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**From:** Meredith Nikkel <  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 26, 2021  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Re: Comment on Closed Session for Tonight's SCUSD Special Board Meeting

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My name is Meredith Nikkel. I am a parent of a third grader and a fifth grader at Crocker Riverside Elementary. This is my first public comment to your board, though I have followed this board's history of negotiation with the Sacramento City Teachers Association for several years. I am a wholehearted supporter of our public servants, both at the district and within the teachers' union. My children have received excellent instruction from all of the teachers and other educators that they have been exposed to during their years at Crocker Riverside. For this, I thank you all for your hard and excellent work to make public education possible.

I am submitting a comment now because I believe that it is imperative that we all work tirelessly toward safely reopening all schools in the District. As you consider ongoing negotiation and discussions with the SCTA, I urge you each to find common ground and to exercise leadership in identifying a path toward reopening. As you do your internal work to prepare for future negotiations, please set your expectations on reopening, be prepared to listen with patience and direct the negotiations with a commitment to the public service you each are entrusted and empowered to provide. It may require leaps of faith and renewed trust. I believe we owe at least as much as this to the generation of students in the District's care.

Thank you.

—Meredith