

Sacramento City Unified School District  
**Board of Education Meeting**

**April 8, 2021 Public Comments**

Name:	Tim Hebert
Comment:	Recently, SCUSD decided to end its short but significant streak of labor negotiation wins, by unnecessarily declaring an impasse with SEIU. Like many recent negotiations with teachers, this one with classified workers ended with SCUSD throwing a tantrum, taking its toys, and going home. This is already a bad look. But SCUSD made itself look worse by sending a misleading communication to the public - in which the district made false and misleading claims about SEIU's most recent offer. Fact - SEIU is not asking for anything that other Classified employees in the region haven't achieved. Fact - SCUSD has the resources to meet SEIU's needs. Opinion - we should treat these essential workers with as much respect and care as we can, not as little respect and care as we can get away with. Board, I'm asking you to get the district back to the bargaining table and to complete an MOU with SEIU.

Speaking as: Community Member

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 4/8/2021 8:03:23 AM

Sacramento City Unified School District  
**Board of Education Meeting**

**April 8, 2021 Public Comments**

Name:	Richard Simms
Comment:	<p>To the Sacramento City Unified School District Board of Education:</p> <p>“IT IS WRONG to be unjust, to be dishonest, to hate. It is wrong now and was wrong 2,000 years ago... We have moved from the Darwinian theory of survival of the fittest to a theory of survival of the slickest. Everybody is busy obeying the 11th commandment-- Do not get caught.”</p> <p>Journal of Dr. Martin Luther King</p> <p>To release Dr. Mackey and Dr. Arellano-Simms of their positions as Instructional Assistant Superintendents is not just incredibly wrong and hypocritical; it’s down right a disgrace of how far we have fallen with the integrity of our leaders... more specifically, you Mr. Aguilar as well as your Chief Academic Officer, Christine Baeta. These actions have now become another barrier to the work of eliminating the discriminatory practices and hidden racism that we as educators have all been working so hard for many years to dismantle.</p> <p>When you arrived to our district, we thought you were going to bring some great changes and unity especially for the under represented minority population and the undocumented. But in fact, it is the opposite. More importantly we are losing many great principals and leaders. They are moving to neighboring districts. People like Mr. Rodriguez, Mr. Thomas, and others alike. All this upheaval is not bringing unity. No, it brings distrust and isolation. I am being very honest with you Mr. Aguilar. I’m telling you this because it’s all happening on your watch. This brings me to my next point— your chief officer, Christine Baeta.</p> <p>Mrs. Baeta was hired to our district from Elk Grove Unified as an Instructional Assistant Superintendent and was on “training wheels” and learning. Soon after, she was on the selection-interviewing panel to the job she now holds. This is a conflict. When interviewing said position, no one was forwarded, so she jumps into the pool and is awarded this position! Again, this is on your watch Mr. Aguilar. This is unfair and dishonest for the more highly qualified candidates that interviewed for this position.</p> <p>The “Team” of Instructional Assistant Superintendents are all very skilled and seasoned dedicated leaders in this community. Mary, Chad, Tu, Dr. Mackey and Dr. Arellano-</p>

Simms are among the best in the business and have been the backbone of the district in many areas for many years. I know this first hand. Since Dr. Mackey has been in charge of our school this year, Peter Burnett, our principal has been well informed and our community needs have always been met (especially during covid). As for Dr. Simms, from her humble child upbringing in Tangancicuato, Michoacán, Mexico, to the San Joaquin Delta as a child of migrant farmworkers all the way to her Doctorate degree in Education, has been stellar in all her endeavors. Her dedication of service to the needs of all families and communities has been her passion and destiny.

For Dr. Mackey and Dr. Arellano-Simms, it is unconceivable that they have been stripped of their service to the families and school communities that love them and that they represent. They are two very courageous and extremely educated women of color and valor. I was shocked when I heard of this along with many of the people at my school and in the district. And yes, I would be remiss if I did not ask our board members, who voted 7-0 to release both Dr. Mackey and Dr. Arellano-Simms, Did you not know why they were released? Why did you vote to release? Dr. Mackey and Dr. Simms still do not truly know. We need truth and trust within our district and for people like Dr. Mackey and Dr. Arellano-Simms, people of great stature; we must keep and retain great LEADERS—they are respected and are among our best educators and leaders—this is insanity.

As for you Mr. Aguilar, a person with the same upbringing as Dr. Arellano-Simms's whose family is also from Tangancicuaro, Michoacán, Mexico, why would you allow Mrs. Baeta to recommend release of Dr. Arellano-Simms and Dr. Mackey from their positions of Instructional Assistant Superintendents? Why? Not just one, but TWO women of color! In my culture, we call this "crabs in a bucket". This means pulling your people back down as they try to move up. For Dr. Simms, I'm sure for Dr. Mackey, this isn't about title or position, its simply respect, being treated with dignity and being valued as members of this community. For Olga Arellano-Simms---this is her life. I know this first hand—I am her husband, Coach Simms. Restore trust.

I strongly recommend for the Board to fully review the rationale and specific reasoning in releasing Dr. Mackey and Dr. Arellano-Simms from their positions as Instructional Assistant Superintendents. We need restorative justice and understanding especially for our people of color. This hidden agenda has become way too obvious this past year with Mrs. Baeta. It needs to be rectified immediately.

R. "Coach" Simms, Teacher/Coach/Counselor 43years, SCUSD, De La Salle Inst.

Speaking as: Employee

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 4/8/2021 8:22:11 AM

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**From:** Robyn Mutchler  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 8, 2021 11:43 AM  
**To:** SCUSD Public Comment  
**Subject:** Public comment before closed session

Hello and good evening,

As a parent of a 5th grader at William Land Elementary and as an Office Technician at JFK I implore you to consider these points in regards to negotiations with SEIU Local 1021:

1st: the districts lack of a real childcare plan for classified employees is awful, most classified employees have chosen this line of work to accommodate a similar schedule as our children. The districts proposal is less than what they are offering teachers, is that meant to put a wedge between your employees? As a mom I truly believe the safest place for my child is either with their cohort of students on campus or with his family bubble which means next to me with the safe working conditions.

2nd: the district attempting to undercut every stipend amount SEIU has proposed is disgusting. The amounts are such a small piece of the funds that are available to the district, and these stipends would be supporting our most vulnerable and underpaid employees!

thank you

*Robyn Mutchler*