

Sacramento City Unified School District
Special Board of Education Meeting
April 15, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	Karen Hankin
Comment:	Please direct the district to return to the table and negotiate with SEIU. Our classified staff keep the schools functioning. They work hard for our students and deserve your support.

Speaking as: Employee

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 4/14/2021 7:18:56 PM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Special Board of Education Meeting
April 15, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	Sath Taylor
Comment:	<p>Good evening board members - I am writing as a SCUSD parent, but also as a SCUSD teacher OF 19 years and am urging SCUSD to return to fair negotiations with SEIU that are in-line with the necessary safety protocols needed to safely return to in-person work. Our SEIU staff are the backbone of our district. They are essential to every element of our students daily school experiences; SEIU members safely transport our students from their homes to their schools, they provide them with nourishment, they look out for their safety and help keep things peaceful on our campuses, they work as aides to our most needy students, they are the first faces many of our students see first in the front offices, and are the ones who keep our classrooms clean and ready for the next day. They are ESSENTIAL. As such, they should not be treated as disposable, which is how I believe the SCUSD negotiations have treated these valuable employees. By trying to negotiate different safety guidelines than ones that have been previously agreed to with the SCTA teacher union, the district is giving the message that these employees are not as valuable. As a parent and an educator, this is unacceptable. SEIU must be given what they need to be able to safely return to work, not only for their own health but also to keep students healthy as well.</p>

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 4/14/2021 7:23:55 PM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Special Board of Education Meeting

April 15, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	Lori Jablonski
Comment:	Board members, the district is facing a completely avoidable 2-day strike action next week, in which many teachers like me, will join my SEIU colleagues on the picket lines in solidarity. There is one very clear, surefire way to avoid this: exercise your responsibility as elected trustees of these district and direct the Superintendent to immediately return to the bargaining table and act in good faith and with respect to reach an agreement with the district's utterly essential, woefully underpaid classified employees. How this goes next week is absolutely up to each of you. Please, do the right thing. Get back to the table and hammer out a deal. Thank you.

Speaking as: Employee

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 4/14/2021 8:07:27 PM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Special Board of Education Meeting
April 15, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	Rose Laz
Comment:	<p>This impasse with SEIU is a disgrace to SCUSD. Jorge Aguilar needs to start negotiations and support the staff who keeps the schools running. Move him out if he's unwilling to do his job. It is well overdue. He is an example of toxic leadership.</p> <p>Why can't the district provide assistance for childcare and PPE? The support staff deserve proper working conditions. Instead they choose to spending that money on useless legal fights with its own employees. As a parent, I'm appalled at the lack of support or respect shown for the staff and teachers that care for our children.</p> <p>And furthermore, bring 4thR back. To get rid of a 35 year relationship and program, with no parental input at a moment's notice, was wrong and shows how awful SCUSD leadership is. Parents do not forget how our children are used as pawns.</p>

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 4/14/2021 11:44:25 PM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Special Board of Education Meeting

April 15, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	Michelle Voelker
Comment:	Board members, I am urging you to direct Superintendent Aguilar back to the negotiation table with SEIU to avoid a work stoppage. Their strike, which SCTA has pledged solidarity with, will come on the first two days of secondary students returning after more than a year away from classrooms. Please don't let this happen. The issues that separate the district and SEIU are not big enough to cause a full work stoppage - especially for an MOU that ends June 30. Please direct the superintendent back to the bargaining table.

Speaking as: Employee

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 4/15/2021 7:57:32 AM

Sacramento City Unified School District
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April 15, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	Kimberly Stowell
Comment:	<p>As a teacher, I have worked REALLY hard this year to make the best of this Distance Learning situation for my students and families. It is unimaginable that, as we prepare to go back to our first days of on-campus learning next week (in secondary), I am being forced to decide between my students and my co-workers should this go to a strike. Every single player is important in this equation...the students/families, teachers, and classified staff. Students are so excited to return to school next week. We are doing them a disservice by not going all-in for their return. Teachers are being pulled in multiple directions at this time, and are now being asked to do so without the full support of classified staff, who honestly make schools function. How is this good for students? I urge you to demand that fair, reasonable, logical negotiations re-commence on behalf of SEIU, so that they can be supported, protected, and honored for all that they do to help our schools run. That is what is best for students.</p>

Speaking as: Employee

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 4/15/2021 7:58:04 AM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Special Board of Education Meeting

April 15, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	Cortnie Nelson
Comment:	<p>Hi, I'm a kindergarten teacher in the district. This is my first time ever writing a comment because I feel it is so important. I have loved being back in person with my kinders. They have amazed me all year with their ability to adapt to distance learning, schedule changes, changes to our routine. They loved our aide and always begged for the chance to go to a breakout room with her. She will not be returning this year, in part due to the district's unwillingness to accommodate, and my students are sad. Yet, as they have all year, they continue to show up for class and show resilience. My heart breaks for them. This is not how kindergarten should be! They do not deserve to go through another chaotic shift to the school year with a strike. Schools don't function without our SEIU members. SEIU deserves better and our students deserve better. Please, please, please do what is necessary to avoid a strike.</p>

Speaking as: Employee

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 4/15/2021 8:00:39 AM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Special Board of Education Meeting

April 15, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	Sara Bailey
Comment:	<p>Board Members and Superintendent Aguilar, I am a parent of third and sixth grade students in the district and I am a classified employee. I am an Instructional Aide in a SDC. I love my job and want to return to my site to work with students that have chosen to return. I am continuing to work remotely and will do so until there is an MOU between SCUSD and SEIU. Superintendent Aguilar you need to return to the bargaining table. You need to do what is right and offer your lowest paid employees the same level of care and concern that you have afforded teachers. Board members it is your responsibility to ensure that he does this and hold him accountable if he does not. I would look to board members Rhodes and Phillips for leadership. They are engaging with their communities and speaking for them at these meetings; asking the hard questions that need to be answered. They are putting equity into action and I implore you to follow their lead.</p>

Speaking as: Employee

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 4/15/2021 8:24:17 AM

Sacramento City Unified School District
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April 15, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	Kara Synhorst
Comment:	<p>This is the same district that spent practically a year and a half haranguing the media and creating a narrative that if only SCTA would come to the table and negotiate, we could get things done.</p> <p>And now, all SEIU wants you to do is come to the table and negotiate, and you'd rather declare impasse and have a strike?</p> <p>Come on, you can do better for these employees, kids, and schools. They aren't asking for anything unreasonable, unaffordable, or out of line with other districts or groups.</p> <p>Among these SEIU members, many of whom are making poverty wages, are people who lift disabled students on and off the toilet. Give them their hazard pay and mask fittings and get everybody to work.</p> <p>I'm sorry it's not convenient that child cares closed down during the global pandemic, or that it's hard to afford child care on part-time wages, or that it's hard to find child care that you'll only use for the next 8 weeks, but that IS the situation and you have to deal with reality as it exists, not as we wish it could be.</p> <p>As far as 3' vs. 6' distance -- we can all see what you're doing. If you get SEIU to agree to 3', you will use it as a wedge issue to try to force SCTA back into negotiations. But COME ON! The cherry trees are blooming! We are planning graduations! We went through weeks and days and hours of negotiations already. Please, just leave well enough alone and let everyone adjust to the return as it is already planned and in progress. You are creating chaos where no chaos needs to be.</p> <p>But what else is new.</p>

Speaking as: Parent, teacher, community member, alumnus

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 4/15/2021 8:26:27 AM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Special Board of Education Meeting
April 15, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	Julie Snider
Comment:	<p>As I mentioned in my written and verbal comments to the board one week ago, it is absolutely imperative that we reopen the MOU and include protections for these essential workers. Specifically, the need for properly-fitting N95 masks as well as stipends to allow these lower-income workers to afford child care during the times their children will not be in classrooms are top priorities. Regarding the masks, I am sure that the board and Superintendent Aguilar are well aware that some of the SEIU 1021 workers have no choice but to be in very close contact with bodily fluids as they work with students who need help with toileting, etc. Others have assignments which make it difficult or impossible to avoid potential contagion for a variety of reasons.</p> <p>The issue of being able to afford supervision for children has become critical due to the hybrid schedule that students are following. With all classified members now (or about to be) required to be on site, there is often nobody to supervise students while they are doing distance learning. Childcare is extremely expensive, and financial assistance is needed for these families who are scrambling to make our schools function.</p> <p>Please do the right thing and provide protection for these workers, without whom we have no ability to conduct classes or run the key operations required to keep the district functioning.</p>

Speaking as: Employee

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 4/15/2021 11:16:55 AM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Special Board of Education Meeting

April 15, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	Rebecca LeDoux
Comment:	I am submitting this comment on behalf of Twin Rivers United Educators – we represent and advocate for 1,500 educators in the Twin Rivers Unified School District and are close neighbors to Sacramento City. Nothing matters more than the safety and wellbeing of students and our community. It is vital that our elected leaders ensure that every single school has the resources needed to keep students and staff safe. We stand in solidarity with staff and educators in Sacramento City School District who are fighting for safety measures that should be a given during a global pandemic. We are committed to supporting their efforts moving forward.

Speaking as: Community Member

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 4/15/2021 11:59:05 AM

From: G A Tubo <
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2021 2:22 AM
To: SCUSD Public Comment
Subject: meeting on 4/15/21 item 3.0

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.

Dear Board President, Members and Superintendent,

Thank you for your time for yet another meeting, with special meetings you all are close to one a week. I hope to hear a report about negotiations that will result in more opportunities for all our SCUSD students, including those whose families do not feel it is safe to return to the classroom as well as students who are English Language Learners, students with disabilities, students who are foster youth, students who are homeless and more.

Yes, I am concerned about this spring whether our students will remain on a schedule that allows for 6 hours a week in the classroom at maximum, and more hours than that in asynchronous learning, while the classroom hours are not readily accessible to families with transportation or work conflicts, but more than that I am concerned about 2021-22.

In 2021-22 we can expect that covid-19 won't have magically disappeared entirely, there will be varying needs for non-medical interventions such as masks and physical distancing, so plans to address

For 2021-22 I hope there will be a permanent virtual academy option for the families that need or prefer it as there is national data showing some families see their children doing better in DL due to the burdens of bullying and/or racism being lessened.

For 2021-22 I hope there will be an acknowledgement that the default schedule for classroom should be roughly the pre-pandemic schedule, and that switching to DL or hybrid should only occur when there is evidence that children are best served by reducing time in the classroom.

Respectfully, Alison French-Tubo (parent)

From: Kirsten
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2021 7:58 AM
To: SCUSD Public Comment
Subject: Seiu strike

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Our students with disabilities need their instructional assistants. Please do all you can to make sure that SCUSD students with disabilities have bus drivers, instructional assistants, cafeteria staff. Safety first.

Thank you,
Kirsten Van Tuyl
(Teacher at MLK K8)

From: Mary Osteen <[redacted]> m>
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2021 8:33 AM
To: SCUSD Public Comment
Subject: Special Board Meeting; 4-15-21

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**The SCUSD School Board needs to direct
Superintendent Aguilar to cease and desist his
unlawful activity and to bargain in good faith with
SEIU.**

From: Pamela Hunt
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2021 9:41 AM
To: SCUSD Public Comment
Subject: Settlement

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.

Dear SCUSD Board;

Please urge our Superintendent Aguilar to settle with SEIU agreeably so we can all get back to school and take care of our students!

These essential workers perform vital duties to our students in our district and deserve to be treated with the utmost respect. Please settle with them quickly.

Please!!

Thank you,
Mrs. Pamela Hunt
Counselor - Rosa Parks K-8

Sent from my iPhone

From: Henry Johnson
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2021 11:42 AM
To: SCUSD Public Comment
Subject: SEIU another Jorge folly

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.

The only comment I have is why is Jorge Aguilar still employed. He was not hired by this school board and any members that were on the board that did hire him should look in the mirror at admit they made a mistake. Coming from Fresno with absolutely No EXPERIENCE he has continually showed his ineptness.

We need a Superintendent that is from the region and has experience within our District. Chad Switzer is my pick!

Disappointed Parent,

Henry Johnson

From:
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:34 PM
To: SCUSD Public Comment
Subject: Children

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.

Please work with SEIU for the benefit of the children. It's time to put them first! Sincerely, Sharon Helmar

Sent from my iPhone

From: Rebecca Wiegand
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2021 1:17 PM
To: Leticia Garcia; SCUSD Public Comment
Subject: Please don't short-change the kids in KCIA's IB program - Take staff cuts off the table

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.

Dear SCUSD Board Members,

As a parent of a current 7th-grader at Kit Carson International Academy, and parent of two younger SCUSD siblings coming up at Tahoe Elementary, I am writing today to ask that you preserve the current staff levels at KCIA for the 21-22 school year.

The International Baccalaureate program at Kit is the primary reason we opted to keep our family in SCUSD schools for middle school. If 6 or 7 IB-trained teachers are let go from this program with the district's proposed cuts, I don't see how it will ever recover or continue to meet the rigorous curriculum requirements to receive IB accreditation.

With the exception of this COVID-19 school year of distance learning for the 20-21 school year, KCIA has continued to exceed growth projections year over year since the 2014-2015 school year. We are growing and drawing *more* students and families into the district with this rich IB program.

At the January and February board meetings, where it was on the agenda to potentially cut the IB program coordinator role, Board members agreed they wanted to "take off the table" any staff cuts that would directly impact students or effectively end our IB program. I don't understand how it is now back ON the table, especially given the increased funds promised to our district as part of the huge ARPA stimulus package that passed Congress earlier this year. And also considering the 13% projected increase in enrollment for the 21-22 school year.

As a parent who has a choice in whether to keep my children enrolled in SCUSD schools or to place them in other districts or in private schools, cuts like these hobble our public schools and make the choice much easier to leave our public neighborhood schools. I am a huge supporter of public education and volunteer countless hours to serving on PTAs, SSCs, teaching art, and in classrooms helping teachers. I am dedicated to see our public schools succeed. At the same time, I also need to ensure that my children will succeed in achieving their school and personal goals. Gutting the staffing at KCIA will destroy the IB program, leaving our family with NO good choices for public middle and high school in our area. My daughter and two younger sons would likely end up unenrolling from SCUSD.

Please, please take these staff cuts OFF the table, since they were already deemed off the table in January and February. Our kids deserve thriving public schools and especially at the middle and high school levels. Don't fail our community and our family by gutting KCIA's invaluable IB-trained teachers. Our kids deserve better.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Wiegand

Parent and PTA and SSC board member at Tahoe Elementary, parent and PTA member at Kit Carson International Academy