built.

- Our SDC students need time, support, and careful planning with transitions. They will have 5 days to prepare for this transition that will take them from everything and everyone they know in their school community. This is happening one month after returning to in-person learning, amid a global pandemic, and just as they are getting comfortable with this new rhythm.
- Our entire AM Winn community will suffer a substantial loss and we will be made less without them.
- SCUSD is beginning the process of addressing this backlog of IEP assessments, and as these assessments are completed, there will be students identified as needing the support of a Special Day Classroom. If SCUSD closes these SDC classrooms, we will not have the spaces or the qualified teachers to place these newly identified students.
- These short-term SDC closures to save money are being made on the backs of our most vulnerable students and their families, during a time when the district is financially stable.
- We will lose quality Special Education Teachers if these proposed cuts and moves are allowed to go through. Many of our teachers have their own children at the campus in

which they teach, and many have deep relationships within their school communities. Some of these teachers will leave SCUSD and find work in a neighboring district and some will choose early retirement.

- Teachers with a general education credential may choose to stay at their home school and fill a general ed vacancy. There is a teacher shortage everywhere and teachers have options. They may very well choose to find a district that will value them. When we lose some of these teachers (and we will), then we will see SDC students being moved into larger unknown SDC classrooms that still don't have a qualified Special Education Teacher to fill the position.
- Our Waldorf SDC teachers have had two additional years of Waldorf training, funded by the district.
- If the district closes our Primary SDC they will also be impacting our Intermediate SDC. Without the Primary grades to feed into our 4-6 grade classes we will ultimately be putting an end to our Intermediate SDC.
- AM Winn is a school of choice and we house the only Waldorf SDC in the district. Currently, SCUSD is offering the choice of public Waldorf to Special Ed and Gen Ed students. If our Special Day Classes are closed then the Public Waldorf experience will not be offered to our Special Education Students.

This is an equity issue.

The ASK is to allow this school year to continue without this unnecessary upheaval. Allow the backlog of IEP assessments to be processed, and reevaluate in June.

Respectfully,

Keri Cavin

From: Jennings, Lisa
Sent: Monday, October 4, 2021 8:53 AM
To: Christina Pritchett; Lisa Murawski; Darrel Woo; Leticia Garcia; Jamee Villa; Chinua Rhodes; Lavinia Phillips; Jorge Aguilar; Rose F. Ramos; Ronald Hickey; SCUSD Public Comment
Subject: Old Marshall School

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Greetings SCUSD Board and SCUSD Staff:

Just writing to let you know that yes, there is yet another neighbor who is hoping for the School District to sell the school to a developer for – ideally, housing, but other ideas could be viable. Not sure what the hold up is – maybe you can respond and let me know.

Thank you for your attention to my request and I look forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely,

Lisa Jennings

From: Joseph Pickar
Sent: Saturday, October 2, 2021 8:10 PM
To: SCUSD Public Comment
Subject: Oct 7 Public Comment

Item 7.0 Public Comment

Good evening members of the Board of Education,

My name is Joseph Pickar and I work in the Student Attendance and Engagement office. I come before you this evening advocating for the health and welfare of our office-technical staff at school sites. To put it simply, our staff are drowning.

With the immense workloads our office staff are facing each day, they are unable to meet all the requirements of their respective positions, especially our attendance staff, who are faced with a significant backlog. Several of my school technicians have told me that they are taking work home each day, working for several hours in the evening instead of spending time with their families as they try and get caught up. They are not paid for these additional hours, they do it because they are dedicated employees who take pride in their work.

Most of the reason that our school site office-technical staff are unable to meet their current workloads is because of the requirement of contact tracing. The health aides that have been provided to each school site are unable to meet the demand that they have, which is why school office staff and even Principals are aiding in the contact tracing.

At elementary sites, most Clerks are 3 ½ hour positions, with a handful exceeding this at 6 and 8 hours. These Clerks are hardworking, but there is a severe retention problem as the gas going to and from work each week is barely enough to justify the pay, which has created vacancies at several school sites that have been unfilled for months, leaving elementary school offices with one full-time Office Manager, who is expected to do the work of two people. Substitute classified staff are untrained in attendance and the Office Managers don't have enough time to train them. Trying to pile on contact tracing to an already tight schedule is just too much for some of our staff to handle.

Our attendance staff play a significant role in the District, ensuring that data is accurate as we collect ADA funding, but they also play a role in the support of our families. As most school sites don't have student support centers, attendance staff are the ones reaching out to families to keep them engaged and attending each day as we try to curb the learning loss that has been created by the COVID-19 pandemic. If attendance staff are unable to reach out to families because of an overly strained workload, then we risk having families fall further and further out of touch with their children's education and even worse, have more and more students unable to recover from the COVID-created learning gap.

I ask the Board to urge the hiring of additional Health Aides from Student Support Services and to inquire of Human Resources if the current payscale is fair and adequate for our office-technical staff and health aides, and to re-open the classified substitute hiring pool to see if we can get more temporary help while these permanent roles are filled.

Thank you.

Joseph Pickar
Child Welfare and Attendance Specialist
Sacramento City Unified School District
Student Attendance and Engagement